**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 56‑1‑190, AND SECTIONS 56‑3‑1250 AND 56‑10‑225, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO A DRIVER CARRYING HIS DRIVER’S LICENSE WHILE OPERATING A VEHICLE AND DISPLAYING IT UPON DEMAND BY A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, THE ISSUANCE, POSSESSION, AND DISPLAY OF MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION CARDS, AND THE MAINTENANCE AND DISPLAY OF MOTOR VEHICLE PROOF OF INSURANCE, ALL SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT AN OPERATOR OF A MOTOR VEHICLE MUST MAINTAIN HIS DRIVER’S LICENSE, VEHICLE REGISTRATION, AND PROOF OF INSURANCE IN PLAIN VIEW ON THE DRIVERS SIDE CORNER OF THE DASHBOARD OF A VEHICLE EQUIPPED WITH A DASHBOARD AND IN HIS IMMEDIATE POSSESSION WHEN OPERATING A VEHICLE THAT IS NOT EQUIPPED WITH A DASHBOARD.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 56‑1‑190 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 56‑1‑190. A licensee shall have his license in plain view on the driver’s side corner of the dashboard at all times when operating a vehicle equipped with a dashboard. A licensee shall have his license in his immediate possession at all times when operating a motor vehicle that is not equipped with a dashboard. ~~and~~ A licensee shall display ~~it~~ his license upon demand of an officer or agent of either the Department of Motor Vehicles or the Department of Public Safety or a law enforcement officer of the State. No points pursuant to Section 56‑1‑720 may be assessed. No points for insurance merit rating system and recoupment purposes may be assessed.”

SECTION 2. Section 56‑3‑1250 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 278 of 2005, is further amended to read:

“Section 56‑3‑1250. The department, upon registering and licensing a vehicle, shall issue to the owner of the vehicle a registration card containing upon the face of the card the date issued, the name and address of the owner, including the county in which the owner resides, the registration and license number assigned to the vehicle, and that other description of the vehicle as may be determined by the department. The registration card must be delivered to the owner. Every registration card must at all times be carried by the person driving or in control of the vehicle~~, who~~ in plain view on the driver’s side corner of the dashboard of a vehicle equipped with a dashboard or in the immediate possession of a person driving or in control of a vehicle that is not equipped with a dashboard. The person shall display it upon demand of a police officer or any other person authorized by law to examine registration cards.”

SECTION 3. Section 56‑10‑225(B) of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 128 of 2014, is further amended to read:

“(B) The owner of a motor vehicle must maintain proof of financial responsibility at all times in plain view on the driver’s side corner of the dashboard of a vehicle equipped with a dashboard or ~~in the~~ within a motor vehicle that is not equipped with a dashboard at all times~~, and~~. It must be displayed upon demand of a police officer or any other person duly authorized by law. Evidence of financial responsibility may be provided by use of a mobile electronic device in a format issued by an automobile insurer. This section does not require that an automobile insurer issue verification concerning the existence of coverage it provides an insured in an electronic format. Information contained or stored in a mobile electronic device presented pursuant to this subsection is not subject to a search by a law enforcement officer except pursuant to the provisions of Section 17‑13‑140 providing for the issuance, execution, and return of a search warrant or pursuant to the express written consent of the lawful owner of the device.”

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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