ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 1598

By: Matlock of the House

and

Rabon of the Senate

An Act relating to motor vehicles; amending 47 O.S. 1991, Section 1151, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 293, O.S.L. 1998 (47 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 1151), which relates to offenses and penalties; authorizing all-terrain vehicles to operate on certain roads; 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 1151, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 293, O.S.L. 1998 (47 O.S. Supp. 1998, 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 such person within this state, except as otherwise provided in the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration 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 and decal assigned to it by the Oklahoma Tax Commission or the vehicle shall display evidence that

the vehicle is registered as a nonresident vehicle pursuant to rules promulgated by the Tax Commission, with the concurrence of the Department of Public Safety. A violation of the provisions of this paragraph shall be presumed to have occurred if a person who is the holder of an Oklahoma driver license operates a vehicle owned by such person on the public roads or highways of this state and there is not displayed on the vehicle a current Oklahoma license plate and decal, unless the vehicle is owned by a member of the Armed Forces of the United States assigned to duty in this state in compliance with official military or naval orders or the spouse of such a member of the Armed Forces;

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 the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration 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 possess 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 the 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 the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration 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 possess 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 Tax Commission;

13. To operate any vehicle registered as a commercial vehicle without the lettering requirements of Section 1102 of this title; or

14. To operate any vehicle in violation of the provisions of Sections 7-600 through 7-606 of this title while displaying a yearly decal issued to the owner who has filed an affidavit with the appropriate motor license agent in accordance with Section 7-607 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). Employees of the Motor Vehicle Division of the Tax Commission may be authorized by the Tax Commission to issue citations for a violation of paragraph 5 of this subsection. If a person convicted of violating the provisions of paragraph 5 of this

subsection was issued a citation by a duly authorized employee of the Motor Vehicle Division of the Tax Commission, the fine herein levied shall be deposited to the Oklahoma Tax Commission Revolving Fund.

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 possess 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 the 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. 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) 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. 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, 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 by 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 the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration 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. Provided that golf carts owned by the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department, and operated by employees or agents of the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department, may be operated on the streets and highways of this state during daylight hours or under regulation developed by the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Commission, when such streets and highways are located within the boundaries of a state park. The Department shall have warning signs placed at the entrance and other locations at those state parks allowing golf carts to be operated on the streets and highways of this state located within the boundaries of those state parks. The warning signs shall state that golf carts may be on such streets and highways and that motor vehicle operators shall take special precautions to be alert for the presence of the golf carts on such streets and highways.

<u>The provisions of this subsection shall also apply to those motor-driven or operated vehicles known as “all-terrain vehicles”, which are manufactured principally for use off the roads. Provided, that all-terrain vehicles may be operated on unpaved roads which are located within the boundaries of any property of the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture.</u>

F. Any person violating paragraph 3 or 6 of subsection A of this section, in addition to the penal provisions provided in this section, 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 such amount is hereby declared to be a lien upon the vehicle as provided in the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act. In addition to the penalty provisions provided in this section, any person violating paragraph 3 of subsection A of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of One Hundred Dollars ($100.00) and the suspension of such person's driver license and right to operate the vehicle.

G. Each violation of any provision of the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration 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 the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration 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 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 1999.

SECTION 3. 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.

Passed the House of Representatives the 2nd day of March, 1999.

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 1999.

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President of the Senate