

1                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to lease and rental car companies;  
 3           amending s. 320.0601, F.S.; providing restrictions on  
 4           the installation and use of toll-related transponders  
 5           on vehicles for hire and charges therefor; providing  
 6           an effective date.

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

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 10           Section 1. Section 320.0601, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 11           to read:

12           320.0601 Lease and rental car companies; ~~identification of~~  
 13           vehicles as for-hire.-

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

19           (2) (a) A lease or rental car company may not rent in this  
 20           state any for-hire vehicle with permanently affixed SunPass  
 21           transponders unless they are enclosed in a metal box that allows  
 22           the renter to manually activate the transponder.

23           (b) A lease or rental car company or its designated  
 24           tolling program vendor shall assess service fees only for the  
 25           actual days the renter used the transponder to pay for tolls,  
 26           based on 24-hour increments. A lease or rental car company may  
 27           not charge for days when tolls were not incurred by the renter.

28           (3)-(2) As used in this section, the term:

HB 175

2012

29 (a) "Bumper stickers, insignias, or advertising" does not  
30 include:

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

35 2. Any license required by the law of the state in which  
36 the vehicle is registered.

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

39 (4)~~(3)~~ A rental car company that leases a motor vehicle  
40 that is found to be in violation of this section shall be  
41 punished by a fine of \$500 per occurrence.

42 (5)~~(4)~~ Any registration or renewal as required under s.  
43 320.02 for an original or transfer of a long-term leased motor  
44 vehicle must be in the name and address of the lessee.

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