

HB482 INTRODUCED



1 WLTP55-1

2 By Representatives Mooney, Ellis, Stubbs, Estes, Carns,
3 Paschal, Bedsole, Oliver, DuBose, Hulsey, Lamb, Wadsworth,
4 Woods, Gidley

5 RFD: State Government

6 First Read: 16-May-23

7 2023 Regular Session



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4 SYNOPSIS:

5 Under existing law, centralized motor vehicle
6 registration is prohibited.

7 This bill would define the term "centralized
8 motor vehicle registration" and would clarify that
9 certain data collection is excluded from the
10 prohibition against centralized registration.

11 This bill would also make nonsubstantive,
12 technical revisions to update the existing code
13 language to current style, and provide retroactive
14 effect.

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17 A BILL
18 TO BE ENTITLED
19 AN ACT

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21 Relating to motor vehicles; to amend Section 32-6-65,
22 Code of Alabama 1975, to define centralized motor vehicle
23 registration; to allow for certain data collection; to provide
24 for retroactive effect; and to make nonsubstantive, technical
25 revisions to update the existing code language to current
26 style.

27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

28 Section 1. Section 32-6-65, Code of Alabama 1975, is



29 amended to read as follows:

30 "§32-6-65

31 (a) (1) There shall be one uniform motor vehicle
32 registration renewal form to be used statewide. ~~Such~~The form
33 shall be designed ~~so as~~ to provide for both the transfer of
34 ownership and the registration of the motor vehicle. All
35 receipts shall be sent to the county agencies charged with
36 handling motor vehicle registration. Receipts may be provided
37 to the registrant in a tangible format or in an electronic
38 format, as prescribed by the department. The state and the
39 county shall capture the color of the motor vehicle in their
40 permanent records. This subsection shall not give the
41 Department of Revenue authority to centralize motor vehicle
42 registration. Centralized motor vehicle registration is
43 specifically prohibited and it is the legislative intent that
44 ~~automotive~~motor vehicle registration shall remain at the
45 county level.

46 (2) For the purposes of this section, the term
47 "centralized motor vehicle registration" means the use of a
48 software application product or system controlled by a state
49 agency or its designee that processes the issuance of motor
50 vehicle registration certificates or motor vehicle
51 registration plates. The term shall not include a statewide
52 system to process registration data collected from the county
53 or local level. No state agency may impose or require the use
54 of any specific software system.

55 (3) This subsection shall not apply to nor override the
56 authority granted under Section 32-6-56, Article 3 of Chapter



57 17 of Title 40, or Division 4 of Article 5 of Chapter 12 of
58 Title 40.

59 (b) (1) A penalty of fifteen dollars (\$15) shall be
60 assessed by the official charged with issuing motor vehicle
61 licenses for the late registration of a motor vehicle. "Late
62 registration of a motor vehicle" shall include all of the
63 following:

64 (1) the failure a. Failure to register the motor
65 vehicle within 20 calendar days of the date of purchase or
66 acquisition– (2) the failure

67 b. Failure to renew the registration in the designated
68 renewal month– (3) the failure

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

71 (2) It shall be the duty of all sheriffs, police
72 officers, state troopers, license inspectors, deputy license
73 inspectors, field agents of the Department of Revenue, and
74 other law enforcement officers to arrest any person operating
75 a motor vehicle without the current license plate displaying
76 the proper validation decal. Persons apprehended for operating
77 a motor vehicle without the current license plate, upon
78 conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction, shall be
79 fined not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25).

80 (2) (3) Notwithstanding subdivision (1), any person on
81 military deployment during any part of his or her designated
82 registration renewal month, except a person with a discharge
83 characterization of dishonorable or other than honorable, who
84 renews his or her motor vehicle registration within 30

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85 calendar days from the date the deployment ends shall not be
86 assessed a late registration penalty or associated interest
87 charges. Evidence of military deployment shall be documented
88 using military deployment orders, a government issued
89 Statement of Service letter, Form DD214 Certificate of Release
90 or Discharge from Active Duty, or a letter from the
91 registrant's unit commander certifying the date that his or
92 her deployment ended.

93 (c) All penalties assessed by this section shall be
94 distributed in the same manner as motor vehicle licenses and
95 registration fees are distributed as provided in Sections
96 40-12-269 and 40-12-270. Portions of Section 40-12-10 as they
97 may conflict with this section, are hereby repealed and
98 superseded."

99 Section 2. This act shall become effective immediately
100 following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its
101 otherwise becoming law, and shall apply retroactively to
102 October 1, 2022.