

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; creating s.  
21 320.203, F.S.; providing for the disposition of biennial  
22 registration revenues; amending s. 328.72, F.S.; providing  
23 for an extended registration period for certain vessel  
24 owners; providing an effective date.

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

27  
28 Section 1. Subsection (19) of section 320.01, Florida

CS/CS/HB 275

2007

29 Statutes, is amended to read:

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

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

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

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

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

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

55 (b) A motor vehicle or mobile home that is subject to  
56 registration under s. 320.08(1), (2), (3), (4) (a) or (b), (6),

57 (7), (8), (9), (10), or (11) is eligible for an extended  
 58 registration period as defined in s. 320.01(19)(b).

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

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

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

83 (1)

84 (b) Registration license plates bearing a graphic symbol

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

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

141 owns 50 vehicles or more, may be placed on any vehicle in the  
 142 fleet so long as the vehicle receiving the validation sticker  
 143 has the same owner's name and address as the vehicle to which  
 144 the validation sticker was originally assigned.

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

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

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

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

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

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

169 amounts required by s. 320.08 and service charges or surcharges  
 170 required by ss. 320.03, 320.04, 320.0801, 320.08015, 320.0802,  
 171 320.0804, 320.0805, 320.08046, and 320.08056 and payment of the  
 172 2-year cumulative total of any additional fees required by law  
 173 for an annual registration.

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

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

185 (b) Any person whose motor vehicle or mobile home  
 186 registration has been expired for more than 6 months, ~~shall~~ upon  
 187 a first offense, is ~~be~~ subject to the penalty provided in s.  
 188 318.14.

189 (c) Any person whose motor vehicle or mobile home  
 190 registration has been expired for more than 6 months, ~~shall~~ upon  
 191 a second or subsequent offense, commits ~~be guilty of~~ a  
 192 misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s.  
 193 775.082 or s. 775.083.

194 (d) However, an ~~no~~ operator shall not be charged with a  
 195 violation of this subsection if the operator can show, pursuant  
 196 to a valid lease agreement, that the vehicle had been leased for

197 a period of 30 days or less at the time of the offense.

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

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

211 (4)(a) In addition to a penalty provided in subsection  
 212 (3), a delinquent fee based on the following schedule of license  
 213 taxes shall be imposed on any applicant who fails to renew a  
 214 registration prior to the end of the month in which renewal  
 215 registration is due. The delinquent fee shall be applied  
 216 beginning on the 11th calendar day of the month succeeding the  
 217 renewal period. The delinquent fee does ~~shall~~ not apply to those  
 218 vehicles that ~~which~~ have not been required to be registered  
 219 during the preceding registration period or as provided in s.  
 220 320.18(2). The delinquent fee shall be imposed as follows:

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



225 flat.

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

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

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

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

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

253 (6) Delinquent fees imposed under this section are ~~shall~~  
 254 not ~~be~~ apportionable under the International Registration Plan.

255 Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
 256 320.071, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

257 320.071 Advance registration renewal; procedures.--

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

265 Section 6. Section 320.203, Florida Statutes, is created  
 266 to read:

267 320.203 Disposition of biennial license tax moneys.--

268 (1) Notwithstanding ss. 320.08(1), (2), (3), (4) (a) or  
 269 (b), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), or (11), 320.08058, and 328.76  
 270 and pursuant to s. 216.351, after the provisions of s.  
 271 320.20(1), (2), (3), and (4) are fulfilled, an amount equal to  
 272 50 percent of revenues collected from the biennial registrations  
 273 created in s. 320.07 shall be retained in the Motor Vehicle  
 274 License Clearing Trust Fund, authorized in s. 215.32(2)(b)2.f.,  
 275 until July 1 of the following fiscal year and then accounted for  
 276 as revenue for that fiscal year derived from use fees, vessel  
 277 registrations, and the licensing of motor vehicles.

278 (2) A tax collector may escrow an amount necessary to  
 279 annualize revenues collected from the biennial registration  
 280 service charges, branch charges, or tax collector fees created

281 in s. 320.07 until July 1 of the following fiscal year and then  
 282 account for that amount as revenue for that fiscal year.

283 Section 7. Subsections (1), (3), (9), and (12) of section  
 284 328.72, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

285 328.72 Classification; registration; fees and charges;  
 286 surcharge; disposition of fees; fines; marine turtle stickers.--

287 (1) VESSEL REGISTRATION FEE.--Vessels that are required to  
 288 be registered shall be classified for registration purposes  
 289 according to the following schedule, and the registration  
 290 certificate fee shall be in the following amounts:

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

294 Class A-2--12 feet or more and less than 16 feet in  
 295 length....10.50 for each 12-month period registered.  
 296 (To county)....2.85 for each 12-month period registered.

297 Class 1--16 feet or more and less than 26 feet in  
 298 length....18.50 for each 12-month period registered.  
 299 (To county)....8.85 for each 12-month period registered.

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

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

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

309           Class 5--110 feet or more in length....122.50 for each 12-  
 310 month period registered.

311       (To county)....86.85 for each 12-month period registered.

312           Dealer registration certificate ....16.50 for each 12-month  
 313 period registered.

314

315       The county portion of the vessel registration fee is derived  
 316 from recreational vessels only.

317       (3) ALIEN OR NONRESIDENT LICENSE FEE.--An additional  
 318 license fee of \$50 for each 12-month period registered shall be  
 319 required of all aliens or nonresidents of the state on all  
 320 vessels not subject to a specific reciprocal agreement with  
 321 another state, which vessels are used for commercial purposes  
 322 and owned in whole or in part by such aliens or nonresidents.  
 323 Such fee shall be in addition to the vessel registration fee  
 324 required by this section.

325       (9) SURCHARGE.--In addition, there is hereby levied and  
 326 imposed on each vessel registration fee imposed under subsection  
 327 (1) a surcharge in the amount of \$1 for each 12-month period of  
 328 registration, which shall be collected in the same manner as the  
 329 fee and deposited into the State Agency Law Enforcement Radio  
 330 System Trust Fund of the Department of Management Services.

331       (12) REGISTRATION.--

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

334       (b) Any vessel owner who is subject to registration under  
 335 subparagraph (c)1. is eligible for an extended registration  
 336 period that begins the first day of the birth month of the owner

337 and ends the last day of the month immediately preceding the  
338 owner's birth month 24 months after the beginning of the  
339 registration period. If the vessel is registered in the name of  
340 more than one person, the birth month of the person whose name  
341 first appears on the registration shall be used to determine the  
342 extended registration period. For a vessel subject to this  
343 extended registration period, the renewal period is the 30-day  
344 period ending at midnight on the vessel owner's date of birth.  
345 ~~"Renewal period" is a period of 30 days during which renewal of~~  
346 ~~a vessel registration is required, except as otherwise provided~~  
347 ~~by law.~~

348 (c) The following registration periods and renewal periods  
349 are established:

350 1. For vessels owned by individuals, the registration  
351 period begins the first day of the birth month of the owner and  
352 ends the last day of the month immediately preceding the owner's  
353 birth month in the succeeding year. If the vessel is registered  
354 in the name of more than one person, the birth month of the  
355 person whose name first appears on the registration shall be  
356 used to determine the registration period. For a vessel subject  
357 to this registration period, the renewal period is the 30-day  
358 period ending at midnight on the vessel owner's date of birth.

359 2. For vessels owned by companies, corporations,  
360 governmental entities, and registrations issued to dealers and  
361 manufacturers, the registration period begins July 1 and ends  
362 June 30. The renewal period is the 30-day period beginning June  
363 1.

364 Section 8. This act shall take effect January 1, 2008.