

1 HB251
2 182000-1
3 By Representative Wood
4 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security
5 First Read: 16-FEB-17

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8 SYNOPSIS: This bill provides the issuance of a
9 validation decal for metal license plates to
10 include both the year of expiration in addition to
11 the month of expiration.

12 This bill also allows registration receipts
13 to be presented in a tangible or electronic format.
14 This bill provides dealers that are designated
15 agents with the ability to issue temporary license
16 tags to motor vehicles that are to be permanently
17 licensed in Alabama.

18 This bill also clarifies that the
19 verification requirement of a state issued
20 identification, or department approved federal
21 identifying number only extends to the initial
22 motor vehicle registration and not to the
23 subsequent renewal of the registration.

24
25 A BILL
26 TO BE ENTITLED
27 AN ACT

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2 To amend Sections 32-6-63, 32-6-65, 32-6-211,
3 32-7A-17, 40-12-253, 40-12-258, and 40-12-260 of the Code of
4 Alabama 1975, relating to motor vehicle tabs and motor vehicle
5 registration renewals; to update the validation decal or
6 device on metal license plates to include the year of
7 expiration; to allow motor vehicle registration receipts to be
8 provided in a tangible or electronic format; to provide
9 dealers that are designated agents with the ability to issue
10 temporary license tags to motor vehicles that are to be
11 permanently licensed in Alabama; to clarify that the renewal
12 of motor vehicle registration is not subject to the current
13 identification requirements.

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

15 Section 1. Sections 32-6-63, 32-6-65, 32-6-211,
16 32-7A-17, 40-12-253, 40-12-258, and 40-12-260, Code of Alabama
17 1975 are hereby amended as follows:

18 "§32-6-63.

19 "For the years during which the ~~five-year metal~~
20 license plates are not issued, in lieu thereof, ~~tabs, stamps,~~
21 validation decals or other devices suitable for attaching to a
22 motor vehicle license plate shall be issued. The ~~tab, stamp,~~
23 validation decal or device shall indicate the period for which
24 it was issued and shall, when properly affixed to the license
25 plate, evidence payment for the motor vehicle license fees and
26 taxes for the period indicated thereon. Such ~~tab, stamp,~~
27 validation decal or device shall be such size as the

1 legislative oversight committee, as provided for in this
2 subdivision, deems appropriate and shall bear a bright
3 reflective background contrasting with the digits or letters
4 printed thereon. The ~~first three letters of the month and year~~
5 of expiration shall be printed on the ~~bottom portion of the~~
6 ~~tab, stamp, or device~~ and shall be no less than three inches
7 ~~in width and one inch in height~~ validation decal.

8 "Any numbers shown on such tab, stamp, or device
9 shall be for accounting purposes only, to be used by the
10 Department of Revenue, and shall in no way be used for the
11 identification of the vehicle.

12 "A person changing his or her county of residence
13 shall be required to purchase a license plate indicating his
14 or her new county of residence upon expiration of the license
15 period covered by his or her present license plate or
16 validation device and shall turn in his or her old license
17 plate."

18 "§32-6-65.

19 "(a) There shall be one uniform registration renewal
20 form to be used statewide. Such form shall be designed so as
21 to provide for both the transfer of ownership and the
22 registration of the vehicle. All receipts shall be sent to the
23 county agencies charged with handling vehicle registration.
24 ~~All receipts shall be machine prepared~~ Receipts may be
25 provided to the registrant in a tangible format or in an
26 electronic format, as prescribed by the department. The state
27 and the county shall capture the color of the motor vehicle in

1 their permanent records. This subsection shall not give the
2 Department of Revenue authority to centralize vehicle
3 registration. Centralized registration is specifically
4 prohibited and it is the legislative intent that automotive
5 vehicle registration shall remain at the county level.

6 "(b) (1) A penalty of fifteen dollars (\$15) shall be
7 assessed by the official charged with issuing motor vehicle
8 licenses for the late registration of a motor vehicle. "Late
9 registration of a motor vehicle" shall include (1) the failure
10 to register the vehicle within 20 calendar days of the date of
11 purchase or acquisition; (2) the failure to renew the
12 registration in the designated renewal month; and (3) the
13 failure to register the vehicle in accordance with the
14 provisions of Section 40-12-262(a). It shall be the duty of
15 all sheriffs, police officers, state troopers, license
16 inspectors, deputy license inspectors, field agents of the
17 Department of Revenue, and other law enforcement officers to
18 arrest any person operating a motor vehicle without the
19 current license plate displaying the proper ~~tab, disc, or~~
20 validation decal. Persons apprehended for operating a motor
21 vehicle without the current license plate, upon conviction by
22 a court of competent jurisdiction, shall be fined not less
23 than twenty-five dollars (\$25).

24 "(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (1), any person on
25 military deployment during any part of his or her designated
26 registration renewal month, except a person with a discharge
27 characterization of "dishonorable" or "other than honorable,"

1 who renews his or her motor vehicle registration within 30
2 calendar days from the date the deployment ends shall not be
3 assessed a late registration penalty or associated interest
4 charges. Evidence of military deployment shall be documented
5 using military deployment orders, a government issued
6 Statement of Service letter, Form DD214 "Certificate of
7 Release or Discharge from Active Duty," or a letter from the
8 registrant's unit commander certifying the date that his or
9 her deployment ended.

10 "(c) All penalties assessed by this section shall be
11 distributed in the same manner as motor vehicle licenses and
12 registration fees are distributed as provided in Sections
13 40-12-269 and 40-12-270. Portions of Section 40-12-10 as they
14 may conflict with this section, are hereby repealed and
15 superseded."

16 "§32-6-211.

17 "Each designated agent shall, upon proper
18 application, issue to the owner of a motor vehicle which is to
19 be permanently licensed in some state other than Alabama a
20 temporary license tag to be affixed to such motor vehicle and
21 a temporary registration certificate. Each dealer who is a
22 designated agent may, upon proper application, issue to the
23 owner of a motor vehicle which is to be permanently licensed
24 in Alabama, a temporary license tag to be affixed to such
25 motor vehicle, and a temporary registration certificate. A
26 dealer who has been appointed by the department to perform the
27 duties of a designated agent shall have the authority to issue

1 a temporary license tag and temporary registration certificate
2 only for motor vehicles which are sold by that dealer.

3 "Any temporary license tags and registration
4 receipts issued under this chapter or Chapter 12 of Title 40
5 shall be issued in a manner as prescribed by the Department."

6 "§32-7A-17.

7 "(a) License plate issuing officials shall not
8 register or re-register a motor vehicle or transfer the
9 license plates if the registration is suspended pursuant to
10 Section 32-7A-12.

11 "(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), upon the
12 request of the registrant, the license plate issuing official
13 shall reinstate a registrant's suspended registration at such
14 time the registrant meets the provisions of reinstatement
15 provided for by this chapter.

16 "(c) No vehicle registration or renewal thereof
17 shall be issued to any motor vehicle unless the license plate
18 issuing official receives satisfactory evidence of insurance
19 or verification of motor vehicle liability insurance through
20 the online insurance verification system, liability insurance
21 bond, or deposit of cash that provides the minimum motor
22 vehicle insurance coverage required by Section 32-7-6 or is
23 exempted under Section 32-7A-5. Verification by the license
24 plate issuing official shall be made in a manner as prescribed
25 by the department.

26 "(d) All officials authorized by law to issue motor
27 vehicle license plates shall obtain, when issuing the initial

1 motor vehicle registration or transferring a motor vehicle
2 registrations, ~~the~~ each registrant's ~~valid~~ non-expired state
3 issued driver's license or identification card number, a
4 department approved federal identifying number, national
5 driver's license, or for a company or other entity, the
6 federal employer identification number, for inclusion within
7 the motor vehicle registration records in the state and county
8 databases provided these numbers shall not be included on the
9 motor vehicle registration receipts. The department has the
10 additional authority to assign an identifying number to
11 vehicle registrants in order to document compliance with this
12 chapter. This information shall be used by the department in
13 the administration of this chapter. ~~Notwithstanding the~~
14 ~~provisions of this subsection, when renewing a motor vehicle~~
15 ~~registration that contains more than one individual or entity~~
16 ~~listed as a registrant for a motor vehicle, a valid state~~
17 ~~issued driver's license or identification card number,~~
18 ~~department approved federal identifying number, national~~
19 ~~driver's license, or, for a company or other entity, a federal~~
20 ~~employer identification number for only one of the individuals~~
21 ~~or entities listed as a registrant must be included within the~~
22 ~~motor vehicle registration records in the state and county~~
23 ~~databases~~ The requirements of this subsection shall not apply
24 to the renewal of a motor vehicle registration."

25 "§40-12-253.

26 "(a) Effective January 1, 2000, ad valorem taxes on
27 motor vehicles shall be assessed and the tax collected forward

1 on a current basis to coincide with the collection of motor
2 vehicle license taxes and registration fees.

3 "(1) Ad valorem taxes on motor vehicles shall become
4 due and payable on the first day of the registration renewal
5 month of the owner, the date the motor vehicle enters the
6 State of Alabama, the date the motor vehicle is removed from
7 the inventory of a dealer, or the date on which the motor
8 vehicle is otherwise determined to be taxable, whichever comes
9 first. Ad valorem taxes on motor vehicles shall become
10 delinquent on the first day of the month following the
11 registration renewal month for the owner or as otherwise
12 provided by law.

13 "(2) Ad valorem tax on motor vehicles shall be
14 collected through the last day of the month which precedes the
15 assigned registration renewal month for the owner as provided
16 in Section 32-6-61. The definition of owner shall be as
17 defined in subdivision (16) of Section 40-12-240.

18 "(3) No license shall be issued to operate a motor
19 vehicle on the public highways of this state, nor shall any
20 transfer be made by the license issuing official under this
21 article, until the ad valorem tax on the motor vehicle is paid
22 in the county, as evidenced either by a receipt of the tax
23 collecting official where the owner of the motor vehicle
24 resides, if the motor vehicle is owned by an individual, or by
25 the receipt of the tax collecting official in the county where
26 the motor vehicle is based, if the motor vehicle is owned by a
27 firm, corporation, or association. The receipt, as referenced

1 in this subsection, may be evidenced in either a tangible
2 format or in an electronic format as prescribed by the
3 department. The definition of the base of a vehicle shall be
4 the place where a vehicle is most frequently dispatched,
5 garaged, serviced, maintained, operated, or otherwise
6 controlled, and from which it ordinarily departs and to which
7 it ordinarily returns.

8 "(4) Every person, firm, or corporation that plans
9 to operate a motor vehicle shall first return the motor
10 vehicle for ad valorem taxation to the tax assessing official
11 of the county where the individual resides or, if a firm or
12 corporation, where the vehicle is based, and the tax assessing
13 official shall deliver to the person making the return a
14 certificate of assessment on a form prescribed by the
15 Department of Revenue, and the certificate shall be the
16 warrant of the tax collecting official to collect the tax as
17 shown on the assessment form.

18 "(5) Valuation for ad valorem tax assessment
19 purposes shall be based, as specified by law, on the value of
20 the motor vehicle on October 1, as provided by the Department
21 of Revenue. The October 1 valuation shall be used for
22 calculating ad valorem taxes for the next succeeding year
23 beginning January 1 and continuing through December 31.

24 "(6) Before any motor vehicle can be assessed, the
25 tax assessing official shall determine the amount of ad
26 valorem taxes due on the motor vehicle from information
27 provided by the owner. If the number of months for which taxes

1 are delinquent cannot be determined, the motor vehicle shall
2 be presumed to have been in the state for one preceding year
3 in addition to the current tax year for ad valorem tax
4 assessing and collecting purposes. Motor vehicles with
5 delinquent registrations shall be subject to payment of
6 escaped ad valorem taxes for up to two prior years plus the
7 current year, ~~except for the ad valorem taxes that would have~~
8 ~~been due in arrears in 1999 during the transition year.~~

9 "(b) The license issuing official shall require the
10 applicant to surrender the receipt of the tax collecting
11 official which shall be kept on file in the license issuing
12 official's office. The license plate shall be evidence of the
13 payment of the license and the ad valorem tax due as provided
14 under this article. The license issuing official may issue a
15 motor vehicle license plate upon receiving certification from
16 the tax assessing official that there is no ad valorem tax due
17 on the motor vehicle.

18 "(c) Ad valorem taxes on a motor vehicle shall be
19 collected on an annual current basis in the registration
20 renewal month of the owner thereof, in conjunction with
21 registration of the motor vehicle; provided, however, that ad
22 valorem taxes due at the time of registration shall be
23 prorated on a monthly basis from the date the motor vehicle
24 enters the State of Alabama, from the date the motor vehicle
25 is removed from the inventory of a dealer, from the date of
26 transfer of ownership of the motor vehicle, or upon the date
27 the motor vehicle otherwise becomes subject to taxation.

1 "(d) Upon the sale, trade, total destruction,
2 permanent removal from Alabama, theft without recovery, or
3 other transfer of a motor vehicle, hereafter referred to as a
4 "demitted motor vehicle" constituting Class I, Class II, or
5 Class IV Property under Section 40-8-1, the owner of the
6 demitted motor vehicle shall be entitled to a pro rata credit
7 for the ad valorem taxes paid with respect thereto for the
8 remainder of the then current period for which the taxes have
9 been paid. In determining the credit available, the total ad
10 valorem taxes previously paid for the then current
11 registration period shall be determined by a ratio, the
12 numerator of which shall be the number of full calendar months
13 from the date the motor vehicle is demitted to the last day of
14 the month which precedes the assigned registration renewal
15 month for the owner as provided in Section 32-6-61, and the
16 denominator of which shall be the number of months for which
17 ad valorem taxes shall have been paid with respect to the
18 motor vehicle. The ad valorem tax credit shall be evidenced by
19 a ~~serially numbered~~ credit voucher, ~~the~~ in a form of which
20 shall be specified by the department, bearing the name of the
21 person entitled to the credit. The ad valorem tax credit so
22 determined shall either (i) be allowed at the election of the
23 owner on a pro rata basis against all ad valorem taxes payable
24 on another motor vehicle or vehicles acquired by the owner in
25 conjunction with the sale or trade of the motor vehicle in
26 respect of which the credit is allowable under this
27 subsection, or (ii) be allowed by the tax collecting official

1 on a pro rata basis against all ad valorem taxes payable on
2 another motor vehicle or vehicles owned by the owner or a
3 member of the owner's immediate family. No interest shall be
4 allowable on the amount of any credit allowable hereunder. A
5 credit issued shall be creditable only against ad valorem
6 taxes levied by those taxing authorities whose ad valorem
7 taxes had been paid by the owner with respect to the motor
8 vehicle for which a credit is allowed. No credit shall be
9 allowable against any ad valorem taxes levied by the state
10 unless the credit shall be eligible for application and
11 applied against ad valorem taxes levied by taxing authorities
12 other than the state. A credit voucher must be used at the
13 time of issuance. In the event a voucher is presented for
14 credit against ad valorem taxes due and the amount of the
15 voucher is in excess of the taxes due, a new voucher for the
16 excess amount shall be issued referencing the date of issuance
17 of the voucher so presented. The new voucher shall be
18 designated a receipt for credit for reporting purposes with a
19 copy given to the owner. Immediately upon issuance of a
20 receipt for credit and no later than the twentieth day of the
21 month following the month in which the new voucher was issued,
22 the tax collecting official shall remit to the owner a refund
23 credit payment in the amount of the receipt for credit. When a
24 credit voucher is issued and no ad valorem taxes payable on a
25 vehicle are available for credit to the owner, the voucher
26 shall be designated a receipt for credit for reporting
27 purposes with a copy given to the owner. Immediately upon

1 issuance of a receipt for credit and no later than the
2 twentieth day of the month following the month in which the
3 new voucher was issued, the tax collecting official shall
4 remit to the owner a refund credit payment in the amount of
5 the receipt for credit.

6 "(e) The credit provided under subsection (d) may be
7 claimed by the owner of a motor vehicle pursuant to the
8 procedure and upon presentation of the evidence of payment of
9 tax and eligibility for credit pursuant to subsection (d) as
10 specified by regulations issued by the Department of Revenue,
11 including a sworn affidavit of the buyer in the case of a sale
12 or trade of the motor vehicle. The tax collecting official
13 shall charge and collect as a condition to the redemption of a
14 credit voucher or the remittance of a refund credit payment a
15 commission in order to defray the costs thereof at a flat rate
16 of two dollars (\$2) for each credit voucher redeemed or refund
17 remitted, which shall be collected by the tax collecting
18 official at the time of the transaction. One-half of the
19 commissions and fees so collected shall be deposited into the
20 general fund of the county in which the fees are collected and
21 the balance shall be remitted to the State General Fund. There
22 is hereby appropriated for the use of the department in
23 carrying out its responsibilities hereunder in each fiscal
24 year a sum as the Legislature shall appropriate to the
25 department for this purpose.

26 "(f) In no event may a credit be claimed under
27 subsection (d), whether in conjunction with the sale or trade

1 of a motor vehicle or pursuant to the issuance of a credit
2 voucher as provided for in subsection (d), later than 12
3 months after the date a motor vehicle is demitted.

4 "(g) The tax assessing officials and tax collecting
5 officials of the counties in this state, in addition to
6 assessing and collecting the ad valorem taxes due the state
7 and counties on motor vehicles, shall collect the ad valorem
8 taxes on motor vehicles due all cities in this state.

9 "(1) The tax collecting official shall report and
10 pay the money collected for cities at the same time and in the
11 same manner as state and county taxes are reported and paid by
12 the official. The tax assessing and tax collecting officials
13 shall each receive a commission of two and one-half percent of
14 the amount of city taxes collected. The tax collecting
15 officials shall deduct this commission from the amount
16 collected before paying the city treasury and, at the same
17 time, pay to the tax assessing official any commissions due
18 him or her under this article.

19 "(2) The license issuing official shall not issue a
20 license to operate a motor vehicle on the highways of this
21 state until all ad valorem taxes due the state, counties, and
22 cities are paid as evidenced by a receipt of the tax
23 collecting official.

24 "(h) Motor vehicles assessed under this section
25 shall not be included in any assessment made by any person,
26 firm, or corporation under Section 40-11-1, and the motor
27 vehicles shall not be considered an escape property by reason

1 of the failure to include the property value of the motor
2 vehicle in any tax return as of October 1. All motor vehicles
3 shall be assessed and the taxes shall be collected on the
4 motor vehicles as herein provided. The foregoing
5 notwithstanding, any machinery or equipment including, but not
6 limited to, cement mixers, wrecker rigs, and box-type bodies
7 which may be added to a motor vehicle after it leaves the
8 original manufacturer and may be moved from one motor vehicle
9 to another shall be separately valued and assessed with the
10 tax assessing official as personal property.

11 "(i) In addition to the refunds provided for in
12 subsection (d), refunds shall be granted for ad valorem taxes
13 on motor vehicles for monies collected in error, as provided
14 in Section 40-7-9.1, or upon evidence of valuation change or
15 adjustment by the county board of equalization.

16 "(j) All millage rate levies and changes affecting
17 ad valorem taxes on motor vehicles shall become effective on
18 the January 1 following the levy or rate change.

19 "(k) The Department of Revenue may promulgate and
20 implement rules and regulations for the administration of this
21 section.

22 "§40-12-258.

23 "(a) Except for vehicles provided for in subsections
24 (b) and (c), an individual reregistering a motor vehicle that
25 has been stored in this state and not used or operated on the
26 public highways of this state shall pay the annual license
27 taxes and registration fees on the vehicle. The license taxes

1 and registration fees associated with the reregistering of
2 motor vehicles shall not be prorated.

3 "(b) The owners of motor vehicles commonly known as
4 self-propelled campers or house cars, when stored in this
5 state and not used or operated on the public highways of this
6 state, upon reregistering, shall pay license taxes and
7 registration fees on a monthly prorated basis.

8 "(c) The owners of farm trucks and farm truck
9 tractors and vintage vehicles, without regard to subdivision
10 (2) of subsection (c) of Section 40-12-290, when stored in
11 this state and not used or operated on the public highways of
12 this state, upon reregistering, shall pay license taxes and
13 registration fees on a monthly prorated basis.

14 "(d) The payment of the registration fee or license
15 tax on motor vehicles shall be evidenced by the delivery of a
16 license plate, which shall be placed in such position as to be
17 lighted by the license plate lamp in accordance with
18 subdivision (3) of subsection (g) Section 32-5-242 in an
19 upright position, right side up, on the rear of the
20 automobile; when a semitrailer truck is operated, the plate
21 shall be placed on the rear of the semitrailer. It shall be a
22 misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not less than ten dollars
23 (\$10) and not exceeding twenty-five dollars (\$25) for each
24 offense, to display the plate in any other place or in any
25 other manner than as herein provided. The Department of
26 Revenue shall provide plates for all motor vehicles and shall
27 also provide receipts ~~in triplicate~~, one of which shall be

1 retained by the judge of probate, one shall be delivered to
2 the person paying the license fee, and one legible copy shall
3 be mailed by the judge of probate to the Department of Revenue
4 on the day the license was issued. ~~Every part of each~~ Each
5 receipt shall bear the same number as the plate delivered to
6 the licensee. These receipts shall be prepared in the form to
7 be determined by the Department of Revenue and delivered to
8 the judges of probate of the several counties of the state
9 under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the
10 Department of Revenue; and the Department of Revenue shall
11 have power to prescribe rules and regulations concerning the
12 application for and delivery to the licensee of the plate and
13 receipt required by this article.

14 "(e) The automobile licensee shall be required to
15 state in his or her application the proposed use of the
16 automobile, whether for private use or for commercial
17 purposes.

18 "(f) The plates furnished for commercial vehicles,
19 except those used or rented by a U-Drive-It or similar system,
20 shall be of a different design from those used for private or
21 pleasure cars. In applying for license for buses, taxicabs, or
22 U-Drive-Its or like motor vehicles, the application shall give
23 the seating capacity and the weight of the vehicle."

24 "§40-12-260.

25 "(a) Effective January 1, 1998, license plates,
26 except for license plates issued under the provisions of
27 Section 40-12-290, et seq., or any subsequent enactment which

1 authorizes special license plates based on vehicle age, shall
2 not be transferable between motor vehicle owners and the
3 following registration procedures shall apply:

4 "(1) When a current and valid Alabama motor vehicle
5 license plate has been obtained for the current tax year for
6 use on a motor vehicle and the vehicle has been sold or
7 otherwise transferred to a new owner, the license plate shall
8 be removed from the vehicle and retained by the original plate
9 owner.

10 "(2) In the event an owner purchases, trades,
11 exchanges, or otherwise acquires another vehicle of the same
12 license registration classification, the licensing official
13 shall authorize the transfer of the current and valid Alabama
14 license plate previously obtained by the owner to the
15 replacement vehicle for the remainder of the current license
16 year. In the further event the owner acquires a vehicle
17 requiring a higher license classification, the owner shall
18 first request a transfer of the valid Alabama license plate to
19 the newly acquired vehicle, and, immediately, shall surrender
20 the license plate to the issuing official, and upon payment of
21 the difference in registration fees on a monthly prorated
22 basis, shall be issued the higher license plate
23 classification. Provided, that the owner shall not be entitled
24 to a refund when the registration fee for the vehicle to which
25 the plate(s) is to be assigned is less than the registration
26 fee for that vehicle to which the license plate(s) was last
27 assigned. Furthermore, if the owner does not have or does not

1 acquire another vehicle to which the license plate(s) may be
2 transferred, the owner shall not be entitled to a refund and
3 the license plate shall be revoked.

4 "(3) In the event the owner of a license plate
5 purchases, trades, exchanges, or otherwise acquires a vehicle
6 for which a license plate has been issued during the current
7 license year, and the license plate has not been removed by
8 the previous owner in accordance with this section, the new
9 owner of the vehicle shall remove and return the license plate
10 to the county license plate issuing official of the county
11 where the owner resides, if the owner is an individual, or of
12 the county in which said motor vehicle is used or operated if
13 the owner is a firm, corporation, or association, who shall
14 receive, account for, and dispose of the license plate.
15 However, if the license plate has expired, the new owner shall
16 not be required to surrender the license plate.

17 "(4)a. The new owner of a motor vehicle shall,
18 within 20 calendar days from the date of vehicle purchase or
19 acquisition, make application to record the registration of
20 the vehicle by the transfer to or the purchase of a license
21 plate for the newly acquired vehicle with the license issuing
22 official of the county in which the owner resides if the owner
23 is an individual, or with the license issuing official of the
24 county in which the motor vehicle is used or operated if the
25 owner is a firm, corporation, or association and shall pay the
26 fee provided under Section 40-12-271.

1 "b. The county license issuing official shall ~~mail~~
2 ~~or deliver~~ provide a copy of the registration receipt record
3 to the Department of Revenue ~~not later than the 10th day of~~
4 ~~the month succeeding the month the registration was issued or~~
5 ~~transferred.~~ One copy shall be retained in the files of the
6 county license issuing official, and one copy shall be
7 furnished to the registered owner. ~~However, the Department of~~
8 ~~Revenue may waive the sending of the receipt if the data is~~
9 ~~electronically transmitted; provided, that the data~~
10 ~~electronically transmitted shall be furnished to the~~
11 ~~Department of Revenue by the 10th day of the month succeeding~~
12 ~~the month in which the registration was issued or transferred.~~
13 The Department of Revenue shall have the authority to
14 prescribe rules and regulations for the administration of this
15 paragraph.

16 "c. Licensed motor vehicle dealers shall not be
17 required to register vehicles in the name of the dealership
18 for vehicles held for resale. The dealership shall register
19 any motor vehicle and purchase an Alabama license plate of the
20 proper classification for any motor vehicle purchased, leased,
21 or otherwise withdrawn from dealer inventory for private,
22 personal, or business use by any person, including any of the
23 dealership employees.

24 "(5) Any person failing to register a motor vehicle
25 by timely transferring the license plate as provided by
26 subsections (a) (2) and (a) (4) above and (a) (7) below shall pay
27 a penalty of fifteen dollars (\$15). The penalty shall be paid

1 into the treasury of the county, with the county treasurer
2 maintaining these moneys as a special training fund. Only one
3 special training fund shall be established in each county.
4 These moneys shall be used for all reasonable and necessary
5 official educational expenses directly related to the
6 assessment and collection of taxes on motor vehicles or
7 registration and titling of motor vehicles. The special
8 training fund shall be for the use of the officials in the
9 county charged with the motor vehicle responsibilities
10 mentioned above, and shall be in addition to the amount
11 budgeted for these offices. Moneys shall be disbursed by the
12 county treasurer for the payment of the motor vehicle related
13 educational expenses of those officials and their employees by
14 the county officials requisitioning expenditures from the
15 fund. Not more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000) shall be
16 paid into the special training fund during any fiscal year
17 (October 1 through September 30). Any excess moneys shall
18 accrue to the general fund of the county.

19 "(6) Any person, firm, or corporation engaged in the
20 business of selling or otherwise disposing of motor vehicles
21 which are required to be registered in this state shall
22 furnish each purchaser of a motor vehicle with a legal bill of
23 sale on which there shall be printed, stamped, or otherwise
24 inscribed in a bold and conspicuous manner the words: "Penalty
25 of fifteen dollars (\$15) due if vehicle is not registered in
26 the name of the new owner within 20 calendar days."

1 "(7)a. In the event a motor vehicle is registered
2 pursuant to Section 32-6-150 or Section 32-6-300, or any other
3 section designated by the Commissioner of Revenue by rule or
4 regulation, and is transferred to the transferor's spouse or
5 child, at the option of the transferor, the license plate may
6 remain on the vehicle in the hands of the transferee upon
7 payment of the fee for recording the transfer of the license
8 plate.

9 "b.1. A surviving spouse, desiring to operate a
10 vehicle devolving from a deceased spouse, shall present an
11 application for certificate of title to the licensing official
12 in his or her name within ~~30~~ 20 days of obtaining ownership.
13 The licensing official shall then transfer the license plate
14 to the surviving spouse. If the motor vehicle is not subject
15 to the provisions of the Alabama Uniform Certificate of Title
16 and Antitheft Act (Section 32-8-1, et seq.), the surviving
17 spouse shall provide the licensing official evidence that
18 ownership has been conveyed to the surviving spouse.

19 "2. In the event that a vehicle is registered and
20 bears a distinctive plate or a registration fee-exempt plate,
21 the plate shall be surrendered to the licensing official
22 within ~~30~~ 20 days of the date of obtaining ownership
23 conveyance and, upon surrender, the owner shall make
24 application for registration of the vehicle. If the motor
25 vehicle is not subject to the Alabama Uniform Certificate of
26 Title and Antitheft Act (Section 32-8-1, et seq.), the

1 surviving spouse shall provide the licensing official evidence
2 that ownership has been conveyed to the surviving spouse.

3 "(8) In the event the owner of a motor vehicle junks
4 the vehicle or the vehicle is ~~totally destroyed~~ deemed a total
5 loss, as defined in Section 32-8-87, the license plate may be
6 transferred to a motor vehicle of the same class during the
7 same tax year. The owner of the license plate, after
8 authorization by the licensing official, and after compliance
9 with the provisions of the Alabama Uniform Certificate of
10 Title and Antitheft Act, if applicable, may transfer the plate
11 to a vehicle currently owned but not operated by that owner
12 for the period remaining before expiration of the
13 registration, or the license plate may be transferred to a
14 newly acquired vehicle.

15 "(9) All references in this article to the words
16 "tag" or "plate" shall have identical meaning and may be used
17 interchangeably. The words "tag," "plate," and "owner" shall
18 mean singular or plural.

19 "(b) (1) Any person operating a self-propelled
20 vehicle required to be registered in this state on the public
21 roads and highways of this state shall retain within the
22 vehicle a current and valid Alabama motor vehicle registration
23 receipt issued to the vehicle being operated. This subsection
24 shall apply to all vehicles registered on or after January 1,
25 1998.

26 "(2) Within the first 20 calendar days of purchase
27 or acquisition of a self-propelled motor vehicle, prior to

1 receiving a copy of a registration receipt, there shall be
2 retained within the vehicle being operated a legible copy of
3 the legal bill of sale if the motor vehicle is not subject to
4 the provisions of the Alabama Uniform Certificate of Title and
5 Antitheft Act (Section 32-8-1, et seq.), or the owner's permit
6 copy of the application for certificate of title ~~for a 1975~~
7 ~~and subsequent year model vehicle~~, or an official copy of a
8 current and valid Alabama temporary registration receipt as
9 authorized under Section 32-6-210 to Section 32-6-219,
10 inclusive, assigned to the vehicle being operated.

11 "(3) (a) The retained documents specified by
12 subsections (b) (1) and (b) (2) above shall be presented, on
13 demand, by the vehicle operator, for inspection by law
14 enforcement officers. The registration receipt may be
15 presented in either a tangible format or in an electronic
16 format. It shall be unlawful for the operator to fail or
17 refuse to present, when requested by a law enforcement
18 officer, the official registration receipt, or other document
19 herein described, or legible copy thereof, for the vehicle
20 being used or operated.

21 "(b) The use of a cellular phone or other electronic
22 device to display evidence of a registration receipt does not
23 constitute consent for law enforcement or other governmental
24 employees to access any other content on the electronic
25 device. Any law enforcement officer or other governmental
26 employee presented with an electronic device pursuant to this
27 section shall be subject to the provisions of Section 36-1-12

1 for damages to the electronic device resulting from acts taken
2 when viewing the device pursuant to this section.

3 "(4) A motor vehicle dealer licensed under the
4 provisions of Section 40-12-390 to Section 40-12-400,
5 inclusive, or a motorcycle dealer licensed under the
6 provisions of Section 40-12-62, or any motor vehicle
7 manufacturer utilizing manufacturer license plates as
8 authorized under the provisions of subsection (g) of Section
9 40-12-264 shall not be required to comply with this subsection
10 for self-propelled motor vehicles within the dealer inventory
11 of the motor vehicle dealer, or, in the case of the motor
12 vehicle manufacturer, shall not be required to comply for new
13 vehicles utilizing the manufacturer license plates and being
14 operated within the provisions of subsection (g) of Section
15 40-12-264.

16 "(c) Any person failing to perform the duties
17 required by the provisions of this section shall be guilty of
18 a Class C misdemeanor ~~and, upon conviction thereof, shall be~~
19 ~~fined not less than fifty dollars (\$50)."~~

20 Section 2. This act shall become effective the first
21 day of the third month following its passage and approval by
22 the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.