

HCS HB 378 -- MOTOR VEHICLE TEMPORARY PERMITS (Pollitt)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Transportation

INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS BASED ON MODEL YEAR (Sections 301.020 and 307.350, RSMo)

Currently, safety inspections are not required for registration of a motor vehicle having less than 150,000 miles for the 10 year period following the model year of manufacture. This bill changes that exemption to motor vehicles having less than 150,000 miles and a model year of 2012 or newer.

TEMPORARY PERMITS (Section 301.140)

Currently, temporary permits issued by a dealer selling motor vehicles under the provisions of Section 301.213 last 90 days instead of the standard 30 days.

The bill removes this 90-day duration and requires that a purchaser of a vehicle pay sales taxes on that vehicle before they can purchase a temporary permit. The sales tax requirement is subject to a contingent effective date and will become effective when the Department of Revenue (DOR) has implemented their modernized, integrated computer system and the Director of the Department gives notice that the sales tax requirement is feasible.

This bill authorizes law enforcement officers, based on reasonable suspicion, to stop or inspect a person to determine whether a temporary permit is valid or current. If it has expired by at least 70 days or has been altered, the law enforcement officer must issue a citation and the person will be fined \$250.

If the person properly registers the vehicle within 30 days of the citation, the prosecutor will not prosecute the citation and the offense will not appear on the person's driving record. If the vehicle receives an additional citation for a temporary permit offense after the 30-day time period has passed, the vehicle will be impounded until it is properly registered.

DISABLED PLATES AND PLACARDS (Section 301.142)

This bill adds occupational therapists to the list of licensed professionals who can issue a statement so that disabled plates or a disabled windshield placard can be obtained by a patient.

The bill increases the renewal period for removable windshield disability placards from four years to eight years and requires DOR to automatically renew current valid disabled placards for eight

years or for the duration that correlates with the disabled person's current physician's statement expiration date, until all permanent disabled placards are on an eight-year renewal cycle.

#### VEHICLE DEALER INSPECTIONS (Sections 301.190 and 307.380)

This bill provides that vehicle identification number and odometer inspections for titling purposes can be performed by an employee of a licensed new or used motor vehicle dealer if the vehicle is sold to a person who lives out of State and intends to register the vehicle out of State, or if the motor vehicle has less than 30,000 miles for the three-year period following the model year of manufacture.

A licensed motor vehicle dealer who knowingly completes an inspection with incorrect information will be subject to disciplinary action by DOR. The bill also specifies that a pre-sale inspection must be performed no more than 60 days prior to sale and also exempts these vehicles from safety and emissions inspections prior to sale if the vehicle is sold by a private seller or by a licensed motor vehicle dealer that has sold at least 200 motor vehicles in the previous calendar year.

#### CONSERVATION HERITAGE FOUNDATION LICENSE PLATES (Section 301.469)

This bill provides that the application for a Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation emblem license plate and payment of the \$25 contribution can be made at the time of registration to the Director of DOR, who must deposit the contribution to the credit of the Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation.

#### TRAILERS AND TRAILER DEALERS (Section 301.558)

Currently, motor vehicle dealers, boat dealers, and powersport dealers are allowed to fill in blanks on standardized forms as long as they do not charge for the service. Further, they can charge administration fees in connection to leasing or selling motor vehicles, vessels, and vessel trailers for the storage of documents and certain clerical work without being charged for the unauthorized practice of law.

This bill adds "tractor dealers" to these provisions. The bill changes the percent of fees collected by motor vehicle dealers and trailer dealers remitted to the maintenance of DOR's modernized, integrated motor vehicle registration and driver licensing system from 1% to 3.5%.

This bill is similar to HB 1754 (2024).