

AN ACT

To amend chapter 301, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to motor vehicle registration.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

Section A. Chapter 301, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 301.026, to read as follows:

301.026. 1. Beginning July 1, 2005, the director of revenue shall deny an application for a motor vehicle registration or renewal of a motor vehicle registration if the owner of that motor vehicle is delinquent in payment of vehicle-related fees or fines to any city not within a county as determined by the city not within the county. For the purpose of this section, "vehicle-related fees and fines" includes, but is not limited to, traffic violation fines, parking violation fines, vehicle towing, storage and immobilization fees, and any late payment penalties, other fees, and court costs associated with the adjudication or collection of those fines.

2. A city not within a county may notify, by ordinary mail, any owner of a motor vehicle who is delinquent in payment of vehicle-related fees and fines that if full payment is not received within thirty days the director of revenue may be authorized to deny any application by such owner for the issuance

or renewal of the motor vehicle registration for such vehicle and other vehicles owned by the vehicle owner and charge a reasonable reinstatement or processing fee. Any notification returned by the post office to the city not within a county may be sent to the director of revenue. The department of revenue may subsequently take any action it deems reasonable to notify the owner and the city not within a county of the denial of issuance or renewal of the motor vehicle registration.

3. If after notification under subsection 2 of this section the vehicle owner fails to pay such vehicle-related fees and fines to the city not within a county within thirty days from the date of such notice, the city not within a county may notify the director of revenue of such failure. Such notification shall be on forms approved by the department of revenue and shall list the vehicle owner's full name and address, and the year, make, model, and vehicle identification number of such motor vehicle. In addition, the department of revenue may, before renewing or issuing the registration of any motor vehicle, check the driver's license record or records of all registered owners for notification that the licensee is delinquent in payment of lawfully-imposed vehicle-related fees or fines within the time prescribed herein.

4. Upon receipt of notification under subsection 3 of this section, the director of revenue shall deny applications for

registration or renewal of registration on that vehicle and all other vehicles owned by the vehicle owner, until the department of revenue receives notification from the city not within a county that the vehicle owner has paid the vehicle-related fees and fines in full or otherwise satisfied his or her obligations regarding the delinquent vehicle-related fees and fines. Upon the city not within a county furnishing such notification and the vehicle owner paying the reinstatement fee designated by the department of revenue, the motor vehicle registration shall be reinstated or issued.

6. If a renewal or issuance of a motor vehicle registration is denied under this section, the owner so aggrieved may appeal to the municipal court or circuit court of the city not within a county for review of such denial at any time within thirty days from the date of the notice of motor vehicle registration denial. Upon such appeal, the cause shall be heard de novo in the manner provided by chapter 536, RSMo, for the review of administrative decisions. The circuit court or municipal court may order the director to issue or renew such registration, sustain the denial of registration by the director, or set aside or modify such denial. Appeals from the judgment of the circuit court or municipal court may be taken as in civil cases. The prosecuting attorney of the county where such appeal is taken shall appear in behalf of the director.

7. The director of revenue may make necessary rules and regulations for the enforcement of this section, and shall design all necessary forms, subject to the approval of the city not within a county. All notifications among state and local jurisdictions may be made electronically.