

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 783

FINAL READING

Introduced by Lindstrom, 18.

Read first time January 07, 2016

Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Motor Vehicle Registration Act; to
2 amend sections 60-316, 60-317, 60-3,101, and 60-3,151, Reissue
3 Revised Statutes of Nebraska, sections 60-3,147, 60-3,148, and
4 60-3,221, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2014, and sections
5 60-301, 60-302, and 60-3,104, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2015; to
6 define and redefine terms; to provide for registration of public
7 power district vehicles as prescribed; to provide fees; to provide
8 duties for the Department of Motor Vehicles; to change provisions
9 relating to increase of gross vehicle weight and trailer towing
10 restrictions; to harmonize provisions; to provide an operative date;
11 and to repeal the original sections.
12 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 60-301, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2015, is
2 amended to read:

3 60-301 Sections 60-301 to 60-3,225 and sections 5, 11, and 12 of
4 this act shall be known and may be cited as the Motor Vehicle
5 Registration Act.

6 Sec. 2. Section 60-302, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2015, is
7 amended to read:

8 60-302 For purposes of the Motor Vehicle Registration Act, unless
9 the context otherwise requires, the definitions found in sections
10 60-302.01 to 60-360 and section 5 of this act shall be used.

11 Sec. 3. Section 60-316, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
12 amended to read:

13 60-316 Commercial motor vehicle means any motor vehicle used or
14 maintained for the transportation of persons or property for hire,
15 compensation, or profit or designed, used, or maintained primarily for
16 the transportation of property and does not include farm trucks or public
17 power district motor vehicles.

18 Sec. 4. Section 60-317, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
19 amended to read:

20 60-317 Commercial trailer means any trailer or semitrailer which has
21 a gross weight, including load thereon, of more than nine thousand pounds
22 and which is designed, used, or maintained for the transportation of
23 persons or property for hire, compensation, or profit or designed, used,
24 or maintained primarily for the transportation of property. Commercial
25 trailer does not include cabin trailers, farm trailers, fertilizer
26 trailers, ~~or~~ utility trailers, or public power district trailers.

27 Sec. 5. Public power district means a district as defined by
28 section 70-601 receiving annual gross revenue of at least forty million
29 dollars as determined by the Nebraska Power Review Board.

30 Sec. 6. Section 60-3,101, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
31 amended to read:

1 60-3,101 Except for license plates issued pursuant to section
2 60-3,203 and section 11 of this act, license plates shall be issued every
3 six years beginning with the license plates issued in the year 2005.
4 Except for plates issued pursuant to such sections ~~section~~, in the years
5 in which plates are not issued, in lieu of issuing such license plates,
6 the department shall furnish to every person whose motor vehicle or
7 trailer is registered one or two validation decals, as the case may be,
8 which validation decals shall bear the year for which issued and be so
9 constructed as to permit them to be permanently affixed to the plates.

10 Sec. 7. Section 60-3,104, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2015, is
11 amended to read:

12 60-3,104 The department shall issue the following types of license
13 plates:

14 (1) Amateur radio station license plates issued pursuant to section
15 60-3,126;

16 (2) Apportionable vehicle license plates issued pursuant to section
17 60-3,203;

18 (3) Autocycle license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,100;

19 (4) Boat dealer license plates issued pursuant to section 60-379;

20 (5) Bus license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,144;

21 (6) Commercial motor vehicle license plates issued pursuant to
22 section 60-3,147;

23 (7) Dealer or manufacturer license plates issued pursuant to
24 sections 60-3,114 and 60-3,115;

25 (8) Disabled veteran license plates issued pursuant to section
26 60-3,124;

27 (9) Farm trailer license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,151;

28 (10) Farm truck license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,146;

29 (11) Farm trucks with a gross weight of over sixteen tons license
30 plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,146;

31 (12) Fertilizer trailer license plates issued pursuant to section

1 60-3,151;

2 (13) Gold Star Family license plates issued pursuant to sections
3 60-3,122.01 and 60-3,122.02;

4 (14) Handicapped or disabled person license plates issued pursuant
5 to section 60-3,113;

6 (15) Historical vehicle license plates issued pursuant to sections
7 60-3,130 to 60-3,134;

8 (16) Local truck license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,145;

9 (17) Military Honor Plates issued pursuant to sections 60-3,122.03
10 and 60-3,122.04;

11 (18) Minitruck license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,100;

12 (19) Motor vehicle license plates for motor vehicles owned or
13 operated by the state, counties, municipalities, or school districts
14 issued pursuant to section 60-3,105;

15 (20) Motor vehicles exempt pursuant to section 60-3,107;

16 (21) Motorcycle license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,100;

17 (22) Nebraska Cornhusker Spirit Plates issued pursuant to sections
18 60-3,127 to 60-3,129;

19 (23) Nebraska 150 Sesquicentennial Plates issued pursuant to
20 sections 60-3,223 to 60-3,225;

21 (24) Nonresident owner thirty-day license plates issued pursuant to
22 section 60-382;

23 (25) Passenger car having a seating capacity of ten persons or less
24 and not used for hire issued pursuant to section 60-3,143 other than
25 autocycles;

26 (26) Passenger car having a seating capacity of ten persons or less
27 and used for hire issued pursuant to section 60-3,143 other than
28 autocycles;

29 (27) Pearl Harbor license plates issued pursuant to section
30 60-3,122;

31 (28) Personal-use dealer license plates issued pursuant to section

1 60-3,116;

2 (29) Personalized message license plates for motor vehicles and
3 cabin trailers, except commercial motor vehicles registered for over ten
4 tons gross weight, issued pursuant to sections 60-3,118 to 60-3,121;

5 (30) Prisoner-of-war license plates issued pursuant to section
6 60-3,123;

7 (31) Public power district license plates issued pursuant to section
8 11 of this act;

9 (32 ~~31~~) Purple Heart license plates issued pursuant to section
10 60-3,125;

11 (33 ~~32~~) Recreational vehicle license plates issued pursuant to
12 section 60-3,151;

13 (34 ~~33~~) Repossession license plates issued pursuant to section
14 60-375;

15 (35 ~~34~~) Special interest motor vehicle license plates issued
16 pursuant to section 60-3,135.01;

17 (36 ~~35~~) Specialty license plates issued pursuant to sections
18 60-3,104.01 and 60-3,104.02;

19 (37 ~~36~~) Trailer license plates issued for trailers owned or operated
20 by the state, counties, municipalities, or school districts issued
21 pursuant to section 60-3,106;

22 (38 ~~37~~) Trailer license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,100;

23 (39) Trailer license plates issued for trailers owned or operated by
24 a public power district pursuant to section 11 of this act;

25 (40 ~~38~~) Trailers exempt pursuant to section 60-3,108;

26 (41 ~~39~~) Transporter license plates issued pursuant to section
27 60-378;

28 (42 ~~40~~) Trucks or combinations of trucks, truck-tractors, or
29 trailers which are not for hire and engaged in soil and water
30 conservation work and used for the purpose of transporting pipe and
31 equipment exclusively used by such contractors for soil and water

1 conservation construction license plates issued pursuant to section
2 60-3,149;

3 (~~43~~ 44) Utility trailer license plates issued pursuant to section
4 60-3,151; and

5 (~~44~~ 42) Well-boring apparatus and well-servicing equipment license
6 plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,109.

7 Sec. 8. Section 60-3,147, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
8 2014, is amended to read:

9 60-3,147 (1) The registration fee on commercial motor vehicles and
10 public power district motor vehicles, except those motor vehicles
11 registered under section 60-3,198, shall be based upon the gross vehicle
12 weight, not to exceed the maximum authorized by section 60-6,294.

13 (2) The registration fee on commercial motor vehicles and public
14 power district motor vehicles, except for motor vehicles and trailers
15 registered under section 60-3,198, shall be based on the gross vehicle
16 weight on such commercial motor vehicles or public power district motor
17 vehicles plus the gross vehicle weight of any trailer or combination with
18 which it is operated, except that for the purpose of determining the
19 registration fee, the gross vehicle weight of a commercial motor vehicle
20 towing or hauling a disabled or wrecked motor vehicle properly registered
21 for use on the highways shall be only the gross vehicle weight of the
22 towing commercial motor vehicle fully equipped and not including the
23 weight of the motor vehicle being towed or hauled.

24 (3) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, the
25 registration fee on such commercial motor vehicles and public power
26 district motor vehicles shall be at the following rates:

27 (a) For a gross vehicle weight of three tons or less, eighteen
28 dollars;

29 (b) For a gross vehicle weight exceeding three tons and not
30 exceeding four tons, twenty-five dollars;

31 (c) For a gross vehicle weight exceeding four tons and not exceeding

1 five tons, thirty-five dollars;

2 (d) For a gross vehicle weight exceeding five tons and not exceeding
3 six tons, sixty dollars;

4 (e) For a gross vehicle weight exceeding six tons but not exceeding
5 seven tons, eighty-five dollars; and

6 (f) For a gross vehicle weight in excess of seven tons, the fee
7 shall be that for a commercial motor vehicle or public power district
8 motor vehicle having a gross vehicle weight of seven tons and, in
9 addition thereto, twenty-five dollars for each ton of gross vehicle
10 weight over seven tons.

11 (4)(a) For fractional tons in excess of the twenty percent or the
12 tolerance of one thousand pounds, as provided in section 60-6,300, the
13 fee shall be computed on the basis of the next higher bracket.

14 (b) The fees provided by this section shall be reduced ten percent
15 for motor vehicles used exclusively for the transportation of
16 agricultural products.

17 (c) Fees for commercial motor vehicles or public power district
18 motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight in excess of thirty-six tons
19 shall be increased by twenty percent for all such commercial motor
20 vehicles or public power district motor vehicles operated on any highway
21 not a part of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways.

22 (5)(a) Such fee may be paid one-half at the time of registration and
23 one-half on the first day of the seventh month of the registration period
24 when the license fee exceeds two hundred ten dollars. When the second
25 half is paid, the county treasurer shall furnish a registration
26 certificate and license plates issued by the department which shall be
27 displayed on such commercial motor vehicle in the manner provided by law.
28 In addition to the registration fee, the department shall collect a
29 sufficient fee to cover the cost of issuing the certificate and license
30 plates.

31 (b) If such second half is not paid within thirty days following the

1 first day of the seventh month, the registration of such commercial motor
2 vehicle shall be canceled and the registration certificate and license
3 plates shall be returned to the county treasurer.

4 (c) Such fee shall be paid prior to any subsequent registration or
5 renewal of registration.

6 (6) Except as provided in section 11 of this act, license ~~License~~
7 plates issued under this section shall be the same size and of the same
8 basic design as regular license plates issued under section 60-3,100.

9 (7) A license plate or plates issued to a commercial motor vehicle
10 with a gross weight of five tons or over shall display, in addition to
11 the registration number, the weight that the commercial motor vehicle is
12 licensed for, using a decal on the license plate or plates of the
13 commercial motor vehicle in letters and numerals of such size and design
14 as shall be determined and issued by the department.

15 Sec. 9. Section 60-3,148, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
16 2014, is amended to read:

17 60-3,148 No owner of a commercial motor vehicle or public power
18 district motor vehicle shall be permitted to increase the gross vehicle
19 weight for which such commercial motor vehicle or public power district
20 motor vehicle is registered except at the office of the county treasurer
21 in the county where such commercial motor vehicle or public power
22 district motor vehicle is currently registered unless the need for such
23 increase occurs when such commercial motor vehicle is more than one
24 hundred miles from the county seat of such county or the public power
25 district motor vehicle is more than one hundred miles from its base
26 location, unless authorized to do so by the Nebraska State Patrol or
27 authorized state scale examiner as an emergency.

28 Sec. 10. Section 60-3,151, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
29 amended to read:

30 60-3,151 (1) For the registration of any commercial trailer or
31 semitrailer, the fee shall be one dollar.

1 (2) The fee for utility trailers shall be one dollar for each one
2 thousand pounds gross vehicle weight or fraction thereof, up to and
3 including nine thousand pounds. Except as provided in section 11 of this
4 act, utility Utility trailer license plates shall display, in addition to
5 the registration number, the letter X. Trailers other than farm trailers
6 or trailers registered under section 11 of this act of more than nine
7 thousand pounds must be registered as commercial trailers.

8 (3) The fee for cabin trailers having gross vehicle weight of one
9 thousand pounds or less shall be nine dollars and more than one thousand
10 pounds, but less than two thousand pounds, shall be twelve dollars. Cabin
11 trailers having a gross vehicle weight of two thousand pounds or more
12 shall be registered for a fee of fifteen dollars.

13 (4) Recreational vehicles having a gross vehicle weight of eight
14 thousand pounds or less shall be registered for a fee of eighteen
15 dollars, those having a gross vehicle weight of more than eight thousand
16 pounds but less than twelve thousand pounds shall be registered for
17 thirty dollars, and those having a gross vehicle weight of twelve
18 thousand pounds or over shall be registered for forty-two dollars. When
19 living quarters are added to a registered truck, a recreational vehicle
20 registration may be obtained without surrender of the truck registration,
21 in which event both the truck and recreational vehicle license plates
22 shall be displayed on the vehicle. Recreational vehicle license plates
23 shall be the same size and of the same basic design as regular license
24 plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,100.

25 (5) Farm trailers shall be licensed for a fee of one dollar, except
26 that when a farm trailer is used with a registered farm truck, such farm
27 trailer may, at the option of the owner, be registered as a separate unit
28 for a fee of three dollars per ton gross vehicle weight and, if so
29 registered, shall not be considered a truck and trailer combination for
30 purposes of sections 60-3,145 and 60-3,146. Farm trailer license plates
31 shall display, in addition to the registration number, the letter X.

1 (6) Fertilizer trailers shall be registered for a fee of one dollar.
2 Fertilizer trailer license plates shall display, in addition to the
3 registration number, the letter X.

4 (7) Trailers used to haul poles and cable reels owned and operated
5 exclusively by public utility companies or trailers used by public power
6 districts and registered pursuant to section 11 of this act shall be
7 licensed at a fee based on two dollars for each one-thousand-pound load
8 to be hauled or any fraction thereof, and such load shall not exceed
9 sixteen thousand pounds.

10 Sec. 11. (1) Upon application and payment of the fees required
11 pursuant to this section and section 12 of this act, each motor vehicle
12 and trailer operated by a public power district shall be issued permanent
13 public power district license plates. The public power district license
14 plates shall be issued by the county in which the public power district
15 is headquartered.

16 (2) Public power district vehicles shall display a distinctive
17 license plate provided by the department pursuant to this section.

18 (3) Any license plate issued pursuant to this section shall remain
19 affixed to the front and rear of the motor vehicle and to the rear of the
20 trailer as long as the public power district vehicle is registered
21 pursuant to this section by the owner or lessor making the original
22 application pursuant to subsection (1) of this section.

23 Sec. 12. The registration fee for a public power district motor
24 vehicle shall be the fee provided for commercial motor vehicles in
25 section 60-3,147. The registration fee for a public power district
26 trailer shall be the fee provided for a trailer in subsection (2) or (7),
27 as applicable, of section 60-3,151.

28 Sec. 13. Section 60-3,221, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
29 2014, is amended to read:

30 60-3,221 (1) Except as otherwise provided in the Motor Vehicle
31 Registration Act:

- 1 (a) A cabin trailer shall only be towed by a properly registered:
- 2 (i) Passenger car;
- 3 (ii) Commercial motor vehicle or apportionable vehicle;
- 4 (iii) Farm truck;
- 5 (iv) Local truck;
- 6 (v) Minitruck;
- 7 (vi) Recreational vehicle; or
- 8 (vii) Bus;
- 9 (b) A utility trailer shall only be towed by:
- 10 (i) A properly registered passenger car;
- 11 (ii) A properly registered commercial motor vehicle or apportionable
- 12 vehicle;
- 13 (iii) A properly registered farm truck;
- 14 (iv) A properly registered local truck;
- 15 (v) A properly registered minitruck;
- 16 (vi) A properly registered recreational vehicle;
- 17 (vii) A properly registered motor vehicle which is engaged in soil
- 18 and water conservation pursuant to section 60-3,149;
- 19 (viii) A properly registered well-boring apparatus;
- 20 (ix) A dealer-plated vehicle;
- 21 (x) A personal-use dealer-plated vehicle;~~or~~
- 22 (xi) A properly registered bus; or
- 23 (xii) A properly registered public power district motor vehicle;
- 24 (c) A farm trailer shall only be towed by a properly registered:
- 25 (i) Passenger car;
- 26 (ii) Commercial motor vehicle;
- 27 (iii) Farm truck; or
- 28 (iv) Minitruck;
- 29 (d) A commercial trailer shall only be towed by:
- 30 (i) A properly registered motor vehicle which is engaged in soil and
- 31 water conservation pursuant to section 60-3,149;

- 1 (ii) A properly registered local truck;
- 2 (iii) A properly registered well-boring apparatus;
- 3 (iv) A properly registered commercial motor vehicle or apportionable
- 4 vehicle;
- 5 (v) A dealer-plated vehicle;
- 6 (vi) A personal-use dealer-plated vehicle;
- 7 (vii) A properly registered bus;~~or~~
- 8 (viii) A properly registered farm truck;or
- 9 (ix) A properly registered public power district motor vehicle;
- 10 (e) A fertilizer trailer shall only be towed by a properly
- 11 registered:
- 12 (i) Passenger car;
- 13 (ii) Commercial motor vehicle or apportionable vehicle;
- 14 (iii) Farm truck; or
- 15 (iv) Local truck;
- 16 (f) A pole and cable reel trailer shall only be towed by a properly
- 17 registered:
- 18 (i) Commercial motor vehicle or apportionable vehicle;~~or~~
- 19 (ii) Local truck;or
- 20 (iii) Public power district motor vehicle;
- 21 (g) A dealer-plated trailer shall only be towed by:
- 22 (i) A dealer-plated vehicle;
- 23 (ii) A properly registered passenger car;
- 24 (iii) A properly registered commercial motor vehicle or
- 25 apportionable vehicle;
- 26 (iv) A properly registered farm truck;
- 27 (v) A properly registered minitruck; or
- 28 (vi) A personal-use dealer-plated vehicle; and
- 29 (h) Trailers registered pursuant to section 60-3,198 as part of an
- 30 apportioned fleet shall only be towed by:
- 31 (i) A properly registered motor vehicle which is engaged in soil and

1 water conservation pursuant to section 60-3,149;

2 (ii) A properly registered local truck;

3 (iii) A properly registered well-boring apparatus;

4 (iv) A properly registered commercial motor vehicle or apportionable
5 vehicle;

6 (v) A dealer-plated vehicle;

7 (vi) A personal-use dealer-plated vehicle;

8 (vii) A properly registered bus; or

9 (viii) A properly registered farm truck.

10 (2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to waive compliance
11 with the Nebraska Rules of the Road or Chapter 75.

12 (3) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit any motor
13 vehicle or trailer from displaying dealer license plates or In Transit
14 stickers authorized by section 60-376.

15 Sec. 14. This act becomes operative on January 1, 2017.

16 Sec. 15. Original sections 60-316, 60-317, 60-3,101, and 60-3,151,
17 Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, sections 60-3,147, 60-3,148, and
18 60-3,221, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2014, and sections
19 60-301, 60-302, and 60-3,104, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2015, are
20 repealed.