

1 A bill to be entitled  
2 An act relating to services provided by the Department  
3 of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles or its agents;  
4 amending s. 319.28, F.S.; providing that a certain  
5 affidavit establishes a presumption of ownership and  
6 right of possession to a motor vehicle or mobile home  
7 the previous owner of which died testate; requiring  
8 the attesting attorney to provide to the department a  
9 current copy of his or her certificate of good  
10 standing issued by The Florida Bar; amending s.  
11 319.29, F.S.; prohibiting the department or a tax  
12 collector from charging a fee for reissuance of  
13 certain certificates of title; amending s. 320.06,  
14 F.S.; authorizing permanent registration of certain  
15 rental trucks; authorizing the department to deem a  
16 license plate with reduced dimensions to be necessary  
17 to accommodate trailers; amending s. 320.084, F.S.;  
18 authorizing certain disabled veterans to be issued a  
19 military license plate or specialty license plate in  
20 lieu of a "DV" license plate; specifying applicable  
21 fees; specifying nonapplicability of certain  
22 provisions; amending s. 320.131, F.S.; authorizing the  
23 department to design, issue, and regulate the use of  
24 temporary tags where the existing owner of a vehicle  
25 has submitted an application to transfer a valid out-

26 of-state title that is subject to a lien; authorizing  
 27 the department to design, issue, and regulate the use  
 28 of temporary tags where an active-duty military  
 29 servicemember who has a valid Florida driver license  
 30 provides evidence satisfactory to the department that  
 31 he or she is deployed outside this state; providing  
 32 the period of validity of such temporary tags;  
 33 removing provisions requiring a written, notarized  
 34 request for the purchase of a temporary tag; providing  
 35 an effective date.

36  
 37 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

38  
 39 Section 1. Paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (1) of  
 40 section 319.28, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs  
 41 (d) and (e), respectively, and a new paragraph (c) is added to  
 42 that subsection to read:

43 319.28 Transfer of ownership by operation of law.—

44 (1)

45 (c) If the previous owner died testate and the application  
 46 for a certificate of title is made by, and accompanied by an  
 47 affidavit attested by, a Florida-licensed attorney in good  
 48 standing with The Florida Bar who is representing the previous  
 49 owner's estate, such affidavit shall, for purposes of paragraph  
 50 (a), establish a presumption of ownership, absent information

51 received to the contrary, and right of possession to the motor  
52 vehicle or mobile home, so long as the affidavit sets forth the  
53 rightful heir or heirs and the attorney attests in the affidavit  
54 that such heir or heirs are lawfully entitled to the rights of  
55 ownership and possession of the motor vehicle or mobile home.  
56 The attesting attorney shall provide to the department a current  
57 copy of his or her certificate of good standing issued by The  
58 Florida Bar. It shall not be necessary for the application for  
59 certificate of title filed under this paragraph to be  
60 accompanied by a copy of the will or other testamentary  
61 instrument.

62 Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 319.29, Florida  
63 Statutes, is amended to read:

64 319.29 Lost or destroyed certificates.—

65 (3) If, following the issuance of an original, duplicate,  
66 or corrected certificate of title by the department, the  
67 certificate is lost in transit and is not delivered to the  
68 addressee, the owner of the motor vehicle or mobile home, or the  
69 holder of a lien thereon, may, within 180 days of the date of  
70 issuance of the title, apply to the department for reissuance of  
71 the certificate of title. An ~~No~~ additional fee shall not be  
72 charged by the department or a tax collector, as agent for the  
73 department, for reissuance under this subsection.

74 Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and paragraph  
75 (a) of subsection (3) of section 320.06, Florida Statutes, are

76 | amended to read:

77 |       320.06 Registration certificates, license plates, and  
78 | validation stickers generally.—

79 |       (1)

80 |       (b)1. Registration license plates bearing a graphic symbol  
81 | and the alphanumeric system of identification shall be issued  
82 | for a 10-year period. At the end of the 10-year period, upon  
83 | renewal, the plate shall be replaced. The department shall  
84 | extend the scheduled license plate replacement date from a 6-  
85 | year period to a 10-year period. The fee for such replacement is  
86 | \$28, \$2.80 of which shall be paid each year before the plate is  
87 | replaced, to be credited toward the next \$28 replacement fee.  
88 | The fees shall be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating  
89 | Trust Fund. A credit or refund may not be given for any prior  
90 | years' payments of the prorated replacement fee if the plate is  
91 | replaced or surrendered before the end of the 10-year period,  
92 | except that a credit may be given if a registrant is required by  
93 | the department to replace a license plate under s.

94 | 320.08056(8) (a). With each license plate, a validation sticker  
95 | shall be issued showing the owner's birth month, license plate  
96 | number, and the year of expiration or the appropriate renewal  
97 | period if the owner is not a natural person. The validation  
98 | sticker shall be placed on the upper right corner of the license  
99 | plate. The license plate and validation sticker shall be issued  
100 | based on the applicant's appropriate renewal period. The

101 registration period is 12 months, the extended registration  
102 period is 24 months, and all expirations occur based on the  
103 applicant's appropriate registration period. Rental vehicles  
104 taxed pursuant to s. 320.08(6)(a) and rental trucks taxed  
105 pursuant to s. 320.08(3)(a), (b), and (c) and (4)(a)-(d) may  
106 elect a permanent registration period, provided payment of the  
107 appropriate license taxes and fees occurs annually.

108 2. A vehicle that has an apportioned registration shall be  
109 issued an annual license plate and a cab card that denote the  
110 declared gross vehicle weight for each apportioned jurisdiction  
111 in which the vehicle is authorized to operate. This subparagraph  
112 expires June 30, 2024.

113 3. Beginning July 1, 2024, a vehicle registered in  
114 accordance with the International Registration Plan must be  
115 issued a license plate for a 3-year period. At the end of the 3-  
116 year period, upon renewal, the license plate must be replaced.  
117 Each license plate must include a validation sticker showing the  
118 month of expiration. A cab card denoting the declared gross  
119 vehicle weight for each apportioned jurisdiction must be issued  
120 annually. The fee for an original or a renewal cab card is \$28,  
121 which must be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust  
122 Fund. If the license plate is damaged or worn, it may be  
123 replaced at no charge by applying to the department and  
124 surrendering the current license plate.

125 4. In order to retain the efficient administration of the

126 taxes and fees imposed by this chapter, the 80-cent fee increase  
127 in the replacement fee imposed by chapter 2009-71, Laws of  
128 Florida, is negated as provided in s. 320.0804.

129 (3)(a) Registration license plates must be made of metal  
130 specially treated with a retroreflection material, as specified  
131 by the department. The registration license plate is designed to  
132 increase nighttime visibility and legibility and must be at  
133 least 6 inches wide and not less than 12 inches in length,  
134 unless a plate with reduced dimensions is deemed necessary by  
135 the department to accommodate motorcycles, mopeds, ~~or~~ similar  
136 smaller vehicles, or trailers. Validation stickers must also be  
137 treated with a retroreflection material, must be of such size as  
138 specified by the department, and must adhere to the license  
139 plate. The registration license plate must be imprinted with a  
140 combination of bold letters and numerals or numerals, not to  
141 exceed seven digits, to identify the registration license plate  
142 number. The license plate must be imprinted with the word  
143 "Florida" at the top and the name of the county in which it is  
144 sold, the state motto, or the words "Sunshine State" at the  
145 bottom. Apportioned license plates must have the word  
146 "Apportioned" at the bottom, and license plates issued for  
147 vehicles taxed under s. 320.08(3)(d), (4)(m) or (n), (5)(b) or  
148 (c), or (14) must have the word "Restricted" at the bottom.  
149 License plates issued for vehicles taxed under s. 320.08(12)  
150 must be imprinted with the word "Florida" at the top and the

151 word "Dealer" at the bottom unless the license plate is a  
152 specialty license plate as authorized in s. 320.08056.  
153 Manufacturer license plates issued for vehicles taxed under s.  
154 320.08(12) must be imprinted with the word "Florida" at the top  
155 and the word "Manufacturer" at the bottom. License plates issued  
156 for vehicles taxed under s. 320.08(5)(d) or (e) must be  
157 imprinted with the word "Wrecker" at the bottom. Any county may,  
158 upon majority vote of the county commission, elect to have the  
159 county name removed from the license plates sold in that county.  
160 The state motto or the words "Sunshine State" shall be printed  
161 in lieu thereof. A license plate issued for a vehicle taxed  
162 under s. 320.08(6) may not be assigned a registration license  
163 number, or be issued with any other distinctive character or  
164 designation, that distinguishes the motor vehicle as a for-hire  
165 motor vehicle.

166 Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 320.084, Florida  
167 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (6) is added to that  
168 section, to read:

169 320.084 Free motor vehicle license plate to certain  
170 disabled veterans.—

171 (1) One free "DV" motor vehicle license number plate shall  
172 be issued by the department for use on any motor vehicle owned  
173 or leased by any disabled veteran who has been a resident of  
174 this state continuously for the preceding 5 years or has  
175 established a domicile in this state as provided by s.

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176 222.17(1), (2), or (3), and who has been honorably discharged  
177 from the United States Armed Forces, upon application,  
178 accompanied by proof that:

179 (a) A vehicle was initially acquired through financial  
180 assistance by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs  
181 or its predecessor specifically for the purchase of an  
182 automobile;

183 (b) The applicant has been determined by the United States  
184 Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor to have a  
185 service-connected 100-percent disability rating for  
186 compensation; or

187 (c) The applicant has been determined to have a service-  
188 connected disability rating of 100 percent and is in receipt of  
189 disability retirement pay from any branch of the United States  
190 Armed Services.

191 (6)(a) A disabled veteran who meets the requirements of  
192 subsection (1) may be issued, in lieu of the "DV" license plate,  
193 a military license plate for which he or she is eligible or a  
194 specialty license plate. A disabled veteran electing a military  
195 license plate or specialty license plate under this subsection  
196 must pay all applicable fees related to such license plate,  
197 except for fees otherwise waived under subsections (1) and (4).

198 (b) A military license plate or specialty license plate  
199 elected under this subsection:

200 1. Does not provide the protections or rights afforded by



201 ss. 316.1955, 316.1964, 320.0848, 526.141, and 553.5041.

202 2. Is not eligible for the international symbol of  
203 accessibility as described in s. 320.0842.

204 Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 320.131, Florida  
205 Statutes, is amended, and paragraphs (m) and (n) are added to  
206 subsection (1) of that section, to read:

207 320.131 Temporary tags.—

208 (1) The department is authorized and empowered to design,  
209 issue, and regulate the use of temporary tags to be designated  
210 "temporary tags" for use in the following cases:

211 (m) Where the existing owner of a vehicle has submitted an  
212 application to transfer a valid out-of-state title that is  
213 subject to a lien. A temporary tag issued for this purpose shall  
214 be valid for 60 days.

215 (n) Where an active-duty military servicemember who has a  
216 valid Florida driver license provides evidence satisfactory to  
217 the department that he or she is deployed outside this state. A  
218 temporary tag issued for this purpose shall be valid for 60  
219 days.

220  
221 Further, the department is authorized to disallow the purchase  
222 of temporary tags by licensed dealers, common carriers, or  
223 financial institutions in those cases where abuse has occurred.

224 (2) The department ~~may is authorized to~~ sell temporary  
225 tags, in addition to those listed above, to its ~~their~~ agents and

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226 | where need is demonstrated by a consumer complainant. The fee  
227 | for a temporary tag issued under this section shall be \$2 each.  
228 | One dollar from each tag sold shall be deposited into the Brain  
229 | and Spinal Cord Injury Program Trust Fund, with the remaining  
230 | proceeds being deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust  
231 | Fund. Agents of the department shall sell temporary tags for \$2  
232 | each and shall charge the service charge authorized by s. 320.04  
233 | per transaction, regardless of the quantity sold. ~~Requests for~~  
234 | ~~purchase of temporary tags to the department or its agents shall~~  
235 | ~~be made, where applicable, on letterhead stationery and~~  
236 | ~~notarized.~~ Except as specifically provided otherwise, a  
237 | temporary tag issued under this section shall be valid for 30  
238 | days, and no more than two shall be issued to the same person  
239 | for the same vehicle.

240 |       Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.