

SB214 ENGROSSED



1 EZTYCC-2
2 By Senator Weaver
3 RFD: County and Municipal Government
4 First Read: 18-Apr-23
5 2023 Regular Session



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A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to motor vehicles; to amend Section 32-6-65, Code of Alabama 1975; to define "centralized motor vehicle registration"; to allow for certain data collection; and to make nonsubstantive, technical revisions to update the existing code language to current style.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 32-6-65, Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§32-6-65

(a) (1) There shall be one uniform motor vehicle registration renewal form to be used statewide. ~~Such~~The form shall be designed ~~so as~~ to provide for both the transfer of ownership and the registration of the motor vehicle. All receipts shall be sent to the county agencies charged with handling motor vehicle registration. Receipts may be provided to the registrant in a tangible format or in an electronic format, as prescribed by the department. The state and the county shall capture the color of the motor vehicle in their permanent records. This subsection shall not give the Department of Revenue authority to centralize motor vehicle



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29 registration. Centralized motor vehicle registration is
30 specifically prohibited and it is the legislative intent that
31 ~~automotive~~motor vehicle registration shall remain at the
32 county level.

33 (2) For the purposes of this section, the term
34 "centralized motor vehicle registration" means the use of a
35 software application product or system controlled by a state
36 agency or its designee that processes the issuance of motor
37 vehicle registration certificates or motor vehicle
38 registration plates. The term shall not include a statewide
39 system to process registration data collected from the county
40 or local level.

41 (3) The selection of a motor vehicle registration
42 software application product or system shall be at the sole
43 discretion of the local official charged with the authority to
44 register motor vehicles, subject to any necessary local
45 government approval.

46 (4) This subsection shall not apply to nor override the
47 authority granted under Sections 32-6-56 or 32-6-710, Article
48 3 of Chapter 17 of Title 40, or Division 4 of Article 5 of
49 Chapter 12 of Title 40.

50 (b) (1) A penalty of fifteen dollars (\$15) shall be
51 assessed by the official charged with issuing motor vehicle
52 licenses for the late registration of a motor vehicle. "Late
53 registration of a motor vehicle" shall include all of the
54 following:

55 ~~(1) the failure~~ a. Failure to register the motor
56 vehicle within 20 calendar days of the date of purchase or



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57 acquisition; ~~.(2) the failure~~

58 b. Failure to renew the motor vehicle registration in
59 the designated renewal month; ~~.(3) the failure~~

60 c. Failure to register the motor vehicle in accordance
61 with the provisions of Section 40-12-262(a).

62 (2) It shall be the duty of all sheriffs, police
63 officers, state troopers, license inspectors, deputy license
64 inspectors, field agents of the Department of Revenue, and
65 other law enforcement officers to arrest any person operating
66 a motor vehicle without the current license plate displaying
67 the proper validation decal. Persons apprehended for operating
68 a motor vehicle without the current license plate, upon
69 conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction, shall be
70 fined not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25).

71 ~~(2)~~ (3) Notwithstanding subdivision (1), any person on
72 military deployment during any part of his or her designated
73 registration renewal month, except a person with a discharge
74 characterization of dishonorable or other than honorable, who
75 renews his or her motor vehicle registration within 30
76 calendar days from the date the deployment ends shall not be
77 assessed a late registration penalty or associated interest
78 charges. Evidence of military deployment shall be documented
79 using military deployment orders, a government issued
80 Statement of Service letter, Form DD214 Certificate of Release
81 or Discharge from Active Duty, or a letter from the
82 registrant's unit commander certifying the date that his or
83 her deployment ended.

84 (c) All penalties assessed by this section shall be



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85 distributed in the same manner as motor vehicle licenses and
86 registration fees are distributed as provided in Sections
87 40-12-269 and 40-12-270. Portions of Section 40-12-10 as they
88 may conflict with this section, are hereby repealed and
89 superseded."

90 Section 2. This act shall become effective immediately
91 following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its
92 otherwise becoming law.



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95 Senate

96 Read for the first time and referred18-Apr-23
97 to the Senate committee on County
98 and Municipal Government
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100 Read for the second time and placed23-May-23
101 on the calendar:
102 0 amendments
103
104 Read for the third time and passed25-May-23
105 as amended
106 Yeas 31
107 Nays 0
108 Abstains 0
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Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

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