

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 2007

91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE O'CONNOR.

Read 1st time February 20, 2002, and 1000 copies ordered printed.

TED WEDEL, Chief Clerk

4684L.011

AN ACT

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

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Section A. Section 301.130, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 301.130, to read as follows: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

3. The background of all license plates, or the letters and numerals thereof, shall be coated with a material which will reflect the lights of other vehicles. The nature and specifications of this material shall be determined after a public hearing by the director of

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

17 revenue, director of prison industries, and superintendent of the state highway patrol, and shall
18 meet the standards established by the state transportation department.

19 4. Figures on license plates, except those which may be used to designate gross weights
20 for which commercial motor vehicles are registered, shall not be less than three inches in height
21 and the strokes thereof not less than five-sixteenths of an inch in width. In the case of
22 motorcycles and motortricycles, the letters and figures shall be not less than one inch in height
23 and the strokes thereof one-eighth of an inch in width. The director may provide for the
24 arrangement of the numbers in groups or otherwise, and for other distinguishing marks on the
25 plates.

26 5. All property-carrying commercial motor vehicles to be registered at a gross weight in
27 excess of twelve thousand pounds, all passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicles, local
28 transit buses, school buses, trailers, semitrailers, motorcycles, motortricycles, motorscooters and
29 driveaway vehicles shall be registered with the director of revenue as provided for in subsection
30 3 of section 301.030, but only one license plate shall be issued for each such vehicle.

31 6. The plates issued to manufacturers and dealers shall bear the letter "D" preceding the
32 number, and the director may place upon the plates other letters or marks to distinguish
33 commercial motor vehicles and trailers and other types of motor vehicles.

34 7. No motor vehicle or trailer shall be operated on any highway of this state unless it
35 shall have displayed thereon the license plate or set of license plates issued by the director of
36 revenue and authorized by section 301.140. Each such plate shall be securely fastened to the
37 motor vehicle in a manner so that all parts thereof shall be plainly visible and reasonably clean
38 so that the reflective qualities thereof are not impaired. License plates shall be fastened to all
39 motor vehicles except trucks, tractors, truck tractors or truck-tractors licensed in excess of twelve
40 thousand pounds on the front and rear of such vehicles not less than eight nor more than
41 forty-eight inches above the ground, with the letters and numbers thereon right side up. The
42 license plates on trailers, motorcycles, motortricycles and motorscooters shall be displayed on
43 the rear of such vehicles, with the letters and numbers thereon right side up. The license plate
44 on trucks, tractors, truck tractors or truck-tractors licensed in excess of twelve thousand pounds
45 shall be displayed on the front of such vehicles not less than eight nor more than forty-eight
46 inches above the ground, with the letters and numbers thereon right side up. The license plate
47 or plates authorized by section 301.140, when properly attached, shall be prima facie evidence
48 that the required fees have been paid.

49 8. (1) The director of revenue shall issue annually a tab or set of tabs as evidence of the
50 annual payment of registration fees and the current registration of a vehicle in lieu of the set of
51 plates; except that the director shall annually issue a new license plate or set of plates as provided
52 in this section for vehicles registered pursuant to subsection 2 of section 301.277, commercial

53 motor vehicles in excess of twelve thousand pounds, trailers, buses and dealers.

54 (2) The vehicle owner to whom a tab or set of tabs is issued shall affix and display such
55 tab or tabs on the middle of the license plate, no more than one per plate.

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

58 (4) Except as provided in subdivision (1) of this subsection, the director of revenue shall
59 issue plates for a period of at least five years.

60 (5) For those commercial motor vehicles and trailers registered pursuant to section
61 301.041, the plate issued by the director of revenue shall be a permanent nonexpiring license
62 plate for which no tabs shall be issued. Nothing in this section shall relieve the owner of any
63 vehicle permanently registered pursuant to this section from the obligation to pay the annual
64 registration fee due for the vehicle. The permanent nonexpiring license plate shall be returned
65 to the director of revenue upon the sale or disposal of the vehicle by the owner to whom the
66 permanent nonexpiring license plate is issued, or the plate may be transferred to a replacement
67 commercial motor vehicle when the owner files a supplemental application with the Missouri
68 highway reciprocity commission for the registration of such replacement commercial motor
69 vehicle. Upon payment of the annual registration fee, the director of revenue shall issue a
70 certificate of registration or other suitable evidence of payment of the annual fee, and such
71 evidence of payment shall be carried at all times in the vehicle for which it is issued.

72 (6) Upon the sale or disposal of any vehicle permanently registered under this section,
73 or upon the termination of a lease of any such vehicle, the permanent nonexpiring plate issued
74 for such vehicle shall be returned to the director and shall not be valid for operation of such
75 vehicle, or the plate may be transferred to a replacement vehicle when the owner files a
76 supplemental application with the Missouri highway reciprocity commission for the registration
77 of such replacement vehicle. If a vehicle which is permanently registered under this section is
78 sold, wrecked or otherwise disposed of, or the lease terminated, the registrant shall be given
79 credit for any unused portion of the annual registration fee when the vehicle is replaced by the
80 purchase or lease of another vehicle during the registration year.

81 9. The director of revenue may prescribe rules and regulations for the effective
82 administration of this section. No rule or portion of a rule promulgated under the authority of
83 this section shall become effective unless it has been promulgated pursuant to the provisions of
84 section 536.024, RSMo.] **The director of revenue, upon receipt of a proper application for**
85 **registration, required fees and any other information which may be required by law, shall**
86 **issue to the applicant a certificate of registration in such manner and form as the director**
87 **of revenue may prescribe and a set of license plates, or other evidence of registration, as**
88 **provided in this section. Unless otherwise provided by law, each license plate or set of**

89 license plates issued, renewed, or replaced on or after January 1, 1997, shall contain the
90 following:

91 (1) The name or abbreviated name of this state;

92 (2) The words "SHOW-ME STATE";

93 (3) The month and year in which the registration shall expire;

94 (4) An arrangement of numbers or letters, or both, as shall be assigned from year
95 to year by the director of revenue; and

96 (5) Fully reflective material with a common color scheme and design for each type
97 of license plate issued pursuant to this chapter, which shall be designated by an advisory
98 committee established in section 301.129. The license plates shall be clearly visible at night,
99 and shall be aesthetically attractive. Except as otherwise provided in this section, in
100 addition to all other fees required by law, applicants for registration of vehicles with license
101 plates that expire between January 1, 1997, and December 31, 1997, applicants for
102 registration of trailers or semi-trailers with license plates that expire between January 1,
103 1997, and December 31, 1999, and applicants for registration of vehicles that are to be
104 issued new license plates shall pay an additional fee of up to two dollars and twenty-five
105 cents, based on the actual cost of the reissuance, to cover the cost of the fully reflective
106 plates required by this subsection. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 3 of
107 section 301.067 to the contrary, every license plate for a trailer or semi-trailer which is
108 permanently registered under subsection 3 of section 301.067 shall be returned to the
109 director of revenue between January 1, 1997, and December 31, 1997, and a license plate
110 which conforms to the provisions of this subsection issued as a replacement plate upon the
111 payment of a one dollar and fifteen cent fee per plate prescribed by this subdivision. The
112 additional fee, based on the actual cost as prescribed by this subdivision, shall only be one
113 dollar and fifteen cents for issuance of one new plate for vehicles requiring only one license
114 plate pursuant to subsection 5 or 7 of this section. The additional fee of two dollars and
115 twenty-five cents prescribed in this subsection shall not be charged to persons receiving
116 special license plates issued pursuant to section 301.073 or 301.443. The department of
117 revenue shall adopt a program whereby all motor vehicle registrations renewed on or after
118 January 1, 1997, will have replacement reflective plates issued for such registration prior
119 to January 1, 2000. Special plates for qualified disabled veterans will have the
120 "DISABLED VETERAN" wording on the license plates in place of the words "SHOW-ME
121 STATE" and special plates for members of the national guard will have the "NATIONAL
122 GUARD" wording in place of the words "SHOW-ME STATE". Veterans' plates shall
123 have a white background with a blue and red configuration at the discretion of the
124 advisory committee established in section 301.129.

125 **2. The arrangement of letters and numbers of license plates shall be uniform**
126 **throughout each classification of registration.**

127 **3. The competitive bidding process used to select a vendor for the material to**
128 **manufacture the license plates shall consider the aesthetic appearance of the plates and the**
129 **reflective illumination capability for safety reasons. The advisory committee established**
130 **in section 301.129 shall adopt specifications for all reflective material. The competitive**
131 **bidding request for proposal shall contain a deduction in the amount of twenty-eight cents**
132 **per plate from the cost of the reflective sheeting. The committee may select graphic designs**
133 **or any of the plate processes approved on January 1, 1997.**

134 **4. Figures on license plates, except those which may be used to designate gross**
135 **weights for which commercial motor vehicles are registered, shall be of a size set by the**
136 **advisory committee established in section 301.129. In the case of motorcycles,**
137 **motortricycles, and trailers that are pulled by motorcycles or motortricycles, the letters and**
138 **figures shall be of a size set by the advisory committee. The advisory committee may**
139 **provide for the arrangement of the numbers in groups or otherwise, and for other**
140 **distinguishing marks on the plates.**

141 **5. All property-carrying commercial motor vehicles to be registered at a gross**
142 **weight in excess of twelve thousand pounds, all passenger-carrying commercial motor**
143 **vehicles, local transit buses, school buses, trailers, semi-trailers, motorcycles,**
144 **motortricycles, motorscooters, and driveaway vehicles shall be registered with the director**
145 **of revenue as provided for in subsection 3 of section 301.030, but only one license plate**
146 **shall be issued for each such vehicle, except as provided in this subsection. The applicant**
147 **for registration of any property-carrying commercial motor vehicle to be registered at a**
148 **gross weight in excess of twelve thousand pounds or passenger-carrying commercial motor**
149 **vehicle may request and be issued two license plates for such vehicle, and if such plates are**
150 **issued, the director of revenue may assess and collect an additional charge from the**
151 **applicant in an amount not to exceed the fee prescribed for personalized license plates in**
152 **subsection 1 of section 301.144.**

153 **6. The plates issued to manufacturers and dealers shall bear the letter "D"**
154 **preceding the number, and the advisory committee may require the placement of other**
155 **letters or marks upon the plates to distinguish commercial motor vehicles and trailers and**
156 **other types of motor vehicles.**

157 **7. No motor vehicle or trailer shall be operated on any highway of this state unless**
158 **it shall have displayed thereon the license plate or set of license plates issued by the director**
159 **of revenue and authorized by section 301.140. Each such plate shall be securely fastened**
160 **to the motor vehicle in a manner so that all parts thereof shall be plainly visible and**

161 reasonably clean so that the reflective qualities thereof are not impaired. License plates
162 shall be fastened to all motor vehicles except trucks, tractors, truck tractors or truck
163 tractors licensed in excess of twelve thousand pounds, on the front and rear of such
164 vehicles not less than eight nor more than forty-eight inches above the ground, with the
165 letters and numbers thereon right side up. The license plates on trailers, motorcycles,
166 motortricycles, and motorscooters shall be displayed on the rear of such vehicles, with the
167 letters and numbers thereon right side up. The license plate on buses, other than school
168 buses, and on trucks, tractors, truck tractors or truck tractors licensed in excess of twelve
169 thousand pounds shall be displayed on the front of such vehicles not less than eight nor
170 more than forty-eight inches above the ground, with the letters and numbers thereon right
171 side up, or if two plates are issued for the vehicle pursuant to subsection 5 of this section,
172 displayed in the same manner on the front and rear of such vehicles. The license plate or
173 plates authorized by section 301.140, when properly attached, shall be prima facie evidence
174 that the required fees have been paid.

175 8. (1) The director of revenue shall issue annually a tab or set of tabs as evidence
176 of the annual payment of registration fees and the current registration of a vehicle in lieu
177 of the set of plates.

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

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

183 (4) Except as provided in subdivision (1) of this subsection, the director of revenue
184 shall issue plates for a period of at least five years.

185 (5) For those commercial motor vehicles and trailers registered pursuant to section
186 301.041, the plate issued by the director of revenue shall be a permanent nonexpiring
187 license plate for which no tabs shall be issued. Nothing in this section shall relieve the
188 owner of any vehicle permanently registered pursuant to this section from the obligation
189 to pay the annual registration fee due for the vehicle. The permanent nonexpiring license
190 plate shall be returned to the director of revenue upon the sale or disposal of the vehicle
191 by the owner to whom the permanent nonexpiring license plate is issued, or the plate may
192 be transferred to a replacement commercial motor vehicle when the owner files a
193 supplemental application with the Missouri highway reciprocity commission for the
194 registration of such replacement commercial motor vehicle. Upon payment of the annual
195 registration fee, the director of revenue shall issue a certificate of registration or other
196 suitable evidence of payment of the annual fee, and such evidence of payment shall be

197 carried at all times in the vehicle for which it is issued.

198 (6) Upon the sale or disposal of any vehicle permanently registered under this
199 section, or upon the termination of a lease of any such vehicle, the permanent nonexpiring
200 plate issued for such vehicle shall be returned to the director and shall not be valid for
201 operation of such vehicle, or the plate may be transferred to a replacement vehicle when
202 the owner files a supplemental application with the Missouri highway reciprocity
203 commission for the registration of such replacement vehicle. If a vehicle which is
204 permanently registered under this section is sold, wrecked, or otherwise disposed of, or the
205 lease is terminated, the registrant shall be given credit for any unused portion of the annual
206 registration fee when the vehicle is replaced by the purchase or lease of another vehicle
207 during the registration year.

208 9. The director of revenue may prescribe any rules and regulations necessary for
209 the effective administration of this section. No rule or portion of a rule promulgated
210 pursuant to the authority of this section shall become effective unless it has been
211 promulgated pursuant to chapter 536, RSMo.