

By Senator Altman

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to rental car companies; amending s.
3 320.0601, F.S.; prohibiting permanently affixed
4 SunPass transponders in rental vehicles unless the
5 transponder can be manually deactivated by the renter;
6 authorizing a lease or rental car company or its
7 designated tolling-program vendor to charge service
8 fees for a transponder only for the days that the
9 transponder is used to pay tolls; providing a penalty;
10 providing an effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Section 320.0601, Florida Statutes, is amended
15 to read:

16 320.0601 Lease and rental car companies; identification of
17 vehicles as for-hire; SunPass transponders; limitations.-

18 (1) A rental car company may not rent in this state any
19 for-hire vehicle, other than vehicles designed to transport
20 cargo, which ~~that~~ has affixed to its exterior any bumper
21 stickers, insignias, or advertising that identifies the vehicle
22 as a rental vehicle.

23 (2) As used in this section, the term:

24 (a) "Bumper stickers, insignias, or advertising" does not
25 include:

26 1. Any emblem of no more than two colors which is less than
27 2 inches by 4 inches, which is placed on the rental car for
28 inventory purposes only, and which does not display the name or
29 logo of the rental car company; or

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30 2. Any license required by the law of the state in which
31 the vehicle is registered.

32 (b) "Rent in this state" means to sign a rental contract in
33 this state or to deliver a car to a renter in this state.

34 (3) A lease or rental car company may not rent in this
35 state any for-hire vehicle that has a permanently affixed
36 SunPass transponder unless the transponder can be manually
37 deactivated by the renter.

38 (4) A lease or rental car company or its designated
39 tolling-program vendor may charge service fees only for the
40 actual days that the renter uses the transponder to pay tolls,
41 based on 24-hour increments. The lease or rental car company may
42 not charge for days when tolls are not incurred by the renter.

43 (5)~~(3)~~ A lease or rental car company that leases a motor
44 vehicle that is found to be in violation of this section shall
45 be punished by a fine of \$500 per occurrence.

46 (6)~~(4)~~ Any registration or renewal as required under s.
47 320.02 for an original or transfer of a long-term leased motor
48 vehicle must be in the name and address of the lessee.

49 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.