

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 44th Legislature (1994)

HOUSE BILL NO. 2528

By: Langmacher

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to motor vehicles; amending 47 O.S.

1991, Sections 1113A, 1115, 1128, as amended by  
Section 2, Chapter 93, O.S.L. 1993, 1132 and 1151  
(47 O.S. Supp. 1993, Section 1128), which relate to  
the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act;  
modifying certain per day penalties for various  
delinquent registrations; providing an effective  
date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 1991, Section 1113A, is  
amended to read as follows:

Section 1113A. A. As used in this section:

1. "First vehicle" means the vehicle from which a license plate  
is removed and transferred to a second vehicle;
2. "Second vehicle" means the vehicle to which a license plate  
is transferred after removal from a first vehicle; and
3. "Vehicle" means a passenger vehicle and does not include  
farm or commercial vehicles.

B. A person may retain the license plate of any vehicle registered to such person for purposes of transferring such license plate to a second vehicle registered to such person. The license plate removed from the first vehicle may be transferred to a new or used second vehicle. The procedure for transfer shall be as follows: 1. If the license plate removed from the first vehicle is transferred to a new motor vehicle, the owner shall obtain a replacement license plate from the Commission or one of its motor license agents upon payment of the fee required for a replacement plate and an additional Ten Dollars (\$10.00). The replacement plate shall bear an expiration date that corresponds to the expiration date on the license plate removed from the first vehicle. The replacement plate shall be affixed to the first vehicle immediately upon removal of the existing license plate. The license plate removed from the first vehicle shall be affixed to the second vehicle upon payment by the owner of all applicable registration and license fees. Transfer of a license plate to a new motor vehicle as authorized by this paragraph shall not relieve the owner of payment for registration or license fees applicable to such new motor vehicle as required by this title.

2. If the license plate removed from the first vehicle is transferred to a second vehicle already displaying a license plate, the owner shall obtain the replacement license plate required by paragraph 1 of this subsection. The replacement plate shall be affixed to the first vehicle and shall bear the expiration date of the license plate removed from the first vehicle. The license plate from the second vehicle shall be removed and returned to the Commission or one of its motor license agents. The license plate removed from the first vehicle shall then be affixed to the second vehicle. The removed plate from the first vehicle shall bear an expiration date identical to the plate removed from the second vehicle.

C. The Oklahoma Tax Commission shall be authorized to promulgate such rules or regulations as may be required to implement the license plate transfers authorized by this section.

D. In the event a person fails to obtain a replacement license plate as provided for in this section within the time prescribed for the registration of the new or used second vehicle, a penalty of ~~twenty-five cents (\$0.25)~~ fifty cents (\$0.50) per day shall be assessed from the day following the period prescribed for registration to the date of acquisition of the replacement license plate, such penalty to accrue for no more than thirty (30) days, at the end of which time the penalty shall be twice the registration cost of such vehicle.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 1991, Section 1115, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1115. A. Unless provided otherwise by statute, the following vehicles shall be registered annually: manufactured homes, mopeds, motorcycles, vehicles registered with a permanent nonexpiring license plate pursuant to Section 1113 of this title, commercial vehicles registered pursuant to the provisions of the International Registration Plan and commercial vehicles registered pursuant to the installment plan provided in subsection ~~F~~ H of Section 1133 of this title. The following schedule shall apply for such vehicle purchased in this state or brought into this state by residents of this state:

1. Between January 1 and March 31, the payment of the full annual fee shall be required;

2. Between April 1 and June 30, the payment of three-fourths (3/4) the annual fee shall be required;

3. Between July 1 and September 30, the payment of one-half (1/2) the annual fee shall be required; and

4. Between October 1 and November 30, one-fourth (1/4) the annual fee shall be required.

License plates or decals for each year shall be made available on December 1 of each preceding year for such vehicles; and any person who purchases such vehicle, manufactured home or motorcycle between December 1 and December 31 of any year shall register it within thirty (30) days from date of purchase and obtain a license plate or Manufactured Home License Registration Decal, as appropriate, for the following calendar year upon payment of the full annual fee. Unless provided otherwise by statute, all annual license, registration and other fees for such vehicles shall be due and payable on January 1 of each year and if not paid by February 1 shall be deemed delinquent.

B. All vehicles, other than those required to be registered according to the provisions of subsection A of this section, shall be registered on a staggered system of registration and licensing on a monthly series basis to distribute the work of registering such vehicles as uniformly and expeditiously as practicable throughout the calendar year. After the end of the month following the expiration date, the license and registration fees for the new registration period shall become delinquent.

C. The following penalties shall apply for delinquent registration fees:

1. For commercial vehicles registered under the provisions of subsection A of this section, a penalty of ~~twenty-five cents (\$0.25)~~ fifty cents (\$0.50) per day shall be added to the license fee of such vehicle for each day the fee is delinquent after January 31. The penalty shall accrue for thirty (30) days. Thereafter, the penalty shall be thirty percent (30%) of the annual registration fee, or Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00), whichever is greater;

2. For commercial vehicles registered under the provisions of subsection B of this section, except those vehicles registered pursuant to Section 1133.1 of this title, a penalty shall be assessed after the last day of the month following the registration

expiration date. A penalty of ~~twenty-five cents (\$0.25)~~ fifty cents (\$0.50) per day shall be added to the license fee of such vehicle and shall accrue for one (1) month. Thereafter, the penalty shall be thirty percent (30%) of the annual registration fee, or Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00), whichever is greater;

3. For new or used manufactured homes, not registered within thirty (30) days from date of purchase or date such manufactured home was brought into this state, a penalty equal to the registration fee shall be assessed; or

4. For all other vehicles a penalty shall be assessed after the last day of the month following the expiration date. A penalty of ~~twenty-five cents (\$0.25)~~ fifty cents (\$0.50) per day shall be added to the license fee of such vehicle and shall accrue for three (3) months. Thereafter, the penalty shall be Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00), provided that the penalty shall not exceed the amount equal to the license fee of such vehicle.

D. In addition to all other penalties provided in the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act, Section 1101 et seq. of this title, the following penalties shall be imposed and collected by any Revenue Enforcement Officer of the Oklahoma Tax Commission upon finding any commercial vehicle being operated in violation of the provisions of the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act.

The penalties shall apply to any commercial vehicle found to be operating in violation of the following provisions:

1. A penalty in the amount of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) shall be imposed upon any person found to be operating a commercial vehicle sixty (60) days after the end of the month in which the license plate or registration credentials expire without the current year license plate or registration credential displayed;

2. A penalty in the amount of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) shall be imposed for any person operating a commercial vehicle subject to the provision of subsection K of Section 1120 of this title without the

proper display of, or, carrying in such commercial vehicle, the identification credentials issued by the Oklahoma Tax Commission as evidence of payment of the fee or tax as provided in subsection K of Section 1120 of this title; and

3. A penalty in the amount of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) shall be imposed for any person that fails to register any commercial vehicle subject to the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act.

E. The Tax Commission shall assess the registration fees and penalties for the year or years a vehicle was not registered. For vehicles not registered for two or more years, the registration fees and penalties shall be due only for the current year and one (1) previous year. The Oklahoma Tax Commission shall waive road user fees and penalties for failure to register a vehicle, provided road user fees shall not be waived for the current registration year in cases where said vehicle is proven to have been inoperable during the registration period. Proof of inoperability may be by, but is not limited to, submission of parts or repair receipts or such other evidence deemed appropriate by the Oklahoma Tax Commission.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 1991, Section 1128, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 93, O.S.L. 1993 (47 O.S. Supp. 1993, Section 1128), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1128. A. Every person manufacturing or having a contract to sell new vehicles in this state shall file a verified application for a general distinctive number for all new vehicles owned or controlled by the manufacturer or dealer; provided, the Oklahoma Tax Commission shall issue a license to sell such new motor vehicles only for those types of new vehicles for which the applicant has a sales contract or franchise; provided, further, that no license shall be issued to any applicant that has not complied with the provisions of Sections 561 through 568 of this title and does not hold a current license issued by the Oklahoma Motor Vehicle

Commission pursuant thereto. A separate manufacturer's or dealer's license shall be required for each separate county within which such manufacturer or dealer has an established place of business and upon payment of a license fee of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) there shall be assigned and issued to such manufacturer or dealer a Certificate of Registration and one license plate which shall be displayed upon each vehicle of such manufacturer or dealer when same is operated, driven, or displayed on any street, road, or highway, in the same manner as hereinbefore provided for vehicles owned by other persons. Such a manufacturer or dealer in new vehicles may obtain as many additional license plates as may be desired, upon the payment of the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) for each additional plate; provided that no such license plate issued to any manufacturer or dealer shall be used or displayed upon any secondhand or used vehicle, or upon any new vehicle which is used for a service car, or private use, or for hire. Any person, with consent of the dealer, may operate a motor vehicle, with the dealer's tag affixed, while contemplating purchase, so long as this intent is limited to a consecutive seventy-two-hour period, or a weekend. An individual holding a valid salesman's license issued by the Oklahoma Motor Vehicle Commission shall not be subject to this limitation. If such person also buys and sells used vehicles, he shall, after obtaining his new motor vehicle dealer's license from the Oklahoma Motor Vehicle Commission, also obtain a used motor vehicle dealer's license, from the Used Motor Vehicle and Parts Commission, the cost of which shall be as prescribed in Section 1101 et seq. of this title.

B. Each dealer and used motor vehicle dealer shall keep a record of the purchase and sale of each motor vehicle he buys or sells, which shall show the name of the seller or buyer as the case may be, and a complete description of the vehicle purchased or sold, and such other information as the Commission may prescribe.

C. Application for manufacturer's or dealer's license must show that such dealer or manufacturer has not violated any of the provisions of this section; and such license shall be nonassignable; and any such license may be suspended temporarily or revoked by the Commission for violation or failure to comply with this section, provided, the holder of such license shall be given ten (10) days' notice of hearing to suspend or cancel such license. If any such person subject to any of the licenses required in this section fails to obtain it when due, a penalty of ~~twenty-five cents (\$0.25)~~ fifty cents (\$0.50) per day on each such license shall be charged in the same manner as is now provided on delinquent motor vehicle registrations, and after a period of thirty (30) days such penalty shall be equal to the license fee. It shall be the duty of every person licensed to sell new or used motor vehicles to advise each purchaser in writing about his title requirements and payment of any taxes due. Each used motor vehicle must display a proper Oklahoma license plate or a used dealer's license plate. Dealers failing to comply with provisions of this section shall be responsible for all taxes due on such sales or on such vehicles.

D. Every person engaged in the business of transporting and delivering new or used vehicles by driving, either singly or by towbar, saddle mount or full mount method, or any combination thereof, from the manufacturer to the dealer and using the public highways of this state shall file with the Commission a verified application for in-transit license plates to identify such vehicles. The application shall provide for a general distinctive number for all vehicles so transported. Upon payment of a license fee of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) there shall be assigned and issued to such person one in-transit plate. Such in-transit plate shall be used by such person only on vehicles when so transported. Such person may obtain as many additional in-transit plates as desired upon payment of a fee of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) for each additional plate. Provided, a



used motor vehicle dealer shall use a used dealer license plate in lieu of the in-transit license plate for transporting a used motor vehicle and, in such cases, shall be exempt from making application for an in-transit license plate. Provided further, only a person who possesses a certificate issued by the Interstate Commerce Commission or the Corporation Commission to engage in the business of transporting and delivering manufactured homes for hire may use the in-transit license plates obtained by them as herein authorized for transporting new or used manufactured homes from one location to another location within Oklahoma or from a point in another state to a point in this state. Nothing contained in this section shall relieve any person from the payment of license fees otherwise provided by law. When the Commission deems it advisable and in the public interest, it may require the holder of any in-transit license, or any person making application therefor, to file a proper surety bond in any amount it deems proper, not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00).

E. The Oklahoma Tax Commission shall issue dealer licenses to new and used manufactured home dealers, new and used travel trailer dealers and new and used commercial trailer dealers.

F. All licenses provided for in this section shall expire on December 31 of each year.

SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 1991, Section 1132, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1132. A. For all vehicles, unless otherwise specifically provided by Section 1101 et seq. of this title, the following vehicle registration fees shall be assessed:

1. A registration fee of Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) shall be assessed at the time of initial registration by the owner and annually thereafter, for the use of the avenues of public access within this state; and

2. A fee, to be paid annually in lieu of all other taxes both general and local, of one and one-quarter percent (1 1/4%) of the factory delivered price (F.D.P.). For this purpose the factory delivered price shall be rounded off to the nearest One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

After the first year's registration in this or any other state, the fee shall be assessed at ninety percent (90%) of the fee computed and assessed for the first year. Thereafter such fee shall be computed and assessed at ninety percent (90%) of the previous year's fee. The fee shall be so computed and assessed through the twelfth year of registration. The fee thereafter through the twentieth year of registration shall be the same as for the twelfth year of registration. The fee provided by this paragraph shall not be assessed after the twentieth year of registration. The fee provided by this paragraph shall be paid annually for the vehicle registered;

3. Provided that in no event shall the fee for the registration of a vehicle imposed by this subsection exceed the fee paid to register said vehicle for the preceding year; and

4. Provided further, there shall be a credit allowed with respect to the fee for registration of a new vehicle which is a replacement for:

- a. a new original vehicle which is stolen from the purchaser/registrant within ninety (90) days of the date of purchase of the original vehicle as certified by a police report or other documentation as required by the Commission, or
- b. a defective new original vehicle returned by the purchaser/registrant to the seller within six (6) months of the date of purchase of the defective new original vehicle as certified by the manufacturer.

Said credit shall be in the amount of the fee for registration which was paid for the new original vehicle and shall be applied to the registration fee for the replacement vehicle. In no event will said credit be refunded.

B. If ownership of a vehicle changes, the new owner shall obtain title for and, except in the case of salvage vehicles and manufactured homes, register the vehicle within thirty (30) days of change of ownership and pay the fee provided in paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section. No new decal shall be issued to the registrant. Thereafter, the owner shall register the vehicle annually on the anniversary date of its initial registration in this state and shall pay the fees provided in paragraphs 1 and 2 of subsection A of this section and receive a decal evidencing such payment. Provided, used motor vehicle dealers shall be exempt from the provisions of this section.

C. In the event the vehicle is not registered, titled and tagged within thirty (30) days from the date of transfer of ownership, the penalty for the failure of the owner of the vehicle to register said vehicle within thirty (30) days shall be ~~twenty-five cents (\$0.25)~~ fifty cents (\$0.50) per day, provided that in no event shall the penalty exceed Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00).

SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 1991, Section 1151, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1151. A. It shall be unlawful for any person to commit any of the following acts:

1. To lend or to sell to, or knowingly permit the use of by, one not entitled thereto any certificate of title, license plate or decal issued to or in the custody of the person so lending or permitting the use thereof;

2. To alter or in any manner change a certificate of title, registration certificate, license plate or decal issued under the laws of this or any other state;

3. To procure from another state or country, or display upon any vehicle owned by him within this state, except as otherwise provided in this act, any license plate issued by any state or country other than this state, unless there shall be displayed upon such vehicle at all times the current license plate or decal assigned to it by the Commission;

4. To drive, operate or move, or for the owner to cause or permit to be driven or moved, upon the roads, streets or highways of this state, any vehicle loaded in excess of its registered laden weight, or which is licensed for a capacity less than the manufacturer's rated capacity as provided for in this act;

5. To operate a vehicle without proper license plate or decal or on which all taxes due the state have not been paid;

6. To buy, sell or dispose of, or have in his possession for sale, use or storage, any secondhand or used vehicle on which the registration or license fee has not been paid, as required by law, and on which vehicle said person neglects, fails or refuses to display at all times the license plate or decal assigned to it;

7. To give a fictitious name or fictitious address or make any misstatement of facts in application for certificate of title and registration of a vehicle;

8. To purchase a license plate on an assigned certificate of title. This particular paragraph shall be applicable to all persons except bona fide registered dealers in used cars who are holders of current and valid used car dealers' licenses;

9. To operate a vehicle upon the highways of this state after the registration deadline for that vehicle without a proper license plate, as prescribed by this act, for the current year;

10. For any owner of a vehicle registered on the basis of laden weight to fail or refuse to weigh or reweigh it when requested to do so by any enforcement officer charged with the duty of enforcing this law;

11. To operate or have in his possession any vehicle which bears a motor number or serial number other than the original number placed thereon by the factory except a number duly assigned and authorized by the state;

12. For any motor license agent to release a license plate, a manufactured home registration receipt, decal or excise tax receipt to any unauthorized person or source, including any dealer in new or used motor vehicles. Violation of this paragraph shall constitute sufficient grounds for discharge of a motor license agent by the Commission; or

13. To operate any vehicle registered as a commercial vehicle without the lettering requirements of Section 1105 of this title.

Any person convicted of violating the provisions of this subsection shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

B. Except as otherwise authorized by law, it shall be unlawful to:

1. Lend or sell to, or knowingly permit the use of by, one not entitled thereto any certificate of title issued for a manufactured home, manufactured home registration receipt, manufactured home registration decal or excise tax receipt;

2. Alter or in any manner change a certificate of title issued for a manufactured home under the laws of this state or any other state;

3. Remove or alter a manufactured home registration receipt, manufactured home registration decal or excise tax receipt attached to a certificate of title or attach such receipts to a certificate of title with the intent to misrepresent the payment of the required excise tax and registration fees;

4. Buy, sell, or dispose of, or have in his possession for sale, use or storage any used manufactured home on which the

registration fees or excise taxes have not been paid as required by law; or

5. Purchase identification, manufactured home registration receipt, manufactured home registration decal or excise tax receipt on an assigned certificate of title.

Anyone violating the provisions of this subsection, upon conviction, shall be guilty of a felony.

C. In the event a new vehicle is not registered within thirty (30) days from date of purchase, the penalty for the failure of the owner of the vehicle to register said vehicle within thirty (30) days shall be Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00), provided that in no event shall the penalty exceed an amount equal to the license fee. Provided however, that the penalty for new commercial vehicles shall be equal to the license fee for such vehicles.

If a used vehicle is brought into Oklahoma by a resident of this state and is not registered within thirty (30) days, a penalty of ~~twenty-five cents (\$0.25)~~ fifty cents (\$0.50) per day shall be charged from the date of entry to the date of registration, such penalty to accrue for thirty (30) days, upon failure to register, at the end of which time the penalty shall be Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00), provided that in no event shall the penalty exceed an amount equal to the license fee. Provided however, that the penalty for used commercial vehicles shall be equal to the license fee for such vehicles.

D. Any owner who knowingly makes or causes to be made any false statement of a fact required in this section to be shown in an application for the registration of one or more vehicles shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or shall be imprisoned in the county jail for not more than one (1) year, or both such fine and imprisonment.

E. Self-propelled or motor-driven cycles, known and commonly referred to as "minibikes" and other similar trade names, shall not be registered under the provisions of this act or be permitted to be operated on the streets or highways of this state. Provided that minibikes may be operated on the streets when used in a parade. Notwithstanding other provisions of this subsection, minibikes may be registered and operated in this state by food vendor services upon streets having a speed limit of thirty (30) miles per hour or less.

All minibikes offered for sale in this state shall bear the following notice to the customer:

"This machine is not manufactured or sold for operation on the public streets or highways. Since it is not provided with equipment required by law for street or highway use, all persons are cautioned that any operation of this vehicle upon a public street or highway will be in violation of the motor vehicle laws of this state and will subject the violator to arrest."

Transfers and sales of such vehicles shall be subject to sales tax and not motor vehicle excise taxes.

The provisions of this subsection shall also apply to those motor-driven or operated vehicles known as "golf carts", "go-carts" and other motor vehicles which are manufactured principally for use off the streets and highways.

F. Any person violating paragraph 3 or 6 of subsection A of this section, in addition to the penal provisions provided herein, shall pay as additional penalty a sum equal to the amount of license fees due on such vehicle or registration fees due on a manufactured home known to be in violation and said amount is hereby declared to be a lien upon said vehicle as provided in this act.

G. Each violation of any provision of this act for each and every day such violation has occurred shall constitute a separate offense.

H. Anyone violating any of the provisions heretofore enumerated in this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined not less than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) and not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

I. Any violation of any portion of this act where a specific penalty has not been imposed shall constitute a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof the person having violated it shall be fined not less than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) and not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

J. Any provision of Section 1101 et seq. of this title providing for proportional registration under reciprocal agreements and the International Registration Plan that relates to the promulgation of rules and regulations shall not be subject to the provisions of this section.

SECTION 6. This act shall become effective July 1, 1994.

SECTION 7. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

44-2-7697

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