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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 5316

04/08/2024 Authored by Petersburg The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Transportation Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to motor vehicles; authorizing deputy registrars to conduct certain fleet
1.3 vehicle transactions; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 168.127.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 168.127, is amended to read:

1.6 168.127 FLEET VEHICLES; REGISTRATION, FEE.

1.7 Subdivision 1. Unique registration category. (a) A unique registration category is
1.8 established for vehicles and trailers of a fleet. Vehicles registered in the fleet must be issued
1.9 a distinctive license plate. The design and size of the fleet license plate must be determined
1.10 by the commissioner.

1.11 (b) A deputy registrar may issue replacement license plates for qualified vehicles in a
1.12 registered fleet pursuant to section 168.29.

1.13 Subd. 2. Annual registration period. The annual registration period for vehicles in the
1.14 fleet will be is determined by the commissioner. The applicant must provide all information
1.15 necessary to qualify as a fleet registrant, including a list of all vehicles in the fleet. On initial
1.16 registration, all taxes and fees for vehicles in the fleet must be reassessed based on the
1.17 expiration date.

1.18 Subd. 3. Registration cards issued. (a) On approval of the application for fleet
1.19 registration, the commissioner must issue a registration card for each qualified vehicle in
1.20 the fleet. The registration card must be carried in the vehicle at all times and be made
1.21 available to a peace officer on demand. The registered gross weight must be indicated on
1.22 the license plate.

2.1 (b) A new vehicle may be registered to an existing fleet upon application to a deputy
2.2 registrar and payment of the fee under section 168.33, subdivision 7.

2.3 (c) A deputy registrar must issue a replacement registration card for any registered fleet
2.4 or any qualified vehicle in a registered fleet upon application.

2.5 Subd. 4. **Filing registration applications.** Initial fleet applications for registration and
2.6 renewals must be filed with the ~~registrar~~ commissioner or authorized deputy registrar.

2.7 Subd. 5. **Renewal of fleet registration.** On the renewal of a fleet registration, the
2.8 registrant ~~shall~~ must pay full licensing fees for every vehicle registered in the preceding
2.9 year unless the vehicle has been properly deleted from the fleet. In order to delete a vehicle
2.10 from a fleet, the fleet registrant must surrender to the commissioner the registration card
2.11 and license plates. The ~~registrar~~ commissioner may authorize alternative methods of deleting
2.12 vehicles from a fleet, including destruction of the license plates and registration cards. If
2.13 the card or license plates are lost or stolen, the fleet registrant ~~shall~~ must submit a sworn
2.14 statement stating the circumstances for the inability to surrender the card, stickers, and
2.15 license plates. ~~The commissioner shall assess~~ A fleet registrant who fails to renew the
2.16 licenses issued under this section or fails to report the removal of vehicles from the fleet
2.17 within 30 days of the vehicles' removal must pay a penalty of 20 percent of the total tax due
2.18 on the fleet ~~against the fleet registrant who fails to renew the licenses issued under this~~
2.19 ~~section or fails to report the removal of vehicles from the fleet within 30 days.~~ The penalty
2.20 must be paid within 30 days after it is assessed.

2.21 Subd. 6. **Fee.** ~~Instead of~~ The applicant for fleet registration must pay the filing fee
2.22 described in section 168.33, subdivision 7, ~~the applicant for fleet registration shall pay an~~
2.23 ~~equivalent administrative fee~~ to the commissioner for each vehicle in the fleet.

2.24 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective, for fleet vehicle transactions
2.25 occurring on or after that date.