

By Senator Saunders

25-390-02

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to motor vehicles; amending s.
3 320.01, F.S., defining the term "extended
4 registration period"; amending s. 320.055,
5 F.S.; authorizing an extended registration
6 period for certain motor vehicles; amending s.
7 320.06, F.S.; providing terms and conditions
8 for the issuance of extended registrations;
9 amending s. 320.07, F.S.; providing for
10 expiration of an extended registration;
11 providing for a refund under certain
12 circumstances; amending s. 320.071, F.S.;
13 limiting registration periods; amending s.
14 328.72, F.S.; authorizing an extended
15 registration period for certain vessels;
16 providing an effective date.

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18 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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20 Section 1. Subsection (45) is added to section 320.01,
21 Florida Statutes, to read:

22 320.01 Definitions, general.--As used in the Florida
23 Statutes, except as otherwise provided, the term:

24 (45) "Extended registration period" means a 24-month
25 period during which a motor vehicle or mobile home
26 registration is valid.

27 Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 320.02, Florida
28 Statutes, is amended to read:

29 320.02 Registration required; application for
30 registration; forms.--

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1 (2)(a) The application for registration shall include
2 the street address of the owner's permanent residence or the
3 address of his or her permanent place of business and shall be
4 accompanied by personal or business identification information
5 which may include, but need not be limited to, a driver's
6 license number, Florida identification card number, or federal
7 employer identification number. If the owner does not have a
8 permanent residence or permanent place of business or if the
9 owner's permanent residence or permanent place of business
10 cannot be identified by a street address, the application
11 shall include:

12 1. If the vehicle is registered to a business, the
13 name and street address of the permanent residence of an owner
14 of the business, an officer of the corporation, or an employee
15 who is in a supervisory position.

16 2. If the vehicle is registered to an individual, the
17 name and street address of the permanent residence of a close
18 relative or friend who is a resident of this state.

19 (b) The department shall prescribe a form upon which
20 motor vehicle owners may record odometer readings when
21 registering their motor vehicles.

22 (c) The application must be accompanied by a \$10
23 initial license plate fee in addition to all other applicable
24 taxes and fees.

25 Section 3. Present subsections (2) through (4) of
26 section 320.055, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as
27 subsections (3) through (5), respectively, and present
28 subsections (5) through (7) of that section are renumbered as
29 subsections (6) through (9), respectively, and new subsections
30 (2) and (5) are added to that section to read:

31

1 320.055 Registration periods; renewal periods.--The
2 following registration periods and renewal periods are
3 established:

4 (2) Any motor vehicle that is subject to registration
5 under s. 320.08(1), (2), (3), (4)(a), (4)(b), (6), (7), (8),
6 (9), (10), or (11) and is owned by the registrant is eligible
7 for an extended registration period, that begins the first day
8 of the birth month of the owner and ends the last day of the
9 month immediately preceding the owner's birth month 24 months
10 after the beginning of the registration period. If the vehicle
11 is registered in the name of more than one person, the birth
12 month of the person whose name first appears on the
13 registration shall be used to determine the extended
14 registration period. For a vehicle subject to this extended
15 registration period, the renewal period is the 30-day period
16 ending at midnight on the vehicle owner's date of birth.

17 (5) For a vehicle subject to registration under s.
18 320.08(4), (5)(a)1., (e), (6), or (14), the registration
19 period shall be a period of 12 months or 24 months, if
20 biennial registration beginning in a month designated by the
21 department and ending on this last day of the 12th month or
22 24th month, if biennial registration. For a vehicle subject to
23 the registration period, the renewal period is the last month
24 of the registration period. The registration period may be
25 shortened or extended at the discretion of the department,
26 upon receipt of the appropriate prorated fees, in order to
27 evenly distribute such registration on a monthly basis.

28 Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 320.06, Florida
29 Statutes, is amended to read:

30 320.06 Registration certificates, license plates, and
31 validation stickers generally.--

1 (1)(a) Upon the receipt of an initial application for
2 registration and payment of the appropriate license tax and
3 other fees required by law, the department shall assign to the
4 motor vehicle a registration license number consisting of
5 letters and numerals or numerals and issue to the owner or
6 lessee a certificate of registration and one registration
7 license plate, unless two plates are required for display by
8 s. 320.0706, for each vehicle so registered.

9 (b) Registration license plates bearing a graphic
10 symbol and the alphanumeric system of identification shall be
11 issued for a 6-year ~~5-year~~ period. At the end of the said
12 ~~5-year~~ period, upon renewal, the plate shall be replaced. Two
13 dollars ~~The fee for such replacement shall be \$10, \$2 of which~~
14 shall be paid each year ~~before the plate is replaced~~, to be
15 credited towards the next ~~\$10 replacement~~ fee. The fees shall
16 be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund. A
17 credit or refund shall not be given for any prior years'
18 payments of such prorated replacement fee when the plate is
19 replaced or surrendered before the end of the 6-year ~~5-year~~
20 period. With each license plate, there shall be issued a
21 validation sticker showing the owner's birth month or the
22 appropriate renewal period if the owner is not a natural
23 person. This validation sticker shall be placed on the upper
24 left corner of the license plate and shall be issued one time
25 during the life of the license plate, or upon request when it
26 has been damaged or destroyed. There shall also be issued with
27 each license plate a serially numbered validation sticker
28 showing the year of expiration, which sticker shall be placed
29 on the upper right corner of the license plate. Such license
30 plate and validation stickers shall be issued based on the
31 applicant's appropriate renewal period. The registration

1 period shall be ~~a period of~~ 12 months, the extended
2 registration period shall be 24 months, and all expirations
3 shall occur based on the applicant's appropriate ~~registration~~
4 period. A vehicle with an apportioned registration shall be
5 issued an annual license plate and a cab card that denote the
6 declared gross vehicle weight for each apportioned
7 jurisdiction in which the vehicle is authorized to operate.

8 (c) Registration license plates equipped with
9 validation stickers shall be valid for not more than 12 months
10 and shall expire at midnight on the last day of the
11 registration period. Registration license plates equipped with
12 validation stickers subject to the extended registration
13 period shall be valid for not more than 24 months and shall
14 expire at midnight on the last day of the extended
15 registration period. For each registration period after the
16 one in which the metal registration license plate is issued,
17 and until the license plate is required to be replaced, a
18 validation sticker showing the year of expiration shall be
19 issued upon payment of the proper license tax amount and fees
20 and shall be valid for not more than 12 months. For each
21 extended registration period occurring after the one in which
22 the metal registration license plate is issued, and until the
23 license plate is required to be replaced, a validation sticker
24 showing the year of expiration shall be issued upon payment of
25 the proper license tax amount and fees and shall be valid for
26 not more than 24 months. When license plates equipped with
27 validation stickers are issued in any month other than the
28 owner's birth month or the designated registration period for
29 any other motor vehicle, the effective date shall reflect the
30 birth month or month and the year of renewal. However, when a
31 license plate or validation sticker is issued for a period of

1 less than 12 months, the applicant shall pay the appropriate
2 amount of license tax and the applicable fee under the
3 provisions of s. 320.14 in addition to all other fees.
4 Validation stickers issued for vehicles taxed under the
5 provisions of s. 320.08(6)(a), for any company which owns 250
6 vehicles or more, or for semitrailers taxed under the
7 provisions of s. 320.08(5)(a), for any company which owns 50
8 vehicles or more, may be placed on any vehicle in the fleet so
9 long as the vehicle receiving the validation sticker has the
10 same owner's name and address as the vehicle to which the
11 validation sticker was originally assigned.

12 Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 320.07, Florida
13 Statutes, is amended and present subsections (3) through (5)
14 are renumbered as subsections (4) through (6), respectively,
15 and a new subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:

16 320.07 Expiration of registration; annual renewal
17 required; penalties.--

18 (1) The registration of a motor vehicle or mobile home
19 shall expire at midnight on the last day of the registration
20 or extended registration period. A vehicle shall not be
21 operated on the roads of this state after expiration of the
22 renewal period unless the registration has been renewed
23 according to law.

24 (3) Any person who owns a motor vehicle registered
25 under s. 320.08(1), (2), (3), (4)(a), (4)(b), (6), (7), (8),
26 (9), (10), or (11) may renew the vehicle registration
27 biennially during the applicable renewal period, upon payment
28 of the cumulative applicable license tax fees required by s.
29 320.08, service charges required by s. 320.04, and any
30 additional fees required by law for the extended registration
31 period.

1 Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
2 320.071, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

3 320.071 Advance registration renewal; procedures.--

4 (1)(a) The owner of any motor vehicle or mobile home
5 currently registered in this state may file an application for
6 renewal of registration with the department, or its authorized
7 agent in the county wherein the owner resides, any time during
8 the 3 months preceding the date of expiration of the
9 registration period. A registration period may not exceed 27
10 months.

11 Section 7. Paragraph (b) of subsection (12) of section
12 328.72, Florida Statutes, as amended by section 1 of chapter
13 2001-369, is amended to read:

14 328.72 Classification; registration; fees and charges;
15 surcharge; disposition of fees; fines; marine turtle
16 stickers.--

17 (12) REGISTRATION.--

18 (b) "Renewal period" is a period of 30 days during
19 which renewal of a vessel registration is required, except as
20 otherwise provided by law. Any vessel owner that is subject to
21 registration under s. 328.72(12)(c)1., is eligible for an
22 extended registration period, that begins the first day of the
23 owner's birth month and ends the last day of the month
24 immediately preceding the owner's birth month 24 months after
25 the beginning of the registration period. If the vessel is
26 registered in the name of more than one person, the birth
27 month of the person whose name first appears on the
28 registration shall be used to determine the extended
29 registration period. For a vessel subject to this extended
30 registration period, the renewal period is the 30-day period
31 ending at midnight on the vessel owner's date of birth.

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Section 8. This act shall take effect October 1, 2003.

SENATE SUMMARY

Provides for extended registration periods for motor vehicles and vessels. (See bill for details.)