

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

SENATE BILL 335

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2004

INTRODUCED BY

Nancy Rodriguez

AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; CHANGING REQUIREMENTS FOR DISPLAY
OF REGISTRATION PLATES; IMPOSING A FEE; MAKING AN
APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code is
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] FRONT AND REAR REGISTRATION PLATES--
FEES.--

A. All vehicles that are registered by the
department on or after July 1, 2004 shall display a set of
front and rear registration plates issued by the department.
Registration plates shall be displayed in accordance with
Section 66-3-18 NMSA 1978.

B. When two registration plates are issued for use

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 upon a vehicle, the department shall collect a fee of two
2 dollars (\$2.00), which shall be in addition to the regular
3 motor vehicle registration fee. The fee collected pursuant to
4 this subsection shall be retained by the department to defray
5 the cost of manufacture and issuance of the front plate.

6 C. The provisions of Subsections A and B of this
7 section do not apply to road tractors and truck tractors."

8 Section 2. Section 66-3-18 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978,
9 Chapter 35, Section 38, as amended) is amended to read:

10 "66-3-18. DISPLAY OF REGISTRATION PLATES AND TEMPORARY
11 PERMITS AND PLATES--DISPLAYS PROHIBITED AND ALLOWED.--

12 A. ~~[The registration plate shall be attached to the~~
13 ~~rear of the vehicle for which it is issued; however, the~~
14 ~~registration plate shall be attached to the front of a road~~
15 ~~tractor or truck tractor. The plate]~~ When two registration
16 plates are issued by the department for use upon a vehicle,
17 they shall be attached to the vehicle for which they were
18 issued and one plate shall be attached to the front of the
19 vehicle, while the other shall be attached to the rear of the
20 vehicle. When only one registration plate is issued for use
21 upon a vehicle, the registration plate shall be attached to the
22 rear of the vehicle. Not more than one registration plate
23 shall be issued by the department for use upon a road tractor
24 or a truck tractor, and that registration plate shall be
25 attached to the front of the road tractor or truck tractor.

.149999.1

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 B. A registration plate shall be securely fastened
2 at all times in a fixed horizontal position. The rear
3 registration plate shall be mounted at a height of not less
4 than twelve inches from the ground, measuring from the bottom
5 of the plate. [~~It~~] The front license plate shall be mounted
6 not more than sixty inches from the ground. A registration
7 plate shall be in a place and position so as to be clearly
8 visible, and it shall be maintained free from foreign material
9 and in a condition to be clearly legible.

10 ~~[B-]~~ C. Except for temporary demonstration plates,
11 temporary permits shall be firmly affixed to the inside left
12 rear window of the vehicle to which it is issued, unless such
13 display presents a safety hazard or the temporary permit is not
14 visible or readable from that position, in which case, the
15 temporary permit shall be displayed in such a manner that it is
16 clearly visible from the rear or left side of the vehicle.
17 Temporary demonstration plates shall be displayed as provided
18 for in Subsection A of this section.

19 ~~[G-]~~ D. No vehicle while being operated on the
20 highways of this state shall have displayed either on the front
21 or the rear of the vehicle any registration plate, including
22 tab or sticker, other than one issued or validated for the
23 current registration period by the department or any other
24 licensing authority having jurisdiction over the vehicle. No
25 expired registration plate, tab or sticker shall be displayed

.149999.1

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 on the vehicle other than an expired special registration
2 plate, which may be exhibited on the front of the vehicle.

3 ~~[D-]~~ E. Nothing contained in this section shall be
4 construed as prohibiting the use of a promotional or
5 advertising plate on the front of the vehicle."

6 Section 3. Section 66-3-104 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978,
7 Chapter 35, Section 51, as amended) is amended to read:

8 "66-3-104. USE OF PLATE AND REGISTRATION NUMBER ON
9 ANOTHER VEHICLE--TRANSFER OF REGISTRATION.--

10 A. When the owner of a registered vehicle assigns
11 title or interest to the vehicle, the registration of that
12 vehicle expires, unless the vehicle is registered for an
13 extended registration period and the owner applies to have the
14 registration number assigned to another vehicle as provided in
15 Subsection B of this section.

16 B. When the owner of a registered vehicle assigns
17 title or interest to the vehicle, he shall remove and retain
18 ~~[the]~~ all registration ~~[plate]~~ plates from the vehicle and,
19 within thirty days of the transfer, either make application to
20 have the registration number assigned to another vehicle of the
21 same class or forward the ~~[plate]~~ plates to the department or
22 its authorized agent to be destroyed. The transfer of ~~[the]~~
23 registration ~~[plate]~~ plates shall be permitted only if the
24 application for transfer is made in the name of the original
25 registered owner unless the owner's name has been changed by

.149999.1

1 marriage, divorce or court order.

2 C. ~~[The]~~ Registration [~~plate~~] plates shall not be
3 displayed upon the newly acquired vehicle until the
4 registration of the vehicle has been completed and a new
5 registration certificate issued. However, the temporary
6 retail-sale permit issued for the vehicle by the dealer
7 pursuant to the provisions of Section 66-3-6 NMSA 1978 may be
8 securely attached to the plate to be transferred and displayed
9 in accordance with Subsection A of Section 66-3-18 NMSA 1978."

10 - 5 -

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25