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SENATE BILL 482

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011

INTRODUCED BY

Kent L. Cravens

AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; PROVIDING FOR TRIBES, COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES TO ISSUE IDENTIFICATION PLATES FOR THEIR VEHICLES IN COORDINATION WITH THE MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION OF THE TAXATION AND REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

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

SECTION 1. Section 66-6-15 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978, Chapter 35, Section 350, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-6-15. VEHICLES OF THE STATE OR OF A TRIBE, COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY.--

A. Vehicles or trailers owned by and used in the service of [~~an Indian nation, tribe or pueblo located wholly or partly in this state~~] a tribe or of any county or municipality [~~of this state~~] need not be registered but must continually display plates furnished by the division or by the tribe,

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underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

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1 county or municipality pursuant to Subsection D of this
2 section.

3 B. Vehicles on loan from dealers and used in an
4 approved driver-training program by the public schools need not
5 be registered but must continually display plates furnished by
6 the division.

7 C. [~~Each Indian nation, tribe or pueblo, each~~
8 ~~county and each municipality~~] Unless furnishing its own plates
9 pursuant to Subsection D of this section, a tribe, county or
10 municipality shall apply to the division for a plate for each
11 vehicle or trailer in its service and shall provide identifying
12 information concerning each vehicle or trailer for which a
13 plate is applied. The division shall keep a record of plates
14 issued and plates returned.

15 D. A tribe, county or municipality may furnish for
16 a vehicle that it owns, at its own expense, a plate that it has
17 designed in coordination with and that is approved by the
18 division. If a tribe, county or municipality desires to
19 furnish its own plate for a vehicle, it shall provide to the
20 division identifying information for the vehicle as determined
21 by the division and the division shall keep a record of that
22 information. The plate design shall:

23 (1) display an identification number assigned
24 by the division to the tribe, county or municipality for a
25 particular vehicle;

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1 (2) have a background of reflective material
2 so that the identification number assigned to the vehicle is
3 plainly legible from a distance of one hundred feet at night;
4 and

5 (3) display the name of this state, the name
6 of the tribe, county or municipality and an indicator that the
7 vehicle is owned by a governmental entity.

8 ~~[D. The division shall issue plates for vehicles~~
9 ~~and trailers in the service of an Indian nation, tribe or~~
10 ~~pueblo located wholly or partly in this state or of any county~~
11 ~~or municipality of this state and keep a record of plates~~
12 ~~issued and plates returned. The plates]~~

13 E. A plate issued by the division or furnished by a
14 tribe, county or municipality shall be permanent and need not
15 be renewed from year to year. The plates shall be numbered to
16 identify the [Indian nation] tribe, [or pueblo, the] county or
17 [the] municipality to which the plates are issued and shall be
18 consistent with the division's government plate numbering
19 system. The plates shall be the same size as registration
20 plates issued to private vehicles but shall be different in
21 color from the registration plates issued to private vehicles.

22 ~~[E.]~~ F. A vehicle or trailer owned by and used in
23 the service of the state need not be registered with the
24 division but must continually display a plate furnished by the
25 transportation services division of the general services

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1 department. A state agency shall apply to the transportation
2 services division of the general services department for a
3 plate for each vehicle or trailer in its service, including
4 identifying information for each vehicle or trailer. The
5 transportation services division of the general services
6 department shall issue plates for state agency vehicles and
7 trailers and shall keep a record of plates issued and plates
8 returned. These plates shall be:

9 (1) permanent and shall not be renewed from
10 year to year;

11 (2) numbered to identify the state agency to
12 which they are issued; and

13 (3) the same size as but a different color
14 from registration plates issued to private vehicles or trailers
15 or from plates issued pursuant to Subsection [D] E of this
16 section.

17 [~~F~~] G. As used in Subsection [~~E~~] F of this
18 section, "state agency" means a state department, agency, board
19 or commission including the legislative and judicial branches
20 of government, but not including public schools and
21 institutions of higher education."