

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
NINETY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 485

Introduced by Lynch, 13

Read first time January 15, 1999

Committee: Transportation

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to relating to motor vehicle registration; to
2 amend sections 60-309, 60-311, 60-311.01, 60-311.02, and
3 60-311.11, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to
4 provide for an alphanumeric system of registration as
5 prescribed; to change provisions relating to personalized
6 message plates; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal
7 the original sections.

8 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 60-309, Reissue Revised Statutes of
2 Nebraska, is amended to read:

3 60-309. Upon the filing of such application, the
4 Department of Motor Vehicles shall, upon registration, assign to
5 such motor vehicle a distinctive registration number. Upon sale or
6 transfer of any such motor vehicle, such number may be canceled or
7 may be reassigned to another motor vehicle, at the option of the
8 department, subject to the provisions ~~hereinafter contained of~~
9 Chapter 60, article 3.

10 Sec. 2. Section 60-311, Reissue Revised Statutes of
11 Nebraska, is amended to read:

12 60-311. (1) The Department of Motor Vehicles shall
13 furnish to every person whose motor vehicle is registered fully
14 reflectorized ~~number~~ license plates upon which shall be displayed
15 (a) the registration number consisting of letters and figures
16 assigned to such motor vehicle in letters and figures not less than
17 two and one-half inches nor more than three inches in height and
18 (b) also the word Nebraska suitably lettered so as to be
19 attractive. Two plates shall be furnished for every motor vehicle,
20 except that one plate per vehicle shall be furnished for dealers,
21 motorcycles, truck-tractors, semitrailers, trailers, cabin
22 trailers, buses, and vehicles registered pursuant to section
23 60-305.09. The plates shall be of a color designated by the
24 Director of Motor Vehicles. The color of the plates shall be
25 changed each time the license plates are changed. Each time the
26 license plates are changed the director shall secure competitive
27 bids for materials pursuant to sections 81-145 to 81-163.01.

28 (2) Except for license plates issued pursuant to section

1 60-305.16, ~~number~~ license plates shall be issued every three years
2 beginning with the ~~number~~ license plates issued in the year ~~1984~~
3 2002. In the years in which plates are not issued, in lieu of
4 furnishing such plates, the department shall furnish to every
5 person whose motor vehicle is registered one or two renewal tabs,
6 as the case may be, which renewal tabs shall bear the year for
7 which furnished and be so constructed as to permit them to be
8 permanently affixed to the plates.

9 (3) The department may provide a distinctive license
10 plate for all motor vehicles owned or operated by the state,
11 counties, municipalities, or school districts. Such
12 government-owned motor vehicles shall display such distinctive
13 license plates when such license plates are issued or shall display
14 undercover license plates when such license plates are issued under
15 section 60-304.

16 (4) The department shall provide a distinctive plate for
17 issuance pursuant to section 60-305.16.

18 (5) Whenever new license plates, including duplicate or
19 replacement license plates, are furnished to any person, a fee of
20 one dollar and fifty cents per plate shall be charged in addition
21 to all other required fees. Such fee shall cover the cost of the
22 plate and renewal tabs. All fees collected pursuant to this
23 section shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the
24 Highway Trust Fund.

25 (6) There is hereby created the License Plate Cash Fund
26 which shall consist of money transferred to it pursuant to section
27 39-2215. All costs associated with the manufacture of license
28 plates and stickers or tabs provided for in this section and

1 sections 60-311.02 and 60-1804 shall be paid from funds
2 appropriated from the License Plate Cash Fund. The fund shall be
3 used exclusively for such purposes and shall be administered by the
4 department. Any money in the fund available for investment shall
5 be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the
6 Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds
7 Investment Act.

8 Sec. 3. Section 60-311.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of
9 Nebraska, is amended to read:

10 60-311.01. (1)(a) Commencing with the year 1952,
11 registration of motor vehicles shall be carried out by counties.
12 Each county in the state shall use the county number system.

13 (b) Beginning January 1, 2002, registration of motor
14 vehicles in counties having a population of one hundred thousand
15 inhabitants or more according to the most recent federal decennial
16 census shall be by an alphanumeric system rather than by the county
17 number system.

18 (c) Beginning January 1, 2002, registration of motor
19 vehicles in all other counties shall be carried out, at the option
20 of each county board of commissioners or board of supervisors, by
21 either the alphanumeric system or the county number system.

22 (2) Counties using the county number system shall show on
23 vehicles licensed therein a county number on the license plate
24 preceding a dash which shall then be followed by the individual
25 number assigned to the motor vehicle, and which identification
26 number, excluding the county prefix number, may be combined with
27 letters of the same height. The county numbers assigned to the
28 counties in Nebraska shall be as follows:

1	No.	Name of County	No.	Name of County
2	1	Douglas	2	Lancaster
3	3	Gage	4	Custer
4	5	Dodge	6	Saunders
5	7	Madison	8	Hall
6	9	Buffalo	10	Platte
7	11	Otoe	12	Knox
8	13	Cedar	14	Adams
9	15	Lincoln	16	Seward
10	17	York	18	Dawson
11	19	Richardson	20	Cass
12	21	Scotts Bluff	22	Saline
13	23	Boone	24	Cuming
14	25	Butler	26	Antelope
15	27	Wayne	28	Hamilton
16	29	Washington	30	Clay
17	31	Burt	32	Thayer
18	33	Jefferson	34	Fillmore
19	35	Dixon	36	Holt
20	37	Phelps	38	Furnas
21	39	Cheyenne	40	Pierce
22	41	Polk	42	Nuckolls
23	43	Colfax	44	Nemaha
24	45	Webster	46	Merrick
25	47	Valley	48	Red Willow
26	49	Howard	50	Franklin
27	51	Harlan	52	Kearney
28	53	Stanton	54	Pawnee

1	55	Thurston	56	Sherman
2	57	Johnson	58	Nance
3	59	Sarpy	60	Frontier
4	61	Sheridan	62	Greeley
5	63	Boyd	64	Morrill
6	65	Box Butte	66	Cherry
7	67	Hitchcock	68	Keith
8	69	Dawes	70	Dakota
9	71	Kimball	72	Chase
10	73	Gosper	74	Perkins
11	75	Brown	76	Dundy
12	77	Garden	78	Deuel
13	79	Hayes	80	Sioux
14	81	Rock	82	Keya Paha
15	83	Garfield	84	Wheeler
16	85	Banner	86	Blaine
17	87	Logan	88	Loup
18	89	Thomas	90	McPherson
19	91	Arthur	92	Grant
20	93	Hooker		

21 Sec. 4. Section 60-311.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of
22 Nebraska, is amended to read:

23 60-311.02. The letters and figures for motorcycle and
24 trailer plates may be one-half the size of those required for motor
25 vehicles.

26 On ~~number~~ license plates issued to a manufacturer or
27 dealer, there shall be displayed, in addition to the registration
28 number, the letter D.

1 On ~~number~~ license plates issued for use on motor vehicles
2 which are exempt pursuant to subdivision (6) of section 60-3002,
3 there shall be embossed, in addition to the registration number,
4 the word exempt which shall appear at the bottom of the license
5 plates issued after January 1, 1999. The Department of Motor
6 Vehicles may provide distinctive plates for the exempt vehicles.

7 On commercial trucks and truck-tractors with a gross
8 weight of five tons or over and on farm trucks with a gross weight
9 of over sixteen tons there shall be displayed, in addition to the
10 registration number, the weight that such vehicle is licensed for,
11 using a sticker or tab on the registration plates of such trucks in
12 letters and figures of such size and design as shall be determined
13 and furnished by the department.

14 When two registration plates are issued, one shall be
15 prominently displayed at all times on the front and one on the rear
16 of the registered vehicle. When only one plate is issued for
17 dealers, motorcycles, semitrailers, trailers, cabin trailers, and
18 buses, it shall be prominently displayed on the rear of the
19 registered vehicle. When only one plate is issued for motor
20 vehicles registered pursuant to section 60-305.09 and
21 truck-tractors, it shall be prominently displayed on the front of
22 the apportioned vehicle.

23 Any violation of this section shall be subject to a
24 penalty or penalties as provided in section 60-348.

25 Sec. 5. Section 60-311.11, Reissue Revised Statutes of
26 Nebraska, is amended to read:

27 60-311.11. (1) ~~Plates~~ License plates issued pursuant to
28 sections 60-305.08 and 60-311.10 to 60-311.13 shall be the same

1 size and of the same basic design as ~~the~~ regular ~~number~~ license
2 plates issued pursuant to section 60-311.

3 (2) The following conditions ~~shall~~ apply to all
4 personalized message license plates:

5 (a) County prefixes shall not be ~~used~~ allowed except in
6 counties using the alphanumeric system for motor vehicle
7 registration. The letters and figures in the county prefix,
8 including the hyphen, count against the maximum number of
9 characters allowed by subdivision (2)(c) of this section;

10 (b) The characters used shall consist only of letters and
11 ~~numerals~~ figures of the same size and design and shall comply with
12 the requirements of subdivision (1)(a) of section 60-311;

13 (c) A maximum of seven characters may be used, except
14 that for motorcycles, a maximum of six characters may be used;

15 (d) The characters in the order used shall not conflict
16 with or duplicate any ~~license~~ registration number used or to be
17 used on the regular license plates or any ~~license~~ registration
18 number or license plate already approved pursuant to sections
19 60-305.08, 60-311, and 60-311.10 to 60-311.13;

20 (e) The characters in the order used shall not express,
21 connote, or imply any obscene or objectionable words or
22 abbreviations; and

23 (f) An applicant receiving a personalized message license
24 plate for a farm truck with a gross weight of over sixteen tons or
25 a commercial truck or truck-tractor with a gross weight of five
26 tons or over shall affix the appropriate tonnage sticker to such
27 plate.

28 (3) The Department of Motor Vehicles shall have sole

1 authority to determine if the conditions prescribed in subsection
2 (2) of this section have been met.

3 Sec. 6. Original sections 60-309, 60-311, 60-311.01,
4 60-311.02, and 60-311.11, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are
5 repealed.