



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

2

3 Section 1. Subsection (19) of section 320.01, Florida  
4 Statutes, is amended to read:

5 320.01 Definitions, general.--As used in the Florida  
6 Statutes, except as otherwise provided, the term:

7 (19)(a) "Registration period" means a period of 12  
8 months or 24 months during which a motor vehicle or mobile  
9 home registration is valid.

10 (b) "Extended registration period" means a period of  
11 24 months during which a motor vehicle or mobile home  
12 registration is valid.

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

15 320.055 Registration periods; renewal periods.--The  
16 following registration periods and renewal periods are  
17 established:

18 (1)(a) For a motor vehicle subject to registration  
19 under s. 320.08(1), (2), (3), (5)(b), (c), (d), or (f),  
20 (6)(a), (7), (8), (9), or (10) and owned by a natural person,  
21 the registration period begins the first day of the birth  
22 month of the owner and ends the last day of the month  
23 immediately preceding the owner's birth month in the  
24 succeeding year. If ~~the~~ such vehicle is registered in the name  
25 of more than one person, the birth month of the person whose  
26 name first appears on the registration shall be used to  
27 determine the registration period. For a vehicle subject to  
28 this registration period, the renewal period is the 30-day  
29 period ending at midnight on the vehicle owner's date of  
30 birth.

31

1           (b) A motor vehicle or mobile home that is subject to  
2 registration under s. 320.08(1), (2), (3), (4)(a) or (b), (6),  
3 (7), (8), (9), (10), or (11) is eligible for an extended  
4 registration period as defined in s. 320.01(19)(b).

5           ~~(c)(b)~~ Notwithstanding the requirements of paragraph  
6 (a), the owner of a motor vehicle subject to paragraph (a) who  
7 has had his or her driver's license suspended pursuant to a  
8 violation of s. 316.193 or pursuant to s. 322.26(2) for  
9 driving under the influence must obtain a 6-month registration  
10 as a condition of reinstating the license, subject to renewal  
11 during the 3-year period that financial responsibility  
12 requirements apply. The registration period begins the first  
13 day of the birth month of the owner and ends the last day of  
14 the fifth month immediately following the owner's birth month.  
15 For such vehicles, the department shall issue a vehicle  
16 registration certificate that is valid for 6 months and shall  
17 issue a validation sticker that displays an expiration date of  
18 6 months after the date of issuance. The license tax required  
19 by s. 320.08 and all other applicable license taxes shall be  
20 one-half of the amount otherwise required, except the service  
21 charge required by s. 320.04 shall be paid in full for each  
22 6-month registration. A vehicle required to be registered  
23 under this paragraph is not eligible for the extended  
24 registration period under paragraph (b).

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

27           320.06 Registration certificates, license plates, and  
28 validation stickers generally.--

29           (1)

30           (b) Registration license plates bearing a graphic  
31 symbol and the alphanumeric system of identification shall be

1 issued for a 6-year ~~5-year~~ period. At the end of the 6-year  
2 ~~said 5-year~~ period, upon renewal, the plate shall be replaced.  
3 The department shall stagger the implementation of the 6-year  
4 license plate replacement cycle. The fee for such replacement  
5 is \$12 ~~shall be \$10~~, \$2 of which shall be paid each year  
6 before the plate is replaced, to be credited towards the next  
7 ~~\$12~~\$10 replacement fee. The fees shall be deposited into the  
8 Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund. A credit or refund shall  
9 not be given for any prior years' payments of such prorated  
10 replacement fee if ~~when~~ the plate is replaced or surrendered  
11 before the end of the 6-year ~~5-year~~ period, except that a  
12 credit may be given when a registrant is required by the  
13 department to replace a license plate under s.  
14 320.08056(8)(a). With each license plate, there shall be  
15 issued a validation sticker showing the owner's birth month,  
16 license plate number, and the year of expiration or the  
17 appropriate renewal period if the owner is not a natural  
18 person. The validation sticker shall ~~is to~~ be placed on the  
19 upper right corner of the license plate. Such license plate  
20 and validation sticker shall be issued based on the  
21 applicant's appropriate renewal period. The registration  
22 period is ~~shall be~~ a period of 12 months, the extended  
23 registration period is a period of 24 months, and all  
24 expirations shall occur based on the applicant's appropriate  
25 registration period. A vehicle with an apportioned  
26 registration shall be issued an annual license plate and a cab  
27 card that denote the declared gross vehicle weight for each  
28 apportioned jurisdiction in which the vehicle is authorized to  
29 operate.

30 (c) Registration license plates equipped with  
31 validation stickers subject to the registration period are

1 ~~shall be~~ valid for not more than 12 months and ~~shall~~ expire at  
2 midnight on the last day of the registration period. A  
3 registration license plate equipped with a validation sticker  
4 subject to the extended registration period is valid for not  
5 more than 24 months and expires at midnight on the last day of  
6 the extended registration period. For each registration period  
7 after the one in which the metal registration license plate is  
8 issued, and until the license plate is required to be  
9 replaced, a validation sticker showing the month and year of  
10 expiration shall be issued upon payment of the proper license  
11 tax amount and fees and ~~is shall be~~ valid for not more than 12  
12 months. For each extended registration period occurring after  
13 the one in which the metal registration license plate is  
14 issued and until the license plate is required to be replaced,  
15 a validation sticker showing the year of expiration shall be  
16 issued upon payment of the proper license tax amount and fees  
17 and is valid for not more than 24 months. When license plates  
18 equipped with validation stickers are issued in any month  
19 other than the owner's birth month or the designated  
20 registration period for any other motor vehicle, the effective  
21 date shall reflect the birth month or month and the year of  
22 renewal. However, when a license plate or validation sticker  
23 is issued for a period of less than 12 months, the applicant  
24 shall pay the appropriate amount of license tax and the  
25 applicable fee under ~~the provisions of~~ s. 320.14 in addition  
26 to all other fees. Validation stickers issued for vehicles  
27 taxed under ~~the provisions of~~ s. 320.08(6)(a), for any company  
28 that which owns 250 vehicles or more, or for semitrailers  
29 taxed under the provisions of s. 320.08(5)(a), for any company  
30 that which owns 50 vehicles or more, may be placed on any  
31 vehicle in the fleet so long as the vehicle receiving the

1 validation sticker has the same owner's name and address as  
2 the vehicle to which the validation sticker was originally  
3 assigned.

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

6 320.07 Expiration of registration; ~~annual~~ renewal  
7 required; penalties.--

8 (1) The registration of a motor vehicle or mobile home  
9 ~~expires shall expire~~ at midnight on the last day of the  
10 registration or extended registration period. A vehicle shall  
11 not be operated on the roads of this state after expiration of  
12 the renewal period unless the registration has been renewed  
13 according to law.

14 (2) Registration shall be renewed semiannually,  
15 annually, or biennially, as provided in this subsection,  
16 during the applicable renewal period, upon payment of the  
17 applicable license tax amounts ~~amount~~ required by s. 320.08,  
18 service charges required by s. 320.04, and any additional fees  
19 required by law.

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

23 (b) Any person who owns a motor vehicle or mobile home  
24 registered under s. 320.08(1), (2), (3), (4)(a) or (b), (6),  
25 (7), (8), (9), (10), or (11) may renew the vehicle  
26 registration biennially during the applicable renewal period  
27 upon payment of the 2-year cumulative total of all applicable  
28 license tax amounts required by s. 320.08 and service charges  
29 or surcharges required by ss. 320.03, 320.04, 320.0801,  
30 320.08015, 320.0802, 320.0804, 320.0805, 320.08046, and  
31

1 320.08056 and payment of the 2-year cumulative total of any  
2 additional fees required by law for an annual registration.

3 (3) The operation of any motor vehicle without having  
4 an attached ~~thereto a~~ registration license plate and  
5 validation stickers, or the use of any mobile home without  
6 having an attached ~~thereto a~~ mobile home sticker, for the  
7 current registration period shall subject the owner ~~thereof~~,  
8 if he or she is present, or, if the owner is not present, the  
9 operator ~~thereof~~ to the following penalty provisions:

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

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

18 (c) Any person whose motor vehicle or mobile home  
19 registration has been expired for more than 6 months, ~~shall~~  
20 upon a second or subsequent offense, commits ~~be guilty of~~ a  
21 misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s.  
22 775.082 or s. 775.083.

23 (d) An ~~However, no~~ operator shall not be charged with  
24 a violation of this subsection if the operator can show,  
25 pursuant to a valid lease agreement, that the vehicle had been  
26 leased for a period of 30 days or less at the time of the  
27 offense.

28 (e) A ~~Any~~ servicemember, as defined in s. 250.01,  
29 whose mobile home registration ~~has~~ expired while he or she was  
30 serving on active duty or state active duty shall not be  
31 charged with a violation of this subsection if, at the time of

1 | the offense, the servicemember was serving on active duty or  
2 | state active duty 35 miles or more from the mobile home. The  
3 | servicemember must present to the department either a copy of  
4 | the official military orders or a written verification signed  
5 | by the servicemember's commanding officer to receive a waiver  
6 | of waive charges.

7 |         (f) The owner of a leased motor vehicle is not  
8 | responsible for any penalty specified in this subsection if  
9 | the motor vehicle is registered in the name of the lessee of  
10 | the motor vehicle.

11 |         (4)(a) In addition to a penalty provided in subsection  
12 | (3), a delinquent fee based on the following schedule of  
13 | license taxes shall be imposed on any applicant who fails to  
14 | renew a registration prior to the end of the month in which  
15 | renewal registration is due. The delinquent fee shall be  
16 | applied beginning on the 11th calendar day of the month  
17 | succeeding the renewal period. The delinquent fee does shall  
18 | not apply to those vehicles that which have not been required  
19 | to be registered during the preceding registration period or  
20 | as provided in s. 320.18(2). The delinquent fee shall be  
21 | imposed as follows:

- 22 |             1. License tax of \$5 but not more than \$25: \$5 flat.
- 23 |             2. License tax over \$25 but not more than \$50: \$10  
24 | flat.
- 25 |             3. License tax over \$50 but not more than \$100: \$15  
26 | flat.
- 27 |             4. License tax over \$100 but not more than \$400: \$50  
28 | flat.
- 29 |             5. License tax over \$400 but not more than \$600: \$100  
30 | flat.
- 31 |             6. License tax over \$600 and up: \$250 flat.



1 (b) A person who has been assessed a penalty pursuant  
2 to s. 316.545(2)(b) for failure to have a valid vehicle  
3 registration certificate is not subject to the delinquent fee  
4 authorized by this subsection if such person obtains a valid  
5 registration certificate within 10 working days after such  
6 penalty was assessed. The official receipt authorized by s.  
7 316.545(6) constitutes proof of payment of the penalty  
8 authorized in s. 316.545(2)(b).

9 (c) The owner of a leased motor vehicle is not  
10 responsible for any delinquent fee specified in this  
11 subsection if the motor vehicle is registered in the name of  
12 the lessee of the motor vehicle.

13 (5) Any servicemember, as defined in s. 250.01, whose  
14 motor vehicle or mobile home registration has expired while he  
15 or she was serving on active duty or state active duty may  
16 ~~shall be able to~~ renew his or her registration upon return  
17 from active duty or state active duty without penalty, if the  
18 servicemember served on active duty or state active duty 35  
19 miles or more from the servicemember's home of record prior to  
20 entering active duty or state active duty. The servicemember  
21 must provide to the department either a copy of the official  
22 military orders or a written verification signed by the  
23 servicemember's commanding officer to receive a waiver of  
24 ~~waive~~ delinquent fees.

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

28 Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
29 320.071, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

30 320.071 Advance registration renewal; procedures.--  
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1           (1)(a) The owner of any motor vehicle or mobile home  
2 currently registered in this state may file an application for  
3 renewal of registration with the department, or its authorized  
4 agent in the county wherein the owner resides, any time during  
5 the 3 months preceding the date of expiration of the  
6 registration period. The registration period may not exceed 27  
7 months.

8           Section 6. Section 320.203, Florida Statutes, is  
9 created to read:

10           320.203 Disposition of biennial license tax moneys.--

11           (1) Notwithstanding ss. 320.08(1), (2), (3), (4)(a) or  
12 (b), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), or (11), 320.08058, and 328.76  
13 and pursuant to s. 216.351, after the provisions of s.  
14 320.20(1), (2), (3), and (4) are fulfilled, an amount equal to  
15 50 percent of revenues collected from the biennial  
16 registrations created in s. 320.07 shall be retained in the  
17 Motor Vehicle License Clearing Trust Fund, authorized in s.  
18 215.32(2)(b)2.f., until July 1. After July 1 of the subsequent  
19 fiscal year, an amount equal to 50 percent of revenues  
20 collected from the biennial registrations created in s. 320.07  
21 shall be distributed according to ss. 320.08(1), (2), (3),  
22 (4)(a) or (4)(b), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), or (11),  
23 320.08058, 328.76, and 320.20(1), (2), (3), and (4).

24           (2) A tax collector may escrow an amount necessary to  
25 annualize revenues collected from the biennial registration  
26 service charges, branch charges, or tax collector fees created  
27 in s. 320.07 until October 1 of the following fiscal year and  
28 then account for that amount as revenue for that fiscal year.

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

1           328.72 Classification; registration; fees and charges;  
2 surcharge; disposition of fees; fines; marine turtle  
3 stickers.--  
4           (1) VESSEL REGISTRATION FEE.--Vessels that are  
5 required to be registered shall be classified for registration  
6 purposes according to the following schedule, and the  
7 registration certificate fee shall be in the following  
8 amounts:  
9           Class A-1--Less than 12 feet in length, and all canoes  
10 to which propulsion motors have been attached, regardless of  
11 length....\$3.50 for each 12-month period registered.  
12           Class A-2--12 feet or more and less than 16 feet in  
13 length....10.50 for each 12-month period registered.  
14           (To county)...2.85 for each 12-month period registered.  
15           Class 1--16 feet or more and less than 26 feet in  
16 length....18.50 for each 12-month period registered.  
17           (To county)....8.85 for each 12-month period  
18 registered.  
19           Class 2--26 feet or more and less than 40 feet in  
20 length....50.50 for each 12-month period registered.  
21           (To county)....32.85 for each 12-month period  
22 registered.  
23           Class 3--40 feet or more and less than 65 feet in  
24 length....82.50 for each 12-month period registered.  
25           (To county)....56.85 for each 12-month period  
26 registered.  
27           Class 4--65 feet or more and less than 110 feet in  
28 length....98.50 for each 12-month period registered.  
29           (To county)....68.85 for each 12-month period  
30 registered.  
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1           Class 5--110 feet or more in length....122.50 for each  
2 12-month period registered.

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

5           Dealer registration certificate ....16.50 for each  
6 12-month period registered.

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8           The county portion of the vessel registration fee is derived  
9 from recreational vessels only.

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

18           (9) SURCHARGE.--In addition, there is hereby levied  
19 and imposed on each vessel registration fee imposed under  
20 subsection (1) a surcharge in the amount of \$1 for each  
21 12-month period of registration, which shall be collected in  
22 the same manner as the fee and deposited into the State Agency  
23 Law Enforcement Radio System Trust Fund of the Department of  
24 Management Services.

25           (12) REGISTRATION.--

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

28           (b) Any vessel owner who is subject to registration  
29 under subparagraph (c)1. is eligible for an extended  
30 registration period that begins the first day of the birth  
31 month of the owner and ends the last day of the month

1 immediately preceding the owner's birth month 24 months after  
2 the beginning of the registration period. If the vessel is  
3 registered in the name of more than one person, the birth  
4 month of the person whose name first appears on the  
5 registration shall be used to determine the extended  
6 registration period. For a vessel subject to this extended  
7 registration period, the renewal period is the 30-day period  
8 ending at midnight on the vessel owner's date of birth.

9 ~~"Renewal period" is a period of 30 days during which renewal~~  
10 ~~of a vessel registration is required, except as otherwise~~  
11 ~~provided by law.~~

12 (c) The following registration periods and renewal  
13 periods are established:

14 1. For vessels owned by individuals, the registration  
15 period begins the first day of the birth month of the owner  
16 and ends the last day of the month immediately preceding the  
17 owner's birth month in the succeeding year. If the vessel is  
18 registered in the name of more than one person, the birth  
19 month of the person whose name first appears on the  
20 registration shall be used to determine the registration  
21 period. For a vessel subject to this registration period, the  
22 renewal period is the 30-day period ending at midnight on the  
23 vessel owner's date of birth.

24 2. For vessels owned by companies, corporations,  
25 governmental entities, and registrations issued to dealers and  
26 manufacturers, the registration period begins July 1 and ends  
27 June 30. The renewal period is the 30-day period beginning  
28 June 1.

29 Section 8. This act shall take effect January 1, 2008.  
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1                   STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN  
2                                   COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
3   SB 442  
4 The Committee Substitute made the following changes to SB 442:  
5 1) Provides for "revenue smoothing" to ensure that revenue  
6 collected for biennial motor vehicle registrations is  
7 distributed in the same manner and in the same amounts as  
8 revenue currently collected for annual motor vehicle  
9 registrations.  
10 2) Requires the Department of Highway Safety and Motor  
11 Vehicles to stagger the implementation of the 6-year  
12 license tag replacement cycle.  
13 3) Removes the refund provisions for biennial vessel  
14 registrations.  
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