

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 218

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE CROSSLEY.

0910H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 301.130, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to license plate covers.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 301.130, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 301.130, to read as follows:

301.130. 1. The director of revenue, upon receipt of a proper application for registration, required fees and any other information which may be required by law, shall issue to the applicant a certificate of registration in such manner and form as the director of revenue may prescribe and a set of license plates, or other evidence of registration, as provided by this section. Each set of license plates shall bear the name or abbreviated name of this state, the words "SHOW-ME STATE", the month and year in which the registration shall expire, and an arrangement of numbers or letters, or both, as shall be assigned from year to year by the director of revenue. The plates shall also contain fully reflective material with a common color scheme and design for each type of license plate issued pursuant to this chapter. The plates shall be clearly visible at night, and shall be aesthetically attractive. Special plates for qualified disabled veterans will have the "DISABLED VETERAN" wording on the license plates in preference to the words "SHOW-ME STATE" and special plates for members of the National Guard will have the "NATIONAL GUARD" wording in preference to the words "SHOW-ME STATE".

2. The arrangement of letters and numbers of license plates shall be uniform throughout each classification of registration. The director may provide for the arrangement of the numbers in groups or otherwise, and for other distinguishing marks on the plates.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 3. All property-carrying commercial motor vehicles to be registered at a gross weight
19 in excess of twelve thousand pounds, all passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicles, local
20 transit buses, school buses, trailers, semitrailers, motorcycles, motortricycles, autocycles,
21 motorscooters, and driveaway vehicles shall be registered with the director of revenue as
22 provided for in subsection 3 of section 301.030, or with the state highways and transportation
23 commission as otherwise provided in this chapter, but only one license plate shall be issued
24 for each such vehicle, except as provided in this subsection. The applicant for registration of
25 any property-carrying commercial vehicle registered at a gross weight in excess of twelve
26 thousand pounds may request and be issued two license plates for such vehicle, and if such
27 plates are issued, the director of revenue shall provide for distinguishing marks on the plates
28 indicating one plate is for the front and the other is for the rear of such vehicle. The director
29 may assess and collect an additional charge from the applicant in an amount not to exceed the
30 fee prescribed for personalized license plates in subsection 1 of section 301.144.

31 4. The plates issued to manufacturers and dealers shall bear the letters and numbers as
32 prescribed by section 301.560, and the director may place upon the plates other letters or
33 marks to distinguish commercial motor vehicles and trailers and other types of motor
34 vehicles.

35 5. No motor vehicle or trailer shall be operated on any highway of this state unless it
36 shall have displayed thereon the license plate or set of license plates issued by the director of
37 revenue or the state highways and transportation commission and authorized by section
38 301.140. Each such plate shall be securely fastened to the motor vehicle or trailer in a manner
39 so that all parts thereof shall be plainly visible and reasonably clean so that the reflective
40 qualities thereof are not impaired. Each such plate may be encased in a transparent **nontinted**
41 cover so long as the plate is plainly visible and its reflective qualities are not impaired.
42 License plates shall be fastened to all motor vehicles except trucks, tractors, truck tractors or
43 truck-tractors licensed in excess of twelve thousand pounds on the front and rear of such
44 vehicles not less than eight nor more than forty-eight inches above the ground, with the letters
45 and numbers thereon right side up. The license plates on trailers, motorcycles,
46 motortricycles, autocycles, and motorscooters shall be displayed on the rear of such
47 vehicles either horizontally or vertically, with the letters and numbers plainly visible. The
48 license plate on buses, other than school buses, and on trucks, tractors, truck tractors or truck-
49 tractors licensed in excess of twelve thousand pounds shall be displayed on the front of such
50 vehicles not less than eight nor more than forty-eight inches above the ground, with the letters
51 and numbers thereon right side up or if two plates are issued for the vehicle pursuant to
52 subsection 3 of this section, displayed in the same manner on the front and rear of such
53 vehicles. The license plate or plates authorized by section 301.140, when properly attached,
54 shall be prima facie evidence that the required fees have been paid.

55 6. (1) The director of revenue shall issue annually or biennially a tab or set of tabs as
56 provided by law as evidence of the annual payment of registration fees and the current
57 registration of a vehicle in lieu of the set of plates. Beginning January 1, 2010, the director
58 may prescribe any additional information recorded on the tab or tabs to ensure that the tab or
59 tabs positively correlate with the license plate or plates issued by the department of revenue
60 for such vehicle. Such tabs shall be produced in each license bureau office.

61 (2) The vehicle owner to whom a tab or set of tabs is issued shall affix and display
62 such tab or tabs in the designated area of the license plate, no more than one per plate.

63 (3) A tab or set of tabs issued by the director of revenue when attached to a vehicle in
64 the prescribed manner shall be prima facie evidence that the registration fee for such vehicle
65 has been paid.

66 (4) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the director of revenue shall issue
67 plates for a period of at least six years.

68 (5) For those commercial motor vehicles and trailers registered pursuant to section
69 301.041, the plate issued by the highways and transportation commission shall be a
70 permanent nonexpiring license plate for which no tabs shall be issued. Nothing in this section
71 shall relieve the owner of any vehicle permanently registered pursuant to this section from the
72 obligation to pay the annual registration fee due for the vehicle. The permanent nonexpiring
73 license plate shall be returned to the highways and transportation commission upon the sale or
74 disposal of the vehicle by the owner to whom the permanent nonexpiring license plate is
75 issued, or the plate may be transferred to a replacement commercial motor vehicle when the
76 owner files a supplemental application with the Missouri highways and transportation
77 commission for the registration of such replacement commercial motor vehicle. Upon
78 payment of the annual registration fee, the highways and transportation commission shall
79 issue a certificate of registration or other suitable evidence of payment of the annual fee, and
80 such evidence of payment shall be carried at all times in the vehicle for which it is issued.

81 (6) Upon the sale or disposal of any vehicle permanently registered under this section,
82 or upon the termination of a lease of any such vehicle, the permanent nonexpiring plate issued
83 for such vehicle shall be returned to the highways and transportation commission and shall
84 not be valid for operation of such vehicle, or the plate may be transferred to a replacement
85 vehicle when the owner files a supplemental application with the Missouri highways and
86 transportation commission for the registration of such replacement vehicle. If a vehicle which
87 is permanently registered under this section is sold, wrecked or otherwise disposed of, or the
88 lease terminated, the registrant shall be given credit for any unused portion of the annual
89 registration fee when the vehicle is replaced by the purchase or lease of another vehicle
90 during the registration year.

91 7. The director of revenue and the highways and transportation commission may
92 prescribe rules and regulations for the effective administration of this section. No rule or
93 portion of a rule promulgated under the authority of this section shall become effective unless
94 it has been promulgated pursuant to the provisions of section 536.024.

95 8. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law to the contrary, owners of motor
96 vehicles other than apportioned motor vehicles or commercial motor vehicles licensed in
97 excess of twenty-four thousand pounds gross weight may apply for special personalized
98 license plates. Vehicles licensed for twenty-four thousand pounds that display special
99 personalized license plates shall be subject to the provisions of subsections 1 and 2 of section
100 301.030. On and after August 28, 2016, owners of motor vehicles, other than apportioned
101 motor vehicles or commercial motor vehicles licensed in excess of twenty-four thousand
102 pounds gross weight, may apply for any preexisting or hereafter statutorily created special
103 personalized license plates.

104 9. No later than January 1, 2019, the director of revenue shall commence the
105 reissuance of new license plates of such design as approved by the advisory committee under
106 section 301.125 consistent with the terms, conditions, and provisions of section 301.125 and
107 this chapter. Except as otherwise provided in this section, in addition to all other fees
108 required by law, applicants for registration of vehicles with license plates that expire during
109 the period of reissuance, applicants for registration of trailers or semitrailers with license
110 plates that expire during the period of reissuance and applicants for registration of vehicles
111 that are to be issued new license plates during the period of reissuance shall pay the cost of
112 the plates required by this subsection. The additional cost prescribed in this subsection shall
113 not be charged to persons receiving special license plates issued under section 301.073 or
114 301.443. Historic motor vehicle license plates registered pursuant to section 301.131 and
115 specialized license plates are exempt from the provisions of this subsection. Except for new,
116 replacement, and transfer applications, permanent nonexpiring license plates issued to
117 commercial motor vehicles and trailers registered under section 301.041 are exempt from the
118 provisions of this subsection.

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