

HB264 INTRODUCED



1 HB264
2 DLCCTNN-1
3 By Representative Crawford
4 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security
5 First Read: 12-Feb-25



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SYNOPSIS:

Current law provides for a vessel registration fee in an amount based on length of the vessel, as well as an additional flat registration fee of \$5.

This bill would consolidate these fees and provide for the distribution of these fees.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to vessel registration; to amend Sections 33-5-10, 33-5-13, 33-5-14, and 33-5-17, Code of Alabama 1975, relating to the registration of vessels, to provide for registration fees and the distribution of those fees; 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. Sections 33-5-10, 33-5-13, 33-5-14, and 33-5-17, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

"§33-5-10

(a) (1) The secretary shall issue annual certificates of registration directly and shall authorize all judges of probate in the state or any other official in the state who is



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29 ~~presently~~ authorized to issue ~~automobile~~ motor vehicle license
30 plates to issue annual certificates of registration and
31 numbers ~~in connection therewith~~.

32 (2) In conformity with this article and any rules
33 adopted by the secretary, the secretary shall assign ~~to each~~
34 ~~issuing officer in the county~~ a block of numbers and
35 certificates to each issuing officer in the county ~~which upon~~
36 ~~issue,~~ the The issuing officer ~~shall be allowed~~ may collect a
37 fee of two dollars (\$2) for each certificate issued by him or
38 her. In counties where the judge of probate or issuing officer
39 is on the fee system, the issuing fee shall be retained by the
40 judge of probate, and, in counties where the issuing officer
41 or judge of probate is on a salary basis, the fee shall be
42 paid to the county treasury. The issuance fee shall be in
43 addition to the amount of the ~~boat~~ vessel registration fee
44 provided in Section 33-5-17.

45 (b) All ~~registration money~~ monies collected from the
46 registration of vessels, except the ~~two dollar (\$2) issuance~~
47 fee allowed under subsection (a) (2), shall be remitted monthly
48 to ALEA not later than 10 days after the first of each month.
49 The secretary shall remit ~~the registration money~~ these funds to
50 the State ~~Treasurer~~ Treasury to be deposited ~~in the State Water~~
51 ~~Safety Funds~~ as provided in subsection (c).

52 (c) (1) Five dollars (\$5) from each registration fee
53 provided in Section 33-5-17(a) (2) (i) through (iv) shall be
54 remitted monthly to the State Treasury and deposited into the
55 State Reservoir Management Grant Fund, established in Section
56 9-2-170, not later than 10 days after the first of each month.



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57 (2) Unless otherwise provided by law, the remainder of
58 the monies collected pursuant to this article, excluding the
59 issuance fee provided in subsection (a) and the distribution
60 provided in subdivision (c)(1), shall be remitted monthly to
61 the State Treasury and deposited in the State Water Safety
62 Fund.

63 (3) All monies ~~received out of the sale of~~
64 licenses collected from the registrations of vessels and
65 deposited in the State Water Safety Fund under this article
66 may be used by the secretary for all purposes reasonably
67 necessary in the cost of administration of this article,
68 including the printing of certificates of registration,
69 postage and transportation charges, clerical, personnel,
70 equipment purchases, salaries, and other expenses for each
71 year; except, that no funds collected under this article may
72 be used to supplement or pay the salaries of any law
73 enforcement officers other than those hired specifically for
74 the purposes of administering this article. The secretary
75 shall expend the monies appropriated to the Marine Patrol
76 Division as the secretary deems necessary and appropriate;
77 provided, however, that the appropriations may be expended
78 only for the purposes designated by the Legislature and in the
79 amounts provided ~~therefor~~ in the general appropriation bill
80 and shall be budgeted and allotted in accordance with Article
81 4 of Chapter 4 of Title 41. It is the intent of the
82 Legislature that the agency utilize existing personnel and
83 equipment of the agency and of the sheriffs of this state to
84 the maximum possible extent in enforcing and administering



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85 this article, to the end that there be no costly duplication
86 of services."

87 "§33-5-13

88 (a) ~~Every~~Except as provided in subsection (b), each
89 certificate of registration and license as provided for in
90 ~~this article is to~~shall be issued on a yearly basis and ~~said~~
91 ~~certificate and license~~ shall be valid for one issuing year
92 only as provided in this article.

93 (b) ~~The registration of vessels shall be on a staggered~~
94 ~~basis. To implement this article, the registration of vessels~~
95 ~~may be for periods of less than or greater than 12 months~~
96 ~~during the conversion year only~~The initial certificate of
97 registration may be issued in any month and for a period less
98 than one year.

99 (c) ~~The staggered system for registration of vessels~~
100 ~~shall be implemented thusly: The first letter of an~~
101 ~~individual's last name shall determine the month in which a~~
102 vessel owner shall renew the registerregistration of his or
103 her vessel(s), as indicated below during the month assigned to
104 the first letter of the vessel owner's last name, as follows:

105 January: A, D

106 February: B

107 March: C, E

108 April: F, G, N

109 May: H, O

110 June: M, I

111 July: P, L

112 August: J, K, R



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113 September: Q, S, T

114 October: U, V, W, X, Y, Z, to include livery boats,
115 dealers, and manufacturers

116 ~~(d) After the conversion period all owners of vessels~~
117 ~~shall continue to register their vessels during the month~~
118 ~~assigned to the first initial of their last name.~~ All
119 registrations ~~issued on a staggered basis~~ shall expire on the
120 last day of the month ~~which~~that precedes the registration
121 month ~~assigned for the purchase or renewal of~~
122 ~~registration~~provided in subsection (c). ~~All registrations~~
123 ~~issued to vessels for which registration is due in October and~~
124 ~~November shall expire on September 30."~~

125 "§33-5-14

126 (a) The description of the vessel of a manufacturer or
127 dealer shall be omitted from the certificate of registration
128 since the number awarded may be used on different vessels at
129 different times. In lieu of the vessel's description, the word
130 "manufacturer" or "dealer," as appropriate, shall be plainly
131 marked on each certificate of registration.

132 (b) The manufacturer or dealer may have the number
133 awarded printed upon or attached to a removable sign or signs
134 to be temporarily but firmly mounted upon or attached to the
135 vessel being demonstrated or tested ~~so long as~~if the display
136 meets the requirements of this article.

137 (c) A certificate of registration and the corresponding
138 number issued pursuant to this section may only be used for
139 vessels being demonstrated or tested."

140 "§33-5-17



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141 (a) (1) Vessels subject to this article, including
142 livery boats, shall be classified as provided in subdivision
143 (2). ~~according to the following schedule and annual fees~~
144 ~~charged by the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency for~~
145 ~~registration shall be in the following amounts:~~

146 (2) The amount of the vessel registration fee for each
147 class is established as follows:

148 (i) CLASS 1. Vessels Less less than 16 feet in length~~;~~:
149 eighteen~~twenty-three~~ dollars (\$~~18~~23) ~~plus a two dollar (\$2)~~
150 ~~issuance fee.~~

151 (ii) CLASS 2. Vessels Sixteen 16 feet or over and less
152 than 26 feet in length~~;~~: twenty-three~~eight~~ dollars (\$~~23~~28)
153 ~~plus a two dollar (\$2) issuance fee.~~

154 (iii) CLASS 3. Vessels Twenty-six 26 feet or over and
155 less than 40 feet in length~~;~~: seventy-three~~eight~~ dollars
156 (\$~~73~~78) ~~plus a two dollar (\$2) issuance fee.~~

157 (iv) CLASS 4. Vessels Forty 40 feet or over in length~~;~~:
158 ninety-eight~~one hundred three~~ dollars (\$~~98~~103) ~~plus a two~~
159 ~~dollar (\$2) issuance fee.~~

160 ~~The above stated fees shall also apply to livery boats.~~

161 (v) CLASS 5. Dealer or manufacturer vessels~~;~~: ~~temporary~~
162 ~~license~~, twenty-three dollars (\$23) ~~plus a two dollar (\$2)~~
163 ~~issuance fee for each license.~~

164 (3) The issuance fee provided in Section 33-5-10(a)
165 shall be in addition to the vessel registration fee provided
166 in subdivision (2).

167 (b) ~~In addition to the foregoing fees, there shall be~~
168 ~~an~~An inspection fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) is



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169 established for all homemade boats which require a hull
170 identification number. This fee shall be in addition to any
171 other fee provided by law.

172 (c) (1) A fee of fifteen dollars (\$15) shall be assessed
173 by the issuing official for any of the following:

174 a. Failure to renew the registration during the
175 designated renewal month provided in Section 33-5-13(c).

176 b. Failure to register the vessel in accordance with
177 the provisions of Section 33-5-15.

178 (2) This fee shall be in addition to any other fee
179 provided by law.~~In addition to the foregoing fees, there shall~~
180 ~~be an additional registration fee of five dollars (\$5) for~~
181 ~~every Class 1 through 4 vessel registered. All monies received~~
182 ~~from the additional registration fee provided under this~~
183 ~~subsection shall be remitted monthly to the State Treasurer to~~
184 ~~be deposited into the State Reservoir Management Grant Fund~~
185 ~~not later than 10 days after the first of each month."~~

186 Section 2. This act shall become effective on January
187 1, 2026.