



509380

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/12/2019	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

---

The Committee on Judiciary (Baxley) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. Effective September 1, 2020, paragraph (a) of  
subsection (1) and subsection (5) of section 320.055, Florida  
Statutes, are amended to read:

320.055 Registration periods; renewal periods.—The  
following registration periods and renewal periods are  
established:

(1) (a) For a motor vehicle subject to registration under s.



509380

12 320.08(1), (2), (3), (4)(a) or (b), (5)(b), (c), (d), or (f),  
13 (6)(a), (7), (8), (9), or (10) and owned by a natural person,  
14 the registration period begins the first day of the birth month  
15 of the owner and ends the last day of the month immediately  
16 preceding the owner's birth month in the succeeding year. If  
17 such vehicle is registered in the name of more than one person,  
18 the birth month of the person whose name first appears on the  
19 registration shall be used to determine the registration period.  
20 For a vehicle subject to this registration period, the renewal  
21 period is the 30-day period ending at midnight on the vehicle  
22 owner's date of birth.

23 (5) For a vehicle subject to apportioned registration under  
24 s. 320.08(4)(c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l),  
25 (m), or (n) ~~s. 320.08(4)~~, (5)(a)1. or, (6)(b), or (14), the  
26 registration period shall be a period of 12 months beginning in  
27 a month designated by the department and ending on the last day  
28 of the 12th month. For a vehicle subject to this registration  
29 period, the renewal period is the last month of the registration  
30 period. The registration period may be shortened or extended at  
31 the discretion of the department, on receipt of the appropriate  
32 prorated fees, in order to evenly distribute such registrations  
33 on a monthly basis. For a vehicle subject to nonapportioned  
34 registration under s. 320.08(4)(c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h),  
35 (i), (j), (k), (l), (m), or (n) ~~s. 320.08(4)~~, (5)(a)1., (6)(b),  
36 or (14), the registration period begins December 1 and ends  
37 November 30. The renewal period is the 31-day period beginning  
38 December 1.

39 Section 2. Beginning September 1, 2020, in order to  
40 implement the changes made by this act to s. 320.055, Florida



41 Statutes, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles  
42 shall give customers the option to renew their registrations on  
43 their dates of birth in 2021 or 2022. Customers whose dates of  
44 birth occur in the months of January through June may choose to  
45 renew for 1 to 18 months. Customers whose dates of birth occur  
46 in the months of July through December may choose to renew for 7  
47 to 24 months.

48 Section 3. Subsection (7) of section 320.0609, Florida  
49 Statutes, is amended to read:

50 320.0609 Transfer and exchange of registration license  
51 plates; transfer fee.—

52 (7) A surviving spouse of a registered owner of any motor  
53 vehicle may, upon presenting the death certificate, request a  
54 registration certificate and transfer of the registration  
55 license plate. If the surviving spouse does not present the  
56 death certificate, the department or its agent may verify the  
57 necessary information through the electronic file of death  
58 records maintained by the Department of Health.

59 Section 4. Effective September 1, 2020, paragraph (a) of  
60 subsection (2) of section 320.07, Florida Statutes, is amended  
61 to read:

62 320.07 Expiration of registration; renewal required;  
63 penalties.—

64 (2) Registration shall be renewed semiannually, annually,  
65 or biennially, as provided in this subsection, during the  
66 applicable renewal period, upon payment of the applicable  
67 license tax amounts required by s. 320.08, service charges  
68 required by s. 320.04, and any additional fees required by law.

69 (a) Any person who owns a motor vehicle registered under s.



509380

70 320.08(4)(c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), (m),  
71 or (n) ~~s. 320.08(4)~~, (6)(b), or (13) may register semiannually  
72 as provided in s. 320.0705.

73 Section 5. Effective September 1, 2020, subsection (1) of  
74 section 320.0705, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

75 320.0705 Semiannual registration or renewal for certain  
76 vehicles.—

77 (1) The owner of a motor vehicle taxed under s.  
78 320.08(4)(c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), (m),  
79 or (n) ~~s. 320.08(4)~~ or (6)(b) may register his or her vehicle  
80 semiannually, if the amount of license tax due annually is more  
81 than \$100 and the vehicle registration fee is not required to be  
82 apportioned, upon payment of a fee of \$2.50 for each semiannual  
83 registration.

84 Section 6. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section  
85 328.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

86 328.01 Application for certificate of title.—

87 (3)

88 (c) In making application for transfer of title from a  
89 deceased titled owner, the new owner or surviving coowner shall  
90 establish proof of ownership by submitting with the application  
91 the original certificate of title and the decedent's probated  
92 last will and testament or letters of administration appointing  
93 the personal representative of the decedent. In lieu of a  
94 probated last will and testament or letters of administration, a  
95 copy of the decedent's death certificate, a copy of the  
96 decedent's last will and testament, and an affidavit by the  
97 decedent's surviving spouse or heirs affirming rights of  
98 ownership may be accepted by the department. If the decedent



99 died intestate, a court order awarding the ownership of the  
100 vessel or an affidavit by the decedent's surviving spouse or  
101 heirs establishing or releasing all rights of ownership and a  
102 copy of the decedent's death certificate shall be submitted to  
103 the department. If the new owner or surviving coowner does not  
104 present a copy of the death certificate, the department or its  
105 agent may verify the necessary information through the  
106 electronic file of death records maintained by the Department of  
107 Health.

108 Section 7. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this  
109 act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2019.

110  
111 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

112 And the title is amended as follows:

113 Delete everything before the enacting clause  
114 and insert:

115 A bill to be entitled  
116 An act relating to registration and titling of  
117 vehicles and vessels; amending s. 320.055, F.S.;  
118 revising registration periods for certain vehicles;  
119 requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor  
120 Vehicles to prorate registration renewals for  
121 customers in order to implement changes made by the  
122 act; amending s. 320.0609, F.S.; authorizing the  
123 department or its agent to verify necessary  
124 information through the electronic file of death  
125 records maintained by the Department of Health for a  
126 surviving spouse of a motor vehicle owner when  
127 requesting a registration certificate and license



509380

128       plate transfer; amending ss. 320.07 and 320.0705,  
129       F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the  
130       act; amending s. 328.01, F.S.; authorizing the  
131       Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles or its  
132       agent to verify necessary information through the  
133       electronic file of death records maintained by the  
134       Department of Health for a new owner or surviving  
135       coowner of a vessel when applying for transfer of  
136       title; providing effective dates.