

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: CS/CS/HB 545 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
SPONSOR(S): Transportation & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee, Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee, Payne and others
TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:**

| REFERENCE | ACTION | ANALYST | STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF |
|---|------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|
| 1) Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee | 15 Y, 0 N, As CS | Johnson | Vickers |
| 2) Transportation & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee | 12 Y, 0 N, As CS | Cobb | Davis |
| 3) Government Accountability Committee | | | |

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

This is a comprehensive bill relating to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV). In summary, the bill:

- Authorizes the use of red or red and white lights on volunteer firefighter vehicles.
- Updates various commercial motor vehicle (CMV) regulations to address compatibility concerns with federal law.
- Adds texting and using a handheld mobile device while driving a CMV as a serious disqualifying offense for purposes of a commercial driver license.
- Requires interstate charter buses to register as apportionable vehicles.
- Requires apportionable license plates to be replaced every five years instead of every year.
- Authorizes the use of electronic copies of rental car agreements for proof of registration and provides liability provisions.
- Repeals an expired provision regarding the Hispanic Achievers specialty license plate.
- Creates the Purple Heart motorcycle special license plate.
- Creates the Bronze Star special license plate.
- Provides for enforcement of provisions related to the use of the transporter license plate.
- Provides for the reimbursement to DHSMV of tuition and other expenses for a member of the Florida Highway Patrol who does not stay with the agency for a minimum of three years.
- Authorizes the use of the "D" designation on an identification card for persons with post-traumatic stress disorder or traumatic brain injury.
- Revises reporting requirements relating to driver license suspensions for persons who do not meet school attendance requirements.
- Authorizes the free replacement of a stolen identification card as is currently authorized for stolen driver licenses.
- Removes an obsolete provision regarding specialty driver licenses.
- Provides for the expedited shipping of a renewal or duplicate driver license.

The Revenue Estimating Conference met on March 10, 2017, and estimated that the bill has a negative recurring annual impact of \$4.9 million to the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund, and a negative recurring impact of \$400,000 to general revenue related to provisions redistributing certain driver license transaction revenues to tax collectors. See fiscal section for additional detail.

The bill has an effective date of October 1, 2017.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

The bill is a comprehensive bill relating to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV); for ease of understanding this analysis is arranged by topic.

Volunteer Firefighter Lights (Sections 1, 2 and 14)

Current Situation

Section 316.2397(3), F.S., provides that vehicles of the fire department and fire patrol, including vehicles of volunteer firefighters, vehicles of medical staff physicians or technicians of licensed medical facilities, ambulances, buses and taxicabs may show or display red lights.

Section 316.2398, F.S., relates to the display or use of red warning signals on motor vehicles of volunteer firefighters or medical staff. A privately owned vehicle belonging to an active firefighter member of a regularly organized volunteer firefighting company or association, while en route to the fire station for the purpose of proceeding to the scene of a fire or other emergency or while en route to the scene of a fire or other emergency in the line of duty as an active firefighter member of a regularly organized firefighting company or association, or a privately owned vehicle belonging to a medical staff physician or technician of a licensed medical facility licensed, while responding to an emergency in the line of duty, may display or use red warning signals visible from the front and from the rear of such vehicle, subject to the following restrictions and conditions:

- No more than two red warning signals may be displayed.
- No inscription of any kind may appear across the face of the lens of the red warning signal.
- In order for an active volunteer firefighter to display such red warning signals on his or her vehicle, the volunteer firefighter must first secure a written permit from the chief executive officer of the firefighting organization to use the red warning signals, and this permit is required to be carried by the volunteer firefighter while the red warning signals are displayed.¹

It is unlawful for any person who is not an active firefighter member of a regularly organized volunteer firefighting company or association or a physician or technician of the medical staff of a licensed medical facility licensed to display on any motor vehicle owned by him or her, at any time, any red warning signals.²

It is unlawful for an active volunteer firefighter to operate any red warning signals, except while en route to the fire station for the purpose of proceeding to the scene of a fire or other emergency, or while at or en route to the scene of a fire or other emergency, in the line of duty.³

A violation of s. 316.2398, F.S., is a nonmoving violation, punishable as provided in Ch. 318, F.S.⁴ In addition, volunteer firefighters are required to be dismissed from membership in the firefighting organization by the chief executive officers of the firefighting organization.⁵

Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 316.2397(3), F.S., and s. 316.2398, F.S., authorizing vehicles registered to volunteer fire fighters to use red or red and white lights under certain circumstances.

¹ Section 316.2398(1), F.S.

² Section 316.2398(2), F.S.

³ Section 316.2398(3), F.S.

⁴ Chapter 318, F.S., relates to the disposition of traffic infractions.

⁵ Section 316.2398(5), F.S.

Additionally, the bill amends s. 322.01, F.S., making conforming changes to the definition of “authorized emergency vehicle” as used in Ch. 322, F.S.⁶

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) Compatibility (Section 3)

Current Situation

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) is established within the United States Department of Transportation. Its primary mission is to prevent commercial motor vehicle-related fatalities and injuries.⁷

In 2007, FMCSA delivered to Florida a Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MSCAP) review, which concluded that Florida Statutes have multiple compatibility concerns with federal commercial motor vehicle (CMV) safety regulations.⁸

Florida law defines “commercial motor vehicle” as any self-propelled or towed vehicle used on the public highways in commerce to transport passengers or cargo, if such vehicle:

- Has a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or more;
- Is designed to transport more than 15 passengers, including the driver; or
- Is used in the transportation of materials found to be hazardous for the purposes of the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act,⁹ as amended.¹⁰

Section 316.302(1)(a), F.S., provides that all owners and drivers of CMVs operating on the state’s public highways while engaged in **interstate** commerce are subject to the following parts of 49 C.F.R.:

| Part | Heading |
|------|---|
| 382 | Controlled Substance and Alcohol Use Testing |
| 385 | Safety Fitness Procedures |
| 390 | Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations; General |
| 391 | Qualifications of Drivers and Longer Combination Vehicle Driver Instructors |
| 392 | Driving of Commercial Motor Vehicles |
| 393 | Parts and Accessories Necessary for Safe Operation |
| 395 | Hours of Service for Drivers |
| 396 | Inspection, Repair, and Maintenance |
| 397 | Transportation of Hazardous Materials; Driving and Parking Rules |

Section 320.302(1)(b), F.S., provides that except as otherwise provided in s. 316.302, F.S., all owners or drivers of CMVs engaged in **intrastate** commerce are subject to the following parts of 49 C.F.R. except as it relates to the definition of bus, as those rules and regulations existed on December 31, 2012:

| Part | Heading |
|------|---|
| 382 | Controlled Substance and Alcohol Use Testing |
| 383 | Commercial Driver’s License Standards; Requirements and Testing |
| 385 | Safety Fitness Procedures |
| 390 | Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations; General |
| 391 | Qualifications of Drivers and Longer Combination Vehicle Driver Instructors |

⁶ Chapter 322, F.S., relates to driver licenses.

⁷ <https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/mission/about-us> (Last visited October 20, 2016).

⁸ 2007 Florida State MSCAP Review (Copy on File with Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee).

⁹ 49 U.S.C. ss. 1801 et seq.

¹⁰ Section 316.003(12), F.S.

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|-----|--|
| 392 | Driving of Commercial Motor Vehicles |
| 393 | Parts and Accessories Necessary for Safe Operation |
| 395 | Hours of Service for Drivers |
| 396 | Inspection, Repair, and Maintenance |
| 397 | Transportation of Hazardous Materials; Driving and Parking Rules |

Federal regulations define “bus” as “any motor vehicle designed, constructed, and/or used for the transportation of passengers, including taxicabs.”¹¹ In its 2007 review, FMCSA found that Florida law exempting taxicabs from the definition of a bus, as it applies to interstate commerce, was not compatible with federal regulations which includes taxicabs in the definition of “bus.”¹²

Section 316.302(1)(d), F.S., provides that except as provided in an exemption from certain lighting requirements for front-end loading collection vehicles under specified circumstances,¹³ and except as provided in provisions relating to lamps and flags on projected loads for rear overhang lighting and flagging requirements for intrastate operations,¹⁴ the requirements of s. 316.302, F.S., supersede all other safety requirements in Florida’s Uniform Traffic Control Law¹⁵ for CMVs.

In its 2007 review, FMCSA found that the statutory provision exempting trucks transporting solid waste and recyclable materials with specified mechanisms operating at speeds of less than 20 miles per hour from certain lighting provisions is incompatible with federal regulations,¹⁶ which does not contain a similar exemption and that federal regulations expressly prohibit lamps and reflectors from being obscured.¹⁷

Federal regulations provide that with some exceptions, CMV drivers are required to be at least 21 years of age.¹⁸ Federal regulations also provide maximum drive time requirements for property carrying vehicles.¹⁹ Section 316.302(2)(a), F.S., provides that a person operating a CMV solely in intrastate commerce and not transporting any hazardous material in amounts that require placarding²⁰ are not required to comply with the above-referenced federal regulations.

Federal regulations provide hours of service rules for CMV drivers.²¹ Section 316.302(2)(b), F.S., provides that except as provided in federal regulations, a person operating a CMV solely in intrastate commerce and not transporting any hazardous material may not drive:

- More than 12 hours following 10 consecutive hours off duty; or
- For any period after the end of the 16th hour after coming on duty following 10 consecutive hours off duty.

The above provisions do not apply to drivers of utility service vehicles.²²

¹¹ 49 C.F.R. 390.5

¹² 2007 Florida State MSCAP Review finding FL/FI-1.

¹³ These requirements are provided in s. 316.215(5), F.S.

¹⁴ These requirements are provided in s. 316.228, F.S.

¹⁵ Chapter 316, F.S.

¹⁶ 49 C.F.R. 393 Subpart B,

¹⁷ 2007 Florida State MSCAP Review finding FL/FI-7.

¹⁸ 49 C.F.R. s. 391.11(b)(1)

¹⁹ 49 C.F.R. s. 395.3(a) and (B)

²⁰ Placarding is required pursuant to 49 C.F.R. part 172. In this analysis, everywhere where there is a discussion regarding the transportation of hazardous materials, it is assumed to be in amounts that require placarding.

²¹ 49 C.F.R. s. 395

²² 49 C.F.R. s. 395.2 defines “utility service vehicle” as any commercial motor vehicle:

(1) Used in the furtherance of repairing, maintaining, or operating any structures or any other physical facilities necessary for the delivery of public utility services, including the furnishing of electric, gas, water, sanitary sewer, telephone, and television cable or community antenna service;

(2) While engaged in any activity necessarily related to the ultimate delivery of such public utility services to consumers, including travel or movement to, from, upon, or between activity sites (including occasional travel or movement outside the service area necessitated by any utility emergency as determined by the utility provider); and

Section 316.302(2)(c), F.S., provides that except as provided in the federal hours of service rules²³ a person operating a CMV solely in intrastate commerce not transporting any hazardous material may not drive after having been on duty more than 70 hours in any period of seven consecutive days or more than 80 hours in any period of eight consecutive days if the motor carrier operates every day of the week. Upon request of DHSMV, motor carriers are required to furnish time records or other written verification so that DHSMV can determine compliance with the hours of service requirements. Falsification of time records is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$100.

Section 316.302(2)(d), F.S., provides that a person operating a CMV solely in intrastate commerce not transporting any hazardous material within a 150 air-mile radius is not required to comply with federal provisions regarding a driver's record of duty status²⁴ if the requirements of certain federal rules regarding short-haul operations²⁵ are met. If a driver is not released from duty within 12 hours after the driver arrives for duty, the motor carrier must maintain documentation of the driver's driving times throughout the duty period.

Section 316.302(2)(f), F.S., provides that a person who is operating a CMV having a declared gross vehicle weight of less than 26,001 pounds operating solely in intrastate commerce and who is not transporting hazardous materials or who is transporting petroleum products²⁶ is exempt from s. 316.302(1), F.S. However, such person must comply with 49 C.F.R. parts 382, 392, and 393, and with 49 C.F.R. ss. 396.3(a)(1) and 396.9.

In its 2007 findings, FMCSA determined that s. 316.302(2)(f), F.S., is not compatible with federal regulations since it exempts vehicles transporting petroleum products and the state definition of petroleum products includes liquids that could require placarding, while federal regulations do not allow drivers of vehicles requiring placarding to be exempt from applicable requirements.²⁷

Proposed Changes

The bill amends various provisions of s. 316.302(1) and (2), F.S., addressing issues related to Florida's CMV regulations and their incompatibility with federal law.

The bill provides that s. 316.302(1), F.S., applies to CMVs except as provided in s. 316.302(3), F.S., relating to covered farm vehicles.²⁸

(3) Except for any occasional emergency use, operated primarily within the service area of a utility's subscribers or consumers, without regard to whether the vehicle is owned, leased, or rented by the utility.

²³ 49 C.F.R. s. 395.1

²⁴ 49 C.F.R. 395.8

²⁵ 49 C.F.R. s. 395.1(e)(1)(iii) and (v) are various rules relating to short-haul operations.

²⁶ Section 376.301(33), F.S., defines "petroleum product" as "any liquid fuel commodity made from petroleum, including, but not limited to, all forms of fuel known or sold as diesel fuel, kerosene, all forms of fuel known or sold as gasoline, and fuels containing a mixture of gasoline and other products, excluding liquefied petroleum gas and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) grades no. 5 and no. 6 residual oils, bunker C residual oils, intermediate fuel oils (IFO) used for marine bunkering with a viscosity of 30 and higher, asphalt oils, and petrochemical feedstocks."

²⁷ 20p7 Florida MCSAP finding FL/FI-3

²⁸ Section 316.003(14), F.S., defines "covered farm vehicles" as a straight truck, or an articulated vehicle, which is all of the following:

- Registered in a state with a license plate, or any other designation issued by that state, which allows law enforcement officers to identify it as a farm vehicle.
- Operated by the owner or operator of a farm or ranch or by an employee or a family member of an owner or operator of a farm or ranch in accordance with s. 316.302(3)
- Used to transport agricultural commodities, livestock, machinery, or supplies to or from a farm or ranch.
- Not used in for-hire motor carrier operations; however, for-hire motor carrier operations do not include the operation of a vehicle meeting the requirements of paragraphs (a)-(c) by a tenant pursuant to a crop-share farm lease agreement to transport the landlord's portion of the crops under that agreement.

The bill amends s. 316.302(1)(b), F.S., removing the exception for the federal definition of a bus and to update the date of adoption to December 31, 2016, to update the state law referencing the applicable federal rules that intrastate CMV vehicles are required to comply with.

The bill amends s. 316.302(1)(d), F.S., removing exceptions provided in s. 316.215(5), F.S., providing that certain provisions regarding headlamps and turn signals do not apply to waste collection vehicles under specified circumstances.

The bill amends s. 316.302(2)(a), F.S., to no longer require intrastate CMVs that are not carrying hazardous materials to comply with certain federal regulations providing maximum drive time requirements. Therefore, these vehicles will not be required to comply with any of 49 C.F.R. 395.3, documenting the maximum driving time for operators of property carrying vehicles.

The bill amends s. 316.302(2)(c), F.S., by removing the \$100 fine for falsifying hours of service records. This penalty is duplicative of s. 316.3025(3)(b)1., F.S., which also provides a \$100 penalty for falsifying hours of service records.²⁹

The bill amends s. 316.302(2)(d), F.S., adding a reference to 49 C.F.R. 395.1(e)(1)(ii) and removing the provision that a motor carrier is required to maintain documentation of the driver's driving times if a driver is not released from duty with 12 hours after arriving for duty.

The bill amends s. 316.302(2)(f), F.S., adding the terms "gross vehicle weight rating" or "gross combined vehicle weight rating" and removing the provision regarding transporting petroleum products, which conforms to federal law.

Serious Disqualifying CMV Offenses (Sections 4 and 19)

Current Situation

In 2013, the Legislature amended s. 316.3025, F.S., codifying into Florida law a federal prohibition on CMV drivers using handheld devices while operating a CMV.³⁰ However, at that time, s. 322.61, F.S., relating to offenses disqualifying someone from driving a CMV was not amended to list using a handheld device while operating a CMV as a serious disqualifying offense regarding a commercial driver license.

Section 316.3025(6)(a), F.S., provides the penalties associated with texting and using a handheld mobile telephone while driving a CMV. A driver who violates the federal prohibitions against texting³¹ or using a handheld mobile telephone³² while operating a CMV, may be assessed a civil penalty and commercial driver license disqualification³³ as follows:

- First violation: \$500.
- Second violation: \$1,000 and a 60-day commercial driver license disqualification.³⁴
- Third and subsequent violations: \$2,750 and a 120-day commercial driver license disqualification.

Section 322.61, F.S., provides a list of serious disqualifying offenses regarding the operation of a CMV. If while operating a CMV, that person is convicted of two or more of the following offenses within a three-year period a person is disqualified from operating a CMV for a period of 60 days:

²⁹ Section 316.3025, F.S., provides the penalties for various CMV violations.

³⁰ Chapter 2013-160, L.O.F.

³¹ 49 C.F.R. 329.80

³² 49 C.F.R. 392.82

³³ Section 320.01(15), F.S., defines "disqualification" as "a prohibition, other than an out-of-service order, that precludes a person from driving a commercial motor vehicle."

³⁴ Commercial driver license disqualification is pursuant to 49 C.F.R. part 383.

- A violation of any state or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control, other than a parking violation, arising in connection with a crash resulting in death;
- Reckless driving;³⁵
- Unlawful speed of 15 miles per hour or more above the posted speed limit;
- Improper lane change;³⁶
- Following too closely;³⁷
- Driving a commercial vehicle without obtaining a commercial driver license;
- Driving a commercial vehicle without the proper class of commercial driver license or commercial learner's permit or without the proper endorsement; or
- Driving a commercial vehicle without a commercial driver license or commercial learner's permit in possession.³⁸

Proposed Changes

The bill removes from s. 316.3025(6)(a), F.S., the provisions for a commercial driver license disqualification for using a handheld mobile device while operating a CMV. The disqualification provisions are moved to s. 322.61, F.S., which lists the serious disqualifying offenses for operating a CMV.

International Registration Plan (Section 5)

Current Situation

The International Registration Plan (IRP) is a cooperative registration agreement among all of the states in the continental United States, the District of Columbia and certain Canadian provinces. The IRP allows a carrier to register once for all the jurisdictions, rather than dealing with each jurisdiction separately. The IRP jurisdictions voted in favor of amending the definition of apportionable vehicle, which went into effect on January 1, 2016. The amendment removed the exemption from IRP registration for charter buses. All charter buses operating interstate are now required to obtain IRP registration or purchase trip permits.³⁹

According to DHSMV, Congress has incentivized states to participate in the IRP by requiring participation as a condition for being able to establish, maintain, or enforce their own CMV registration laws and regulations which limit, within their own state, the operation of CMVs registered in another state.⁴⁰

Section 320.01(24), F.S., defines "apportionable vehicle" as any vehicle, except recreational vehicles, vehicles displaying restricted plates, city pickup and delivery vehicles, buses used in transportation of chartered parties, and government-owned vehicles, which is used or intended for use in two or more member jurisdictions that allocate or proportionally register vehicles and which is used for the transportation of persons for hire or is designed, used, or maintained primarily for the transportation of property and:

- Is a power unit having a gross vehicle weight in excess of 26,000 pounds;
- Is a power unit having three or more axles, regardless of weight; or
- Is used in combination, when the weight of such combination exceeds 26,000 pounds gross vehicle weight.

Vehicles, or combination of vehicles, with a gross vehicle weight of 26,000 pounds or less and two-axle vehicles may be proportionally registered.

Proposed Changes

³⁵ Reckless driving is defined in s. 316.192, F.S.

³⁶ Improper lane change is defined in s. 316.085, F.S.

³⁷ Following too closely is defined in s. 316.0895, F.S.

³⁸ A license or learner permit is required to drive a commercial motor vehicle pursuant to s. 322.03, F.S.

³⁹ DHSMV 2017 Legislative Concepts.

⁴⁰ Email from DHSMV, February 16, 2017. (Copy on file with Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee).

The bill amends s. 320.01(24), F.S., removing the exception for charter buses from the definition of “apportionable vehicle.” This change will require charter buses operating interstate to register as apportionable vehicles.

Issuance of Apportionable Motor Vehicle License Plates (Sections 6 and 8)

Current Situation

As stated above, Florida law requires all apportionable vehicles domiciled in Florida to be registered in accordance with IRP and to display license plates.⁴¹

In general, s. 320.06, F.S., provides for motor vehicle registration certificates, license plates, and validation stickers. Upon receiving an initial application for registration and payment of the appropriate license tax⁴² and other fees required by law, DHSMV assigns the motor vehicle a registration license number and issues to the owner or lessee a certificate of registration and one license plate, unless two plates are required,⁴³ for each vehicle registered.⁴⁴

Most license plates are issued for a 10-year period. At the end of the 10-year period, upon renewal, the license plate is replaced. However, a vehicle with an apportioned⁴⁵ registration is issued an annual license plate and a cab card denoting the declared gross vehicle weight for each apportioned jurisdiction in which the vehicle is authorized to operate.⁴⁶

Section 320.0607, F.S., provides for replacement license plates, validation decals, or mobile home stickers. Section 320.0607(5), F.S., requires that upon the issuance of an original license plate, the applicant pays a fee of \$28 to be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund.

Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 320.06(1)(b), F.S., providing that the current provision requiring apportionable license plates and cab cards to be issued annually expires on October 1, 2018.

The bill creates s. 320.06(1)(b)3., F.S., providing that beginning October 1, 2018, a vehicle registered in accordance with the IRP, will be issued a license plate for a five-year period, an annual cab card denoting the declared gross vehicle weight, and an annual validation sticker showing the month and year of expiration. The license plate and validation sticker will be issued based on the applicant’s appropriate renewal period. The registration period for an apportionable vehicle is for 12 months. The annual fee for an original and renewed cab card is \$28, which is deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund. If the license plate is damaged or worn it may be replaced at no charge by applying to DHSMV and surrendering the current license plate.

The bill amends s. 320.0607(5), F.S., providing that beginning October 1, 2018, the \$28 fee for a replacement license plate does not apply to vehicles registered under the IRP and issued an apportionable license plate.

Electronic Rental Car Documentation (Section 7)

Current Situation

Section 320.0605, F.S., requires certificates of registration for motor vehicles. The registration certificate or an official copy, a true copy of rental or lease documentation issued for a motor vehicle or issued for a replacement vehicle in the same registration period, a temporary receipt printed upon self-

⁴¹ Section 320.0715(1), F.S.

⁴² License taxes are provided for in s. 320.08, F.S.

⁴³ Section 320.0706, F.S., requires the display of license plates on the front and the rear of some trucks.

⁴⁴ Section 320.06(1)(a)

⁴⁵ Section 320.06(3)(a), F.S., requires apportioned license plate to have the word “apportioned” at the bottom of the license plate.

⁴⁶ Section 320.06(1)(b)1., F.S.

initiated electronic renewal of a registration via the Internet, or a cab card issued for a vehicle registered under the International Registration Plan must, at all times while the vehicle is being used or operated on the roads of this state, be in the possession of the operator of the vehicle or be carried in the vehicle for which issued and must be exhibited upon demand of any authorized law enforcement officer or any agent of the DHSMV, except for a vehicle registered under s. 320.0657, F.S.⁴⁷ This provision does not apply during the first 30 days after purchase of a replacement vehicle. A violation is a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable as a nonmoving violation as provided in Ch. 318, F.S.⁴⁸

Section 320.0605(2), F.S., provides that rental or lease documentation that is sufficient to satisfy the above requirement includes the following:

- Date of rental and time of exit from rental facility;
- Rental station identification;
- Rental agreement number;
- Rental vehicle identification number;
- Rental vehicle license plate number and state of registration;
- Vehicle's make, model, and color;
- Vehicle's mileage; and
- Authorized renter's name.

Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 320.0605, F.S., authorizing a copy of rental or lease documentation to be in electronic format.

The bill provides that presenting to a law enforcement officer an electronic device displaying an electronic copy of rental or lease documentation does not constitute consent for the officer to access any information on the device other than the displayed rental or lease documentation. Additionally, the person who presents the device to the officer assumes the liability for any resulting damage to the device. This language is almost identical to the digital proof of automobile insurance statute.⁴⁹

The bill also revises the requirements of the rental documentation to not require the time of exit from the rental facility.

Hispanic Achievers Specialty License Plate (Section 9)

Current Situation

In 2010, the Legislature created the Hispanic Achievers specialty license plate.⁵⁰ The proceeds from the \$25 annual use fee⁵¹ are distributed to National Hispanic Corporate Achievers, Inc., to fund grants to nonprofit organizations to operate programs and provide scholarships and for marketing the Hispanic Achievers license plate. National Hispanic Corporate Achievers, Inc., was required to establish a Hispanic Achievers Grant Council to provide recommendations for statewide grants from available Hispanic Achievers license plate proceeds to nonprofit organizations for programs and scholarships for Hispanic and minority Floridians.

The proceeds from the annual use fee are to be used as follows:

- Up to 5 percent may be used for the cost of administering the Hispanic Achievers License Plate Fund, the Hispanic Achievers Grant Council, and related matters.
- Funds may be used as necessary for annual audit or compliance affidavit costs.⁵²

⁴⁷ Section 320.0657, F.S., provides for permanent registration of fleet license plates.

⁴⁸ Chapter 318, F.S., relates to the disposition of traffic infractions.

⁴⁹ Section 316.646(1), F.S.

⁵⁰ Chapter 2010-223, L.O.F.

⁵¹ The \$25 annual use fee is provided for in s. 320.08056(4)(rrr), F.S.

⁵² Audits and compliance affidavits are required by s. 320.08062, F.S.

- Up to 20 percent of the proceeds may be used to market and promote the Hispanic Achievers license plate.
- Twenty-five percent of the proceeds are required to be used by the Hispanic Corporate Achievers, Inc., located in Seminole County, for grants.
- The remaining proceeds are available to the Hispanic Achievers Grant Council to award grants for services, programs, or scholarships for Hispanic and minority individuals and organizations throughout Florida. All grant recipients are required to provide to the Hispanic Achievers Grant Council an annual program and financial report regarding the use of grant funds. Such reports must be available to the public.

Effective July 1, 2014, the Hispanic Achievers license plate was shifted into a presale voucher phase pursuant to s. 320.08053(2)(b), F.S.⁵³ National Hispanic Corporate Achievers, Inc., was given 24 months to sell a minimum of 1,000 plates. Sales included existing active plates and vouchers sold subsequent to July 1, 2014. During the voucher period, new plates were not allowed to be issued, but existing plates could be renewed. If, at the conclusion of the 24-month presale period the minimum of 1,000 sales had been met, DHSMV was required to resume normal distribution of the Hispanic Achievers license plate. If, after 24 months, the minimum of 1,000 sales had not been met, DHSMV was to discontinue the Hispanic Achievers license plate. As of June 30, 2016, the Hispanic Achievers specialty license plate had presales of 26 license plates.⁵⁴ The Hispanic Achiever's license plate statute was repealed as of July 1, 2016.⁵⁵

Proposed Changes

The bill repeals s. 316.08058(70)(d), F.S., repealing the presale voucher phase for the Hispanic Achiever's specialty license plate. However, the remainder of this license plate's provisions will remain in statute.

Purple Heart Motorcycle Special License Plate (Section 10)

Current Situation

There are currently 21 special use license plates for motor vehicles authorized in s. 320.089, F.S. These special license plates are available to military service members or veterans for various types of service. There are currently no special license plates authorized for motorcycles.

The Purple Heart is awarded to members of the armed forces of the U.S. who are wounded by an instrument of war in the hands of the enemy and posthumously to the next of kin in the name of those who are killed in action or die of wounds received in action.⁵⁶

Proposed Changes

The bill creates s. 320.08075, F.S., creating the Purple Heart motorcycle special license plate. Upon application to DHSMV and payment of the motorcycle license tax⁵⁷ a resident who owns or leases a motorcycle that is not used for-hire or commercial use is to be issued a Purple Heart motorcycle license plate if he or she provides documentation acceptable to DHSMV that he or she is a recipient of the Purple Heart medal.

The Purple Heart motorcycle special license plate will be stamped with the term "Combat-wounded Veteran." The license plate may have the term "Purple Heart" stamped on the plate and the likeness of the Purple Heart Medal stamped on the license plate.

⁵³ Chapter 2014-168, L.O.F.

⁵⁴ <http://www.flhsmv.gov/specialtytags/PreSaleData.html> (Last visited February 20, 2017).

⁵⁵ This was probably a scrivener's error, other specialty license plate statutes that went to presale only had the presale provision repealed as of July 1, 2016.

⁵⁶ <http://www.purpleheart.org/HistoryOrder.aspx> (Last visited February 20, 2017).

⁵⁷ The license tax is provided in s. 320.08, F.S.,

Bronze Star Special License Plate (Section 11)

Current Situation

Section 320.089, F.S., currently authorizes 21 special license plates available to military service members or veterans for the following types of service:

- Veteran of the United States Armed Forces;
- Active or retired member of the Florida National Guard;
- Survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor;
- Recipient of the Purple Heart Medal;
- Active or retired member of any branch of the United States Armed Forces Reserve;
- Recipient of the Combat Infantry Badge;
- Recipient of the Combat Medical Badge;
- Recipient of the Combat Action Badge;
- Former Prisoner of War;
- Veteran of the Korean War;
- Veteran of the Vietnam War;
- Service member or veteran of Operation Desert Shield;
- Service member or veteran of Operation Desert Storm;
- Service member or veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom;
- Service member or veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom;
- Recipient of the Combat Action Ribbon;
- Recipient of the Air Force Combat Action Medal;
- Recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross;
- World War II Veteran;
- Woman Veteran; and
- Navy Submariner.

Special license plates are each stamped with words consistent with the type of special use plate issued. A likeness of the related campaign medal or badge appears on the plate followed by the license plates serial number.

Applicants for special license plates are required to pay the annual license tax⁵⁸ with the exception of certain disabled veterans who qualify for the Pearl Harbor, Purple Heart, or Prisoner of War plate, to whom such plates are issued at no cost.⁵⁹ The first \$100,000 of the general revenue generated annually from the issuance of special use plates is deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund under the Veterans' Nursing Homes of Florida Act, as described in s. 296.38(2), F.S.⁶⁰ Any additional general revenue is deposited into the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund and used to construct, operate, and maintain domiciliary and nursing homes for veterans.⁶¹

Proposed Change

The bill amends s. 320.089, F.S., authorizing the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) to create the Bronze Star special use license plate for recipients of the Bronze Star medal who provides proof of their qualification. The license plate will be stamped with the term "Bronze Star" and a likeness of the related campaign medal. Revenue generated from the sale of the Bronze Star special use license plate will be administered the same as the existing special use license plates in s. 320.089, F.S., and deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund and the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund to support the State Veterans Homes Program.

⁵⁸ The annual license tax is provided in s. 320.08, F.S.

⁵⁹ S. 320.089(2)(a), F.S.

⁶⁰ S. 320.089(1)(b), F.S.

⁶¹ Id.

The Bronze Star Medal is awarded to any person who, after December 6, 1941, while serving in any capacity with the Armed Forces of the United States, distinguishes himself or herself by heroic or meritorious achievement or service, not involving participation in aerial flight.⁶² There is no count of Bronze Star recipients residing in Florida.⁶³

The bill also reorganizes and renumbers s. 320.089, F.S., relating to special license plates for military service members, veterans, and Pearl Harbor Survivors.

Transporter License Plates (Section 12)

Current Situation

Section 320.133, F.S., provides for the establishment of transporter license plates. DHSMV is authorized to issue a transporter license plate to any applicant who, incidental to conducting his or her business, engages in the transporting of motor vehicles which are not currently registered to any owner and which do not have license plates, upon payment of \$101.25⁶⁴ for each transporter license plate and proof of liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$100,000 or more. Transporter license plates are valid for use on any motor vehicle in the transporter's possession while the motor vehicle is being transported in the course of business. Examples of businesses that may use transporter license plates are motor vehicle detail shops, and licensed repossessors who contract with lending institutions to repossess vehicles.⁶⁵

A transporter license plate is required to be in a DHSMV approved distinctive color, with the word "transporter" on the face of the license plate in place of the county name. It is valid for 12 months beginning January 1 and ending December 31. A refund of the license tax is not provided for any unexpired portion of the license period.

According to DHSMV, current law does not authorize it or law enforcement to conduct inspections on the use of transporter license plates and does not require the applicant to prove that it is a transporter plate eligible business.⁶⁶

Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 320.133, F.S., relating to transporter license plates. The bill defines "transporter license plate eligible business" as a business engaged in the limited operation of an unregistered motor vehicle or reposessor who contracts with lending institutions to repossess or recover motor vehicles or mobile homes.

The bill provides that a person is not eligible to purchase or renew a transporter license plate unless he or she provides satisfactory proof to DHSMV that his or her business is a transporter license plate eligible business.

The bill requires that the application for qualification as a transporter license plate eligible business and contain the legal name of the person or persons applying for the license plate, the name of the business, and the principal or principals of the business. The application must describe the exact physical location of the place of business within the state. This location must be available at all reasonable hours for transporter license plate inspection by DHSMV or any law enforcement agency. The application must contain proof of a garage liability insurance policy or a business automobile policy of at least \$100,000, and the certificate of insurance must indicate the number of transporter license plates reported to the insurance company. Upon seeking initial qualification, the applicant must provide documentation proving that the business is registered with the Department of State. The business must

⁶² <http://www.americanwarlibrary.com/personnel/bronze.htm> (Last visited February 20, 2017).

⁶³ Email from Department of Veterans' Affairs, February 21, 2017. (Copy on file with Transportation & Ports Subcommittee).

⁶⁴ The license tax for a transporter license plate is imposed by s. 320.08(15), F.S.

⁶⁵ Email from DHSMV, February 16, 2017. (Copy of file with Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee)

⁶⁶ DHSMV Legislative Concepts document.

indicate how it meets the qualification as a transporter license plate eligible business by describing the business processes that require the use of a transporter license plate.

DHSMV may issue a transporter license plate to an applicant who is not a licensed dealer⁶⁷ and is qualified as a transporter license plate eligible business upon payment of the license tax⁶⁸ for each transporter license plate and upon proof of the required insurance. A transporter license plate is only valid for use on an unregistered motor vehicle in the transporter's possession while the motor vehicle is being transported in the course of the transporter's business. A person who sells or unlawfully possesses, distributes, or brokers a transporter license plate to be attached to any vehicle commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable by up to 60 days imprisonment⁶⁹ or a fine of up to \$500.⁷⁰ Any and all transporter license plates issued are subject to cancellation by DHSMV.

A person who knowingly or willingly sells or unlawfully possesses, distributes, or brokers a transporter license plate to avoid registering a vehicle requiring registration commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable by up to one-year imprisonment⁷¹ or a fine of up to \$1,000,⁷² and is disqualified from transporter license plate usage. All transporter license plates issued to the person's business will be canceled and returned to DHSMV immediately upon disqualification. The transporter license plate is subject to removal, and any and all transporter plates issued are subject to cancellation by DHSMV.

A transporter license plate eligible business issued a transporter license plate is required to maintain for two years, at its location, records of each use for each transporter license plate and evidence that the plate was used as required by Ch. 320, F.S. Such records must be open to inspection by DHSMV or its agents or any law enforcement officer during reasonable business hours. A person who fails to maintain records of any transporter license plate usage or comply with this subsection commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, may be subject to cancellation of any and all transporter license plates issued, and is automatically disqualified from future transporter license plate issuance.

When attached to a motor vehicle, a transporter license plate is required to be accompanied by the registration issued for the license plate and proof of insurance. A person operating a motor vehicle with a transporter license plate attached who fails to provide the required documentation commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, and the license plate is subject to removal. This does not apply to a person who contracts with dealers and auctions to transport motor vehicles.

A transporter license plate attached to a motor vehicle in violation s. 320.133, F.S., must be immediately removed from the motor vehicle by law enforcement and surrendered to DHSMV by the law enforcement agency for cancellation.

Law Enforcement Training Reimbursement (Section 13)

Current Situation

Section 321.25, F.S., authorizes DHSMV to provide for the training of law enforcement officials and individuals in matters relating to the duties, functions, and powers of the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) in schools established by DHSMV. DHSMV is authorized to charge a fee for providing the training, which is based on the DHSMV's costs for providing the training. These costs may include, but are not limited to, tuition, lodging, and meals. While DHSMV is authorized to charge a fee for training, it currently does not charge a fee for FHP recruits.

⁶⁷ Motor vehicle dealers are licensed pursuant to s. 320.27, F.S.

⁶⁸ Section 320.08(15), F.S., provides for the license tax for a transporter license plate.

⁶⁹ Section 775.082, F.S.

⁷⁰ Section 775.083, F.S.

⁷¹ Section 775.082, F.S.

⁷² Section 775.083, F.S.

Section 943.16, F.S., authorizes an employing agency⁷³ to pay the tuition of a trainee attending an approved basic recruit training program.⁷⁴ A trainee attending an approved training program at an employing agency's expense is required to remain employed by the employing agency for a period of not less than two years after graduation. If employment is terminated on the trainee's own initiative within two years, he or she is required to reimburse the employing agency for the full cost of his or her tuition and other course expenses.^{75 76}

Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 321.25, F.S., providing that notwithstanding s. 943.16, F.S., a person who attends DHSMV's training academy at DHSMV's expense is required to remain employed by DHSMV for at least three years. Once employed, if the person fails to remain employed by FHP for at least three years from the first date of employment he or she is required to repay the cost of tuition and other course expenses⁷⁷ to DHSMV.

The bill authorizes DHSMV to institute a civil action to collect the cost of tuition and other course expenses that are not reimbursed, provided that FHP provided written notification to the person of the three-year employment commitment during the employment screening process and the person returned a signed acknowledgement of receipt of such notification.

DHSMV may waive a person's requirement for reimbursement in part or in full when the person terminates employment due to hardship or extenuating circumstances.

Identification Cards (Section 15)

Current Situation

In general, s. 322.051, F.S., provides for identification cards. DHSMV may issue an identification card to any person who is 5 years of age or older, or any person who has a disability, regardless of age, who applies for a disabled parking permit⁷⁸ upon completion of an application and payment of an application fee.

Section 320.051(8)(e), F.S., provides that upon request by a person who has a developmental disability, or by a parent or guardian of a child or ward who has a developmental disability, DHSMV issue an identification card exhibiting a capital "D" for the person, child, or ward if the person or the parent or guardian of the child or ward submits:

- Payment of an additional \$1 fee; and
- Proof acceptable to DHSMV of a diagnosis by a licensed physician of a developmental disability.⁷⁹

The above provision applies when DHSMV implements of a new design of the driver license and identification card.⁸⁰

⁷³ Section 943.10(4), F.S., defines "employing agency" as any agency or unit of government or any municipality or the state or any political subdivision thereof, or any agent thereof, which has constitutional or statutory authority to employ or appoint persons as officers. The term also includes any private entity which has contracted with the state or county for the operation and maintenance of a nonjuvenile detention facility.

⁷⁴ Section 943.16(1)

⁷⁵ Section 943.16(5), F.S., provides that "other course expenses" includes the cost of meals.

⁷⁶ Section 943.16(2), F.S.

⁷⁷ The bill provides that "other course expenses" may include the cost of meals and lodging.

⁷⁸ Disabled parking permits are provided under s. 320.0848, F.S.

⁷⁹ Section 393.063(12), F.S., defines "developmental disability" as a disorder or syndrome that is attributable to intellectual disability, cerebral palsy, autism, spina bifida, Down syndrome, Phelan-McDermid syndrome, or Prader-Willi syndrome; that manifests before the age of 18; and that constitutes a substantial handicap that can reasonably be expected to continue indefinitely.

⁸⁰ Section 3 of Ch. 2016-175, L.O.F.

Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 322.051(8)(e)1., F.S., providing that persons with post-traumatic stress disorder or traumatic brain injury may receive the “D” designation on his or her identification card. This also applies to a parent or guardian’s request for a child or ward.

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a mental health condition that is triggered by either experiencing or witnessing a terrifying event. Symptoms of PTSD include flashbacks, nightmares and severe anxiety, as well as uncontrollable thoughts about the traumatic event.⁸¹

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) occurs when external mechanical forces cause brain dysfunction. TBI is usually the result of a violent blow or jolt to the head or body. An object penetrating the skull can also cause TBI. Serious TBI can result in bruising, torn tissues, bleeding and other physical damage to the brain that can result in long-term complications or death.⁸²

Truancy Reporting (Section 16)

Current Situation

Section 322.091, F.S., provides school attendance requirements for minors to be eligible for driving privileges. A minor is not eligible for driving privileges unless he or she:

- Is enrolled in a public school, nonpublic school, or home education program and satisfies relevant attendance requirements;
- Has received a high school diploma, a high school equivalency diploma, a special diploma, or a certificate of high school completion;
- Is enrolled in a study course in preparation for the high school equivalency examination and satisfies relevant attendance requirements;
- Is enrolled in other educational activities approved by the district school board and satisfies relevant attendance requirements;
- Has been issued a certificate of exemption;⁸³ or
- Has received a hardship waiver.⁸⁴

DHSMV may not issue a driver license or learner's driver license to, and is required to suspend the license of, any minor if DHSMV is notified of noncompliance with the school attendance requirements.⁸⁵

Section 322.091(5), F.S., requires DHSMV to report quarterly to each school district certain information regarding each student whose driving privileges have been suspended for not meeting the school attendance requirements. According to DHSMV, it has automated this function and any school needing this information can now access it on-line and in real time.⁸⁶

Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 322.091(5), F.S., providing that instead of submitting printed quarterly reports to school districts, DHSMV will make available, upon request, a report providing information regarding students whose driving privilege has been suspended for not meeting school attendance requirements. The current on-line access to truancy information available to school districts remains unchanged.

⁸¹ <http://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/post-traumatic-stress-disorder/home/ovc-20308548> (Last visited February 21, 2017).

⁸² <http://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/traumatic-brain-injury/basics/definition/con-20029302> (Last visited February 21, 2017).

⁸³ This is in accordance with s. 1003.21(3), F.S., which authorizes a district school superintendent to authorize certificates of exemptions from school attendance requirements in certain situations.

⁸⁴ Hardship waivers are granted pursuant to s. 322.091(3), F.S.

⁸⁵ Section 322.091(1), F.S.

⁸⁶ DHSMV 2017 Legislative Concepts

Stolen Identification Cards (Section 17)

Current Situation

Section 322.17(1)(b), F.S., provides that in the event that a learner permit or driver license is stolen, the person to whom the driver license or learner permit was issued may, at no charge, obtain a replacement upon furnishing proof satisfactory to DHSMV that the learner's permit or driver license was stolen and further furnishing the full name, date of birth, sex, residence and mailing address, proof of birth satisfactory to DHSMV, and proof of identity satisfactory to DHSMV.

There is no corresponding provision in statute providing for the free replacement of stolen identification cards.

Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 322.17(1)(b), F.S., authorizing a person to receive a replacement for a stolen identification card at no charge, by providing proof that the identification card was stolen and furnishing the required information to DHSMV.

Replacement Driver Licenses (Section 18)

Current Situation

Section 322.21(1)(e), F. S., provides that the fee for a replacement driver license is \$25.⁸⁷ From this amount \$7 is deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund and \$18 is deposited into the General Revenue Fund. Beginning July 1, 2015, or upon the completion of the transition of driver license issuance services, if the tax collector issues the replacement driver license, the \$7 that is currently deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund is retained by the tax collector.

Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 322.21(1)(e), F.S., removing obsolete language regarding the transfer of driver license issuance services to the tax collector. The transfer of driver license services to tax collectors has been completed.

Specialty Driver Licenses (Section 18)

Current Situation

Section 322.1415, F.S., created the specialty driver license and identification card program. DHSMV was authorized to issue to any applicant qualified pursuant to s. 322.14, F.S.,⁸⁸ a specialty driver license or identification card upon payment of the appropriate fee pursuant to s. 322.21, F.S.⁸⁹ Any specialty driver license or identification card approved by DHSMV had to be available for state and independent universities domiciled in Florida, all Florida professional sports teams⁹⁰ and all branches of the United States Armed Forces. Section 322.1415, F.S., was repealed as of August 31, 2016. According to DHSMV, there was no interest on behalf of the various entities eligible for specialty driver licenses to move forward with the concept and no specialty driver licenses were ever issued.⁹¹

Section 322.21(1)(i), F.S., provides for the fees related to a specialty driver license or identification card. The fee is \$25, which is distributed as follows:

- Fifty-percent is distributed as provided in the specialty license plate statute⁹² to the appropriate state or independent university, professional sports team, or branch of the United States Armed Forces.

⁸⁷ Replacement driver licenses are issued pursuant to s. 322.17, F.S.

⁸⁸ Section 322.14, F.S., relates to licenses issued to drivers.

⁸⁹ Section 322.21, F.S., relates to driver license fees.

⁹⁰ Florida professional sports teams are designated pursuant to s. 320.08058(9)(a), F.S.

⁹¹ Email from DHSMV, February 16, 2017. (Copy on file with Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee).

⁹² Section 320.08058, F.S.,

- Fifty percent is distributed to DHSMV for costs directly related to the specialty driver license and identification card program and to defray the costs associated with production enhancements and distribution.

Proposed Change

The bill repeals s. 322.21(1)(i), F.S., providing for the fee and distribution associated with the repealed specialty driver license and identification card program.

Expedited Shipping Service (Section 18)

Current Situation

Section 319.323, F.S., authorizes a \$10 service fee for customers to receive a motor vehicle title in an expedited time frame.⁹³ However, current law does not authorize DHSMV to collect an expedited shipping fee related to driver licenses and identification cards.

Section 322.21, F.S., relates to driver license fees and the procedures for handling and collecting these fees. Additionally, this section provides for the distribution of fees associated with various driver license services.

Proposed Changes

The bill creates s. 322.21(10), F.S., providing that an applicant for a renewal or duplicate driver license or identification card submitted to DHSMV using a convenience service will be provided with an option for expedited shipping where DHSMV at the applicant's request, issues the driver license or identification card within 5 working days after receiving the application and ship the driver license or identification card using an expedited mail. A fee will be charged for the expedited shipping option, not to exceed the cost of expedited mail service, which is in addition to the fees imposed by s. 322.051, F.S.,⁹⁴ or s. 322.21, F.S.,⁹⁵ for the convenience service. Fees collected for the expedited shipping option will be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1 amends s. 316.2397, F.S., relating to certain lights prohibited; exceptions.

Section 2 amends s. 316.2398, F.S., relating to the display or use of warning signals on motor vehicles of volunteer fire fighters or medical staff.

Section 3 amends s. 320.302, F.S., relating to commercial motor vehicles.

Section 4 amends s. 316.3025, F.S., relating to commercial motor vehicle penalties.

Section 5 amends s. 320.01, F.S., revising the definition of "apportionable vehicle."

Section 6 amends s. 320.06, F.S., relating to registration certificates, license plates, and validation stickers.

Section 7 amends s. 320.0605, F.S., relating to certificates of registration and required possession.

Section 8 amends s. 320.0607, F.S., relating to replacement license plates, validation decals, or mobile home stickers.

Section 9 repeals s. 320.08058(70)(d), F.S., relating to the Hispanic Achievers license plate.

⁹³ This is in addition to other fees associated with obtaining a motor vehicle title.

⁹⁴ Section 322.051, F.S., relates to identification cards.

⁹⁵ Section 322.21, F.S., provides for license fees.

Section 10 creates s. 320.08075, F.S., creating the Purple Heart motorcycle special license plate.

Section 11 amends s. 320.089, F.S., relating to special license plates.

Section 12 amends s. 320.133, F.S., relating to transporter license plates.

Section 13 amends s. 321.25, F.S., relating to training provided at patrol schools.

Section 14 amends s. 322.01, F.S., relating to definitions used in Ch. 322, F.S.

Section 15 amends s. 322.051, F.S., relating to identification cards.

Section 16 amends s. 322.091, F.S., relating to attendance requirements.

Section 17 amends s. 322.17, F.S., relating to replacement licenses and permits.

Section 18 amends s. 322.21, F.S., relating to license fees and the procedures for handling and collecting license fees.

Section 19 amends s. 322.61, F.S., relating to the disqualification from operating a commercial motor vehicle.

Section 20 provides an effective date of October 1, 2017.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

The bill amends several sections of statute to comply with FMCSA compatibility requirements. According to DHSMV, Florida failing to comply with FMCSA compatibility requirements could lead to a reduction of up to 4 percent of the state's Federal-aid highway funds for the first year of noncompliance and up to 8 percent of loss of Federal-aid highway funds for second or subsequent years of noncompliance. Additionally, noncompliance could lead to the loss in the awarding of potential future highway grants.⁹⁶

Current law allows individuals free replacement of their driver license if they prove it was stolen. The bill extends this free replacement policy for identification cards when their identification cards are stolen. The number of individuals who may take advantage of this provision is unknown; therefore, the negative revenue impact is indeterminate, but likely insignificant.

Current law requires an individual who attends DHSMV's training program to remain employed by DHSMV for a minimum of two years. If the employee leaves within two years, he or she is required to reimburse DHSMV for the full cost of his or her tuition and course expenses. The bill extends the employment requirement from two years to three years. The average cost of training is \$12,386 per employee. According to DHSMV, there were approximately 37 employees who resigned between two and three years of employment. The total expected positive impact is \$458,282.

⁹⁶ Email from DHSMV, February 17, 2017. (Copy on file with Transportation & Highway Safety Subcommittee).

Classifying charter buses as apportionable vehicles may change the registration fees for these vehicles. The actual change for any specific vehicle is based on motor vehicle details, jurisdictions where the vehicle travels, and the mileage percentages in each of the jurisdictions. Because the details of these transactions cannot be quantified at this time, the revenue impact is indeterminate.⁹⁷

Revenues collected from those eligible individuals willing to pay the \$1 fee for adding the “D” designation to an identification card will be deposited into the Agency for Persons with Disabilities Operations and Maintenance Trust Fund, though the number of individuals who may add the designation is unknown.

Revenues collected from the sale of the Bronze Star license plate will be deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund within the Department of Veterans’ Affairs.

2. Expenditures:

Based on the department’s estimated costs for similar special use plates, an order of 2,200 license plates would be made ($2,200 \times \$2.82 = \$6,204$) for each newly created plate, and distributed to Tax Collector Offices statewide to meet public demand. The total cost to produce and distribute the 2 new special use plates would be approximately \$12,408. Additionally, based on previous estimates of similar special use plates, approximately 87 programming hours, or the equivalent of \$3,500 in FTE and contracted resources will be required in order to implement this provision. This impact can be absorbed within existing resources.

The department may experience a workload decrease as it will no longer be required to submit school truancy reports on a quarterly basis. This impact is likely insignificant.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

Under current law, when a replacement identification card transaction is performed by a county tax collector, the tax collector retains the \$9 that would otherwise be collected by DHSMV. To the extent that individuals receive free replacement identification cards when their identification cards are stolen, the bill will have a negative impact to local government revenues. The number of individuals who may take advantage of this provision is unknown; therefore, the negative revenue impact is indeterminate, but likely insignificant.

2. Expenditures:

The bill creates three new misdemeanor offenses relating to transporter license plates businesses and use of transporter license plates. To the extent that persons are subject to the criminal penalties of these new offenses, the bill may likely result in an indeterminate positive jail bed impact on local governments (i.e., increase the need for jail beds).

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

There is a potential impact to the CMV industry associated with changes to the CMV regulations contained in the bill; however, the impact is indeterminate at this time.

Classifying charter buses as apportionable vehicles may change the registration fees for these vehicles; however, the actual change for any specific vehicle is based on motor vehicle details, jurisdictions where the vehicle travels, and the mileage percentages in each of the jurisdictions.⁹⁸

⁹⁷ Email from DHSMV. February 16, 2017. (Copy on file with Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee).

⁹⁸ Email from DHSMV. February 16, 2017. (Copy on file with Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee).

Individuals who do not remain employed with FHP for three years after graduating from the academy may be required to reimburse DHSMV for its training costs. The cost is approximately \$12,386. According to DHSMV since 2012, 86 members resigned from FHP within two years of completing training. An additional 37 members resigned within three years of completing the academy.⁹⁹

Individuals whose identification cards are stolen will see a reduction in costs since they will be able to obtain a replacement card at no cost.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not Applicable. This bill does not appear to require counties or municipalities to spend funds or take action requiring the expenditures of funds; reduce the authority that counties or municipalities have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/ COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

On February 22, 2017, the Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee adopted a strike-all amendment and reported the bill favorable as a committee substitute. In summary the strike-all amendment:

- Corrected drafting errors.
- Authorized volunteer firefighter vehicles to use red or red and white lights.
- Authorized the electronic display of rental car agreements and provided liability provisions.
- Repealed an obsolete provision related to the Hispanic Achievers specialty license plate.
- Created the Purple Heart motor cycle special license plate.
- Created the Bronze Star special license plate.
- Authorized the "D" designation on the identification card for persons with PTSD and TBI.

This analysis is written to the committee substitute as passed out of the Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee.

On March 15, 2017, the Transportation & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee adopted two amendments and reported the bill favorably as a committee substitute. In summary, the amendments removed provisions redirecting revenues collected from driver license reexamination fees and driver license reinstatement fees from the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund to county tax collectors.

⁹⁹ Email from DHSMV. February 17, 2017. (Copy on file with Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee).
STORAGE NAME: h0545c.TTA
DATE: 3/16/2017

This analysis is written to the committee substitute as passed out of the Transportation & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee.