

HB 275

2007

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to motor vehicle, mobile home, and vessel  
3 registration; amending s. 320.01, F.S.; redefining the  
4 term "registration period"; defining the term "extended  
5 registration period"; amending s. 320.055, F.S.;  
6 establishing an extended registration period and renewal  
7 period for certain motor vehicles and mobile homes;  
8 amending s. 320.06, F.S.; extending the time period and  
9 revising the fee for replacement of registration license  
10 plates; extending the period of validity of license plates  
11 and validation stickers to provide for an extended  
12 registration period; amending s. 320.07, F.S.; providing  
13 for the semiannual, annual, or biennial renewal of motor  
14 vehicle and mobile home registrations; authorizing the  
15 biennial renewal of certain motor vehicle and mobile home  
16 registrations upon payment of the cumulative total of  
17 license taxes, service charges, surcharges, and other  
18 fees; amending s. 320.071, F.S.; specifying that the  
19 registration period for a motor vehicle or mobile home may  
20 not exceed a specified number of months; amending s.  
21 328.72, F.S.; providing for an extended registration  
22 period for certain vessel owners; providing an effective  
23 date.

24  
25 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

26  
27 Section 1. Subsection (19) of section 320.01, Florida  
28 Statutes, is amended to read:

HB 275

2007

29 320.01 Definitions, general.--As used in the Florida  
30 Statutes, except as otherwise provided, the term:

31 (19) (a) "Registration period" means a period of 12 months  
32 or 24 months during which a motor vehicle or mobile home  
33 registration is valid.

34 (b) "Extended registration period" means a period of 24  
35 months during which a motor vehicle or mobile home registration  
36 is valid.

37 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 320.055, Florida  
38 Statutes, is amended to read:

39 320.055 Registration periods; renewal periods.--The  
40 following registration periods and renewal periods are  
41 established:

42 (1) (a) For a motor vehicle subject to registration under  
43 s. 320.08(1), (2), (3), (5)(b), (c), (d), or (f), (6)(a), (7),  
44 (8), (9), or (10) and owned by a natural person, the  
45 registration period begins the first day of the birth month of  
46 the owner and ends the last day of the month immediately  
47 preceding the owner's birth month in the succeeding year. If  
48 such vehicle is registered in the name of more than one person,  
49 the birth month of the person whose name first appears on the  
50 registration shall be used to determine the registration period.  
51 For a vehicle subject to this registration period, the renewal  
52 period is the 30-day period ending at midnight on the vehicle  
53 owner's date of birth.

54 (b) A motor vehicle or mobile home that is subject to  
55 registration under s. 320.08(1), (2), (3), (4)(a) or (b), (6),  
56 (7), (8), (9), (10), or (11) is eligible for an extended

57 registration period as defined in s. 320.01(19)(b).

58 ~~(c)(b)~~ Notwithstanding the requirements of paragraph (a),  
 59 the owner of a motor vehicle subject to paragraph (a) who has  
 60 had his or her driver's license suspended pursuant to a  
 61 violation of s. 316.193 or pursuant to s. 322.26(2) for driving  
 62 under the influence must obtain a 6-month registration as a  
 63 condition of reinstating the license, subject to renewal during  
 64 the 3-year period that financial responsibility requirements  
 65 apply. The registration period begins the first day of the birth  
 66 month of the owner and ends the last day of the fifth month  
 67 immediately following the owner's birth month. For such  
 68 vehicles, the department shall issue a vehicle registration  
 69 certificate that is valid for 6 months and shall issue a  
 70 validation sticker that displays an expiration date of 6 months  
 71 after the date of issuance. The license tax required by s.  
 72 320.08 and all other applicable license taxes shall be one-half  
 73 of the amount otherwise required, except the service charge  
 74 required by s. 320.04 shall be paid in full for each 6-month  
 75 registration. A vehicle required to be registered under this  
 76 paragraph is not eligible for the extended registration period  
 77 under paragraph (b).

78 Section 3. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (1) of  
 79 section 320.06, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

80 320.06 Registration certificates, license plates, and  
 81 validation stickers generally.--

82 (1)

83 (b) Registration license plates bearing a graphic symbol  
 84 and the alphanumeric system of identification shall be issued

85 for a 6-year ~~5-year~~ period. At the end of that 6-year ~~said 5-~~  
 86 ~~year~~ period, upon renewal, the plate shall be replaced. The fee  
 87 for such replacement is \$12 ~~shall be \$10~~, \$2 of which shall be  
 88 paid each year before the plate is replaced, to be credited  
 89 towards the next \$12 ~~\$10~~ replacement fee. The fees shall be  
 90 deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund. A credit  
 91 or refund shall not be given for any prior years' payments of  
 92 such prorated replacement fee if ~~when~~ the plate is replaced or  
 93 surrendered before the end of the 6-year ~~5-year~~ period, except  
 94 that a credit may be given when a registrant is required by the  
 95 department to replace a license plate under s. 320.08056(8)(a).  
 96 With each license plate, there shall be issued a validation  
 97 sticker showing the owner's birth month, license plate number,  
 98 and the year of expiration or the appropriate renewal period if  
 99 the owner is not a natural person. The validation sticker shall  
 100 ~~is to~~ be placed on the upper right corner of the license plate.  
 101 Such license plate and validation sticker shall be issued based  
 102 on the applicant's appropriate renewal period. The registration  
 103 period is ~~shall be~~ a period of 12 months, the extended  
 104 registration period is a period of 24 months, and all  
 105 expirations shall occur based on the applicant's appropriate  
 106 registration period. A vehicle with an apportioned registration  
 107 shall be issued an annual license plate and a cab card that  
 108 denote the declared gross vehicle weight for each apportioned  
 109 jurisdiction in which the vehicle is authorized to operate.

110 (c) Registration license plates equipped with validation  
 111 stickers subject to the registration period are ~~shall be~~ valid  
 112 for not more than 12 months and ~~shall~~ expire at midnight on the

HB 275

2007

113 last day of the registration period. A registration license  
114 plate equipped with a validation sticker subject to the extended  
115 registration period is valid for not more than 24 months and  
116 expires at midnight on the last day of the extended registration  
117 period. For each registration period after the one in which the  
118 metal registration license plate is issued, and until the  
119 license plate is required to be replaced, a validation sticker  
120 showing the month and year of expiration shall be issued upon  
121 payment of the proper license tax amount and fees and is shall  
122 be valid for not more than 12 months. For each extended  
123 registration period occurring after the one in which the metal  
124 registration license plate is issued and until the license plate  
125 is required to be replaced, a validation sticker showing the  
126 year of expiration shall be issued upon payment of the proper  
127 license tax amount and fees and is valid for not more than 24  
128 months. When license plates equipped with validation stickers  
129 are issued in any month other than the owner's birth month or  
130 the designated registration period for any other motor vehicle,  
131 the effective date shall reflect the birth month or month and  
132 the year of renewal. However, when a license plate or validation  
133 sticker is issued for a period of less than 12 months, the  
134 applicant shall pay the appropriate amount of license tax and  
135 the applicable fee under ~~the provisions of~~ s. 320.14 in addition  
136 to all other fees. Validation stickers issued for vehicles taxed  
137 under ~~the provisions of~~ s. 320.08(6)(a), for any company that  
138 ~~which~~ owns 250 vehicles or more, or for semitrailers taxed under  
139 the provisions of s. 320.08(5)(a), for any company that ~~which~~  
140 owns 50 vehicles or more, may be placed on any vehicle in the

HB 275

2007

141 fleet so long as the vehicle receiving the validation sticker  
 142 has the same owner's name and address as the vehicle to which  
 143 the validation sticker was originally assigned.

144 Section 4. Section 320.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
 145 read:

146 320.07 Expiration of registration; ~~annual~~ renewal  
 147 required; penalties.--

148 (1) The registration of a motor vehicle or mobile home  
 149 expires ~~shall expire~~ at midnight on the last day of the  
 150 registration or extended registration period. A vehicle shall  
 151 not be operated on the roads of this state after expiration of  
 152 the renewal period unless the registration has been renewed  
 153 according to law.

154 (2) Registration shall be renewed semiannually, annually,  
 155 or biennially, as provided in this subsection, during the  
 156 applicable renewal period, upon payment of the applicable  
 157 license tax amounts ~~amount~~ required by s. 320.08, service  
 158 charges required by s. 320.04, and any additional fees required  
 159 by law.

160 (a) ~~However~~, Any person who owns ~~owning~~ a motor vehicle  
 161 registered under s. 320.08(4), (6)(b), or (13) may register  
 162 semiannually as provided in s. 320.0705.

163 (b) Any person who owns a motor vehicle or mobile home  
 164 registered under s. 320.08(1), (2), (3), (4)(a) or (b), (6),  
 165 (7), (8), (9), (10), or (11) may renew the vehicle registration  
 166 biennially during the applicable renewal period upon payment of  
 167 the 2-year cumulative total of all applicable license tax  
 168 amounts required by s. 320.08 and service charges or surcharges

169 required by ss. 320.03, 320.04, 320.0801, 320.08015, 320.0802,  
 170 320.0804, and 320.08046 and payment of the 2-year cumulative  
 171 total of any additional fees required by law for an annual  
 172 registration.

173 (3) The operation of any motor vehicle without having  
 174 attached thereto a registration license plate and validation  
 175 stickers, or the use of any mobile home without having attached  
 176 thereto a mobile home sticker, for the current registration  
 177 period shall subject the owner thereof, if he or she is present,  
 178 or, if the owner is not present, the operator thereof to the  
 179 following penalty provisions:

180 (a) Any person whose motor vehicle or mobile home  
 181 registration has been expired for a period of 6 months or less  
 182 commits a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable as a  
 183 nonmoving violation as provided in chapter 318.

184 (b) Any person whose motor vehicle or mobile home  
 185 registration has been expired for more than 6 months, ~~shall~~ upon  
 186 a first offense, is ~~be~~ subject to the penalty provided in s.  
 187 318.14.

188 (c) Any person whose motor vehicle or mobile home  
 189 registration has been expired for more than 6 months, ~~shall~~ upon  
 190 a second or subsequent offense, commits ~~be guilty of~~ a  
 191 misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s.  
 192 775.082 or s. 775.083.

193 (d) However, an ~~ne~~ operator shall not be charged with a  
 194 violation of this subsection if the operator can show, pursuant  
 195 to a valid lease agreement, that the vehicle had been leased for  
 196 a period of 30 days or less at the time of the offense.

197 (e) Any servicemember, as defined in s. 250.01, whose  
 198 mobile home registration ~~has~~ expired while he or she was serving  
 199 on active duty or state active duty shall not be charged with a  
 200 violation of this subsection if, at the time of the offense, the  
 201 servicemember was serving on active duty or state active duty 35  
 202 miles or more from the mobile home. The servicemember must  
 203 present to the department either a copy of the official military  
 204 orders or a written verification signed by the servicemember's  
 205 commanding officer to receive a waiver of ~~waive~~ charges.

206 (f) The owner of a leased motor vehicle is not responsible  
 207 for any penalty specified in this subsection if the motor  
 208 vehicle is registered in the name of the lessee of the motor  
 209 vehicle.

210 (4)(a) In addition to a penalty provided in subsection  
 211 (3), a delinquent fee based on the following schedule of license  
 212 taxes shall be imposed on any applicant who fails to renew a  
 213 registration prior to the end of the month in which renewal  
 214 registration is due. The delinquent fee shall be applied  
 215 beginning on the 11th calendar day of the month succeeding the  
 216 renewal period. The delinquent fee does ~~shall~~ not apply to those  
 217 vehicles that ~~which~~ have not been required to be registered  
 218 during the preceding registration period or as provided in s.  
 219 320.18(2). The delinquent fee shall be imposed as follows:

- 220 1. License tax of \$5 but not more than \$25: \$5 flat.
- 221 2. License tax over \$25 but not more than \$50: \$10 flat.
- 222 3. License tax over \$50 but not more than \$100: \$15 flat.
- 223 4. License tax over \$100 but not more than \$400: \$50
- 224 flat.



225 5. License tax over \$400 but not more than \$600: \$100  
 226 flat.

227 6. License tax over \$600 and up: \$250 flat.

228 (b) A person who has been assessed a penalty pursuant to  
 229 s. 316.545(2) (b) for failure to have a valid vehicle  
 230 registration certificate is not subject to the delinquent fee  
 231 authorized by this subsection if such person obtains a valid  
 232 registration certificate within 10 working days after such  
 233 penalty was assessed. The official receipt authorized by s.  
 234 316.545(6) constitutes proof of payment of the penalty  
 235 authorized in s. 316.545(2) (b) .

236 (c) The owner of a leased motor vehicle is not responsible  
 237 for any delinquent fee specified in this subsection if the motor  
 238 vehicle is registered in the name of the lessee of the motor  
 239 vehicle.

240 (5) Any servicemember, as defined in s. 250.01, whose  
 241 motor vehicle or mobile home registration has expired while he  
 242 or she was serving on active duty or state active duty may  
 243 ~~shall be able to~~ renew his or her registration upon return from  
 244 active duty or state active duty without penalty, if the  
 245 servicemember served on active duty or state active duty 35  
 246 miles or more from the servicemember's home of record prior to  
 247 entering active duty or state active duty. The servicemember  
 248 must provide to the department either a copy of the official  
 249 military orders or a written verification signed by the  
 250 servicemember's commanding officer to receive a waiver of ~~waive~~  
 251 delinquent fees.

252 (6) Delinquent fees imposed under this section are ~~shall~~

253 not ~~be~~ apportionable under the International Registration Plan.

254 Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
 255 320.071, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

256 320.071 Advance registration renewal; procedures.--

257 (1) (a) The owner of any motor vehicle or mobile home  
 258 currently registered in this state may file an application for  
 259 renewal of registration with the department, or its authorized  
 260 agent in the county wherein the owner resides, any time during  
 261 the 3 months preceding the date of expiration of the  
 262 registration period. The registration period may not exceed 27  
 263 months.

264 Section 6. Subsections (1), (3), (9), and (12) of section  
 265 328.72, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

266 328.72 Classification; registration; fees and charges;  
 267 surcharge; disposition of fees; fines; marine turtle stickers.--

268 (1) VESSEL REGISTRATION FEE.--Vessels that are required to  
 269 be registered shall be classified for registration purposes  
 270 according to the following schedule, and the registration  
 271 certificate fee shall be in the following amounts:

272 Class A-1--Less than 12 feet in length, and all canoes to  
 273 which propulsion motors have been attached, regardless of  
 274 length....\$3.50 for each 12-month period registered.

275 Class A-2--12 feet or more and less than 16 feet in  
 276 length....10.50 for each 12-month period registered.

277 (To county)....2.85 for each 12-month period registered.

278 Class 1--16 feet or more and less than 26 feet in  
 279 length....18.50 for each 12-month period registered.

280 (To county)....8.85 for each 12-month period registered.

HB 275

2007

281 Class 2--26 feet or more and less than 40 feet in  
 282 length...50.50 for each 12-month period registered.  
 283 (To county)...32.85 for each 12-month period registered.

284 Class 3--40 feet or more and less than 65 feet in  
 285 length...82.50 for each 12-month period registered.  
 286 (To county)...56.85 for each 12-month period registered.

287 Class 4--65 feet or more and less than 110 feet in  
 288 length...98.50 for each 12-month period registered.  
 289 (To county)...68.85 for each 12-month period registered.

290 Class 5--110 feet or more in length...122.50 for each 12-  
 291 month period registered.  
 292 (To county)...86.85 for each 12-month period registered.

293 Dealer registration certificate ...16.50 for each 12-month  
 294 period registered.

295  
 296 The county portion of the vessel registration fee is derived  
 297 from recreational vessels only.

298 (3) ALIEN OR NONRESIDENT LICENSE FEE.--An additional  
 299 license fee of \$50 for each 12-month period registered shall be  
 300 required of all aliens or nonresidents of the state on all  
 301 vessels not subject to a specific reciprocal agreement with  
 302 another state, which vessels are used for commercial purposes  
 303 and owned in whole or in part by such aliens or nonresidents.  
 304 Such fee shall be in addition to the vessel registration fee  
 305 required by this section.

306 (9) SURCHARGE.--In addition, there is hereby levied and  
 307 imposed on each vessel registration fee imposed under subsection  
 308 (1) a surcharge in the amount of \$1 for each 12-month period of

HB 275

2007

309 registration, which shall be collected in the same manner as the  
310 fee and deposited into the State Agency Law Enforcement Radio  
311 System Trust Fund of the Department of Management Services.

312 (12) REGISTRATION.--

313 (a) "Registration period" is a period of 12 months during  
314 which a vessel registration is valid.

315 (b) Any vessel owner who is subject to registration under  
316 subparagraph (c)1. is eligible for an extended registration  
317 period that begins the first day of the birth month of the owner  
318 and ends the last day of the month immediately preceding the  
319 owner's birth month 24 months after the beginning of the  
320 registration period. If the vessel is registered in the name of  
321 more than one person, the birth month of the person whose name  
322 first appears on the registration shall be used to determine the  
323 extended registration period. For a vessel subject to this  
324 extended registration period, the renewal period is the 30-day  
325 period ending at midnight on the vessel owner's date of birth.  
326 ~~"Renewal period" is a period of 30 days during which renewal of~~  
327 ~~a vessel registration is required, except as otherwise provided~~  
328 ~~by law.~~

329 (c) The following registration periods and renewal periods  
330 are established:

331 1. For vessels owned by individuals, the registration  
332 period begins the first day of the birth month of the owner and  
333 ends the last day of the month immediately preceding the owner's  
334 birth month in the succeeding year. If the vessel is registered  
335 in the name of more than one person, the birth month of the  
336 person whose name first appears on the registration shall be

HB 275

2007

337 used to determine the registration period. For a vessel subject  
338 to this registration period, the renewal period is the 30-day  
339 period ending at midnight on the vessel owner's date of birth.

340 2. For vessels owned by companies, corporations,  
341 governmental entities, and registrations issued to dealers and  
342 manufacturers, the registration period begins July 1 and ends  
343 June 30. The renewal period is the 30-day period beginning June  
344 1.

345 Section 7. This act shall take effect January 1, 2008.