

HCS SB 640 -- TRAILER OR SEMITRAILER REGISTRATION

SPONSOR: Schatz

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Transportation by a vote of 9 to 1. Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Select Committee on State and Local Governments by a vote of 10 to 0.

TRAILER REGISTRATION (Section 301.067, RSMo)

This provision of the bill removes the requirement that a trailer or semitrailer must be coupled to a towing vehicle in a particular manner in order to be eligible for permanent registration and changes the supervising department for such registration from the Motor Carrier and Railroad Safety Division of the Department of Economic Development to the Highways and Transportation Commission of the Department of Transportation.

This provision is the same as a provision contained in HCS SS SCS SB 278 (2015).

LICENSE PLATE DESIGN ADVISORY BOARD (Section 301.125)

This provision establishes an advisory committee to design a new Missouri license plate commemorating the bicentennial of Missouri. The advisory committee is composed of the Director of Revenue, the Superintendent of the Highway Patrol, the Correctional Enterprises Administrator, the Chair of the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission or his or her designee, the Executive Director of the Missouri State Historical Society, and the respective chairpersons of both the Missouri Senate and House of Representatives Transportation Committees. The license plate design shall be agreed upon by January 1, 2017, and the final design shall be implemented not later than January 1, 2019. The final design is exempt from the requirement that Missouri license plates bear the "SHOW-ME STATE" slogan.

CAMPING OR FIFTH-WHEEL TRAILER REGISTRATION (Section 301.136)

This provision of the bill allows a camping or fifth-wheel trailer more than 25 years old to be permanently registered upon payment of a \$25 fee. Upon the transfer of title, the plate must be returned to the Director of the Department of Revenue.

Any person possessing a license plate more than 25 years old in which the year of issuance of the plate matches the year the trailer was manufactured may register and use the plate as a historic trailer plate if the configuration of letters and numbers

have not been issued to someone else. The owner of the historic trailer must keep the certificate of registration in the trailer at all times.

This section of the bill is similar to HB 323 (2015).

BOAT LICENSURE AND INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS (Sections 301.560 & 301.564)

These provisions of the bill change the inspection and licensure requirements for boat manufacturers and dealers to reflect the consolidation of the Missouri Water Patrol into the State Highway Patrol.

CONTRACTING WITH TOW COMPANIES (Sections 304.153 & 304.154)

These provisions provide that law enforcement officers and employees of the Department of Transportation may contract with tow management companies or use tow lists with several restrictions provided therein. Any towing company operating under the authority of a law enforcement officer or Department of Transportation is subject to operational, transparency, and record keeping requirements.

ARTICULATED BUSES (Section 304.170)

This provision of the bill provides that articulated buses may be operated on Missouri roads when they are at least 45 feet but not more than 60 feet long.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill is a common sense measure to increase revenue.

Testifying for the bill was Senator Schatz.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say the bill would enable all trailers or semitrailers to be permanently registered.

Testifying on the bill was the Department Of Revenue.