

CCS SB 611 -- TRANSPORTATION

This bill changes the laws regarding temporary motor vehicle permits, yielding to emergency vehicles, and yellow light change interval times.

TEMPORARY MOTOR VEHICLE PERMITS (Section 301.140, RSMo)

The Director of the Department of Revenue is authorized to produce or allow others to produce a weather resistant, nontearing temporary permit authorizing the operation of a motor vehicle or trailer by a buyer for not more than 30 days from the date of purchase. The temporary permit may be purchased from the central office of the department, an authorized agent of the department, or a motor vehicle dealer upon the purchase of a motor vehicle or trailer that the buyer has registered and for which he or she is awaiting receipt of registration plates. The fee for a temporary permit cannot exceed \$5. Currently, the fee is \$7.50. The department director must direct motor vehicle dealers and authorized agents to obtain temporary permits from an authorized producer.

The distribution of funds from the temporary permits sold by motor vehicle dealers and license offices is revised. Revenues collected by an authorized producer will not constitute state revenue moneys; only permits sold directly by the department to purchasers must continue to be credited to the State Highway Department Fund. No state funds can be utilized to compensate motor vehicle dealers or other producers for their role in producing temporary permits.

Each temporary permit issued must be securely fastened to the back or rear of the motor vehicle in a manner and place consistent with registration plates so that all parts and qualities are plainly and clearly visible, reasonably clean, and not impaired in any way. The department director may reissue a temporary registration permit at his or her discretion for a motor vehicle or trailer while proper title and registration are being obtained. Upon the issuance of a temporary permit by the department, agent, or dealer, the department director must make the information associated with the permit immediately available to law enforcement.

These provisions expire July 1, 2019.

YIELDING TO EMERGENCY VEHICLES (Section 304.022)

The bill adds any vehicle owned by the State Highways and Transportation Commission and operated by an authorized employee of the Department of Transportation that is marked as a

Department of Transportation emergency response or motorist assistance vehicle to the definition of "emergency vehicle" as it applies to Section 304.022.

Upon approaching a stationary emergency response or motorist assistance vehicle displaying lighted amber or amber and white lights, every motor vehicle driver is required to proceed with caution and yield the right-of-way, if possible with due regard to safety and traffic conditions, by making a lane change into a lane not adjacent to that of the stationary vehicle or reducing the speed of the vehicle if changing lanes would be unsafe or impossible.

YELLOW LIGHT CHANGE INTERVAL TIMES (Section 304.289)

The bill requires the Department of Transportation to establish minimal yellow light change interval times for traffic-control devices. The interval time must be established in accordance with nationally recognized engineering standards in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and cannot be less than the recognized national standard. The timing of any traffic-control signal must conform to regulations established by the department.

The provisions of the bill regarding temporary motor vehicle permits become effective on the date the Department of Revenue or an authorized producer begins producing permits, or on July 1, 2013, whichever occurs first.