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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT ADOPTED AND AMENDED

May 9, 2018

**H. 4973**

Introduced by Reps. Bales, Taylor, Brown, Hosey, Simrill, Hixon, Blackwell and Young

S. Printed 5/9/18--S. [SEC 5/10/18 1:26 PM]

Read the first time April 9, 2018.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 56‑3‑2150, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES ISSUED TO CERTAIN CURRENT AND RETIRED PUBLIC OFFICIALS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT TWO SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES MAY BE ISSUED TO EACH OF THESE OFFICIALS, AND THAT A SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE ISSUED TO A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHO IS RECEIVING RETIREMENT BENEFITS MUST CONTAIN THE SEAL IMPRINTED ON SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES ISSUED TO CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Amend Title To Conform

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

SECTION 1. Section 56‑3‑2150 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 56‑3‑2150. The Department of Motor Vehicles may issue special motor vehicle license plates to former members of the South Carolina Delegation of the United States Congress, retired judicial officers elected by the General Assembly or confirmed by the United States Senate, respectively, members of municipal and county councils, county coroners, and mayors of this State for private passenger motor vehicles owned by them. The department also may issue special motor vehicle license plates to former members of the General Assembly ~~who are eligible to receive retirement benefits under the General Assembly Retirement System~~ for private passenger motor vehicles and vehicles classified as private passenger motor vehicles in Section 56‑3‑630 owned by them. The biennial fee for these special license plates is the same as the fee provided in Section 56‑3‑2020, and only one plate may be issued to former members of the South Carolina Delegation of the United States Congress, retired judicial officers elected by the General Assembly or confirmed by the United States Senate, respectively, a councilman~~,~~ or a mayor~~, or a member of the General Assembly who is receiving retirement benefits~~. A coroner and a former member of the General Assembly may be issued two license plates. These license plates must be issued or revalidated biennially for the regular registration and licensing period. A person who has been investigated by state or local authorities resulting in a resignation or convicted of a crime involving dishonesty or moral turpitude, or another crime punishable by imprisonment for at least one year may not apply for special motor vehicle license plates issued pursuant to this section. A person convicted of an offense contained in this section subsequent to issuance of a special motor vehicle license plate shall surrender the special license plate to the Department of Motor Vehicles within three days of the date of the conviction.”

SECTION 2. Section 56-3-2350 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 56-3-2350. (A) For purposes of this section ‘financial institution’ means a supervised financial organization as defined in Section 37-1-301(27) or a supervised lender as defined in Section 37-3-501(2).

(B) A financial institution engaged in the business of repossessing vehicles or accepting voluntary repossession or relinquishment of vehicles for which the financial institution has exercised rights under a valid security agreement or lien may apply for special registration only for the purpose of repossession of such vehicles; acceptance of voluntary repossession or reclamation of such vehicles; transport of such vehicles to locations of repair, cleaning, or reconditioning; storage of such vehicles; or demonstration of such vehicles for purposes of potential resale. Transporter plates must not be used to operate wreckers or service vehicles. The use of transporter plates for demonstration purposes is limited to prospective purchasers and limited to seven days. The financial institution must provide the prospective purchaser with a dated demonstration certificate approved by the department.

(C) A person engaged in the business of limited operation of motor vehicles to facilitate the movement of vehicles from a manufacturer to a dealer or distributor, or from a railroad terminal yard to a temporary storage facility prior to delivery to a dealer, or for the movement of vehicles to further the construction of cabs or bodies, or in connection with the foreclosure or repossession of these motor vehicles may apply to the Department of Motor Vehicles for special registration to be issued to and used by the person upon the following conditions:

(1) The application must be in a form prescribed by the department to include the applicable liability insurance as prescribed by statute and filed with the department each year. If the applicant is an entity with multiple branches, then an application may be made for each branch, not to exceed two registrations. The application must include the name and residence address of the applicant as follows:

(a) if an individual, the name under which he intends to conduct business;

(b) if a partnership, the name and residence address of each member of the partnership and the name under which the business is to be conducted, and if multiple branches are intended to have registrations, an appropriate identifier for each branch;

(c) if a corporation, the name and company address of the corporation and the name and residence address of ~~each of its officers~~ its responsible officer.

(2) The application must be certified by the applicant and by an agent of the department to verify the facts set forth in the application.

(3) The annual fee for registration is fifty dollars, plus an annual fee of ten dollars for each license plate.

(4) License plates authorized by this section must not be used on vehicles that are loaned, rented, or leased by the licensed ~~transporter~~ registrants to employees or any other individuals.

(D) All records relating to registration must be open at all reasonable times for inspection and copying by the department or any of its duly authorized agents. The vehicles for which special registrations are issued must be made available to the department or any of its duly authorized agents at the place where the vehicles may be located at the time that the department or any of its duly authorized agents request an opportunity to inspect them.”

SECTION 3. Section 56-3-2370 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 56-3-2370. Transporter license plates issued under this article may be transferred from vehicle to vehicle, but shall be used only for the limited ~~operation of vehicles in connection with the manufacture or construction of cabs or bodies or with the foreclosure or repossession of vehicles owned or controlled by the registrant~~ purposes as provided in Section 56-3-2350.”

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

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