

## CHAPTER 168

MOTOR VEHICLES; REGISTRATION; TAXATION;  
SALES; DEALERS

- 168.011 Definitions.
- 168.012 Vehicles exempt from license fees.
- 168.013 Rate of tax.
- 168.014 Monthly series system; owner's right to certificate; expiration.
- 168.016 Collection of tax rate increase.
- 168.017 Monthly series system of registration for passenger automobiles.
- 168.018 Quarterly registration of farm trucks.
- 168.021 License plates for physically handicapped persons.
- 168.022 Refunds; mandatory refund or replacement laws.
- 168.031 Exemption from registration; persons in armed forces, disabled veterans.
- 168.032 Refundment.
- 168.033 May pay proportionate part of tax.
- 168.04 Military personnel; exemptions.
- 168.041 Impounding registration plates and certificates.
- 168.053 Drive-away in transit license.
- 168.054 Liability insurance policy.
- 168.055 Safety chains; speed limit.
- 168.056 Violation a misdemeanor.
- 168.057 Fees credited to highway user tax distribution fund.
- 168.09 Registration; reregistration.
- 168.091 Temporary vehicle permits for nonresidents.
- 168.092 Temporary vehicle permits.
- 168.10 Registration; classic cars.
- 168.101 Ownership and registration of passenger automobiles or trucks by persons under the age of 18; prohibitions.
- 168.102 School buses; preregistration inspection.
- 168.105 Classic motorcycles.
- 168.11 Registration certificate.
- 168.12 License plates.
- 168.124 Special license plates for congressional medal of honor recipients.
- 168.125 Special license plates for former prisoners of war.
- 168.126 Commuter vans; registration, license plates.
- 168.127 Fleet vehicles; registration, fees.
- 168.13 Proof of ownership.
- 168.15 Rights as to registration certificates and number plates.
- 168.16 Refunds; appropriation.
- 168.17 Suspension of registration.
- 168.181 Nonresident owners, reciprocity agreements or arrangements; conditions and limitations.
- 168.183 Motor vehicles of certain nonresidents.
- 168.187 Interstate registration and reciprocity.
- 168.191 Vehicles domiciled in foreign state and owned by Minnesota resident.
- 168.201 Denial or withdrawal of benefits and privileges.
- 168.211 Subjection to state laws generally.
- 168.221 Commercial vehicles; taxes or fees.
- 168.231 Tax proceeds credited to highway user tax distribution fund.
- 168.26 Certain manufacturers need not register.
- 168.27 Motor vehicle dealers; violations, penalties.
- 168.2701 Liability of lessors for unpaid traffic violations.
- 168.271 Informational labels on pickup trucks; penalty.
- 168.274 Definitions.
- 168.275 Sale of motor vehicles on Sunday forbidden.
- 168.276 Suspension or revocation of licenses.
- 168.28 Vehicles subject to tax; exceptions.
- 168.29 Duplicate plates.
- 168.30 Transfer of ownership.
- 168.31 Tax, when due and payable.
- 168.321 Manufacturers to file statement.
- 168.325 Division of motor vehicles.
- 168.33 Commissioner of public safety to be registrar.
- 168.34 Information to be furnished.
- 168.345 Motor vehicle registrations; information.
- 168.35 Intent to escape tax.
- 168.36 Unregistered vehicles, use.
- 168.37 Plate tabs or stickers; monthly registration system.
- 168.381 Manufacture of motor vehicle license number plates.
- 168.54 Motor vehicles, transfer of ownership.
- 168.61 Intercity buses.
- 168.62 Registration.
- 168.63 Registrar of motor vehicles, duties.
- 168.64 Rules, requirements.
- 168.65 Violations.
- 168.66 Motor vehicle retail installment sales; definitions.
- 168.67 Sales finance companies; licenses, fees, refunds.
- 168.68 Suspension or revocation of license.
- 168.69 Complaints alleging violation.
- 168.70 Testimonial powers of administrator.
- 168.705 Examinations.
- 168.706 Books of account; annual report.
- 168.71 Retail installment contracts.
- 168.72 Time price differentials.
- 168.73 Refund credits, allowance.
- 168.74 Extension of schedules, payments.
- 168.75 Violations.
- 168.76 Severability clause.
- 168.77 Citation of act.
- 168.78 Motor vehicle purchases; disclosure.
- 168.81 Reports of storage of motor vehicle for 30 days made to bureau of criminal apprehension.
- 168.82 One-way trip permits.
- MOTOR BICYCLE  
RENTAL BUSINESSES**
- 168.831 Motor bicycle rental business; definitions.
- 168.832 License.
- 168.833 Insurance required.
- 168.834 Licensee's duties.
- 168.835 Use of motor bicycle by unlicensed person prohibited.
- 168.836 Municipal ordinances.
- 168.837 Penalties; revocation of license.
- RENTAL TRUCKS AND TRAILERS**
- 168.841 Definitions.
- 168.842 Registration and taxation of rental trucks.
- 168.843 Registration and taxation of rental trailers.
- 168.844 Other vehicles.
- 168.845 Rules.
- 168.846 Penalty.

**168.01** [Repealed, 1949 c 694 s 5]

**168.011 DEFINITIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Words, terms, and phrases.** Unless the language or context clearly indicates that a different meaning is intended, the following words, terms and phrases, for the purposes of this chapter, shall be given the meanings subjoined to them.

Subd. 2. **Application for registration; listing for taxation.** "Application for registration" shall have the same meaning as "listing for taxation," and when a motor vehicle is registered it is also listed.

Subd. 3. **Highway.** A "highway" is any public thoroughfare for vehicles, including streets in cities.

Subd. 4. **Motor vehicle.** "Motor vehicle" means any self-propelled vehicle not operated exclusively upon railroad tracks and any vehicle propelled or drawn by a self-propelled vehicle and includes vehicles known as trackless trolleys which are propelled by electric power obtained from overhead trolley wires but not operated upon rails, except snowmobiles and manufactured homes. After July 31, 1985, motor vehicle does not include a three-wheel off-road vehicle as defined in section 84.92, subdivision 8; except that if the three-wheel off-road vehicle was licensed as a motor vehicle before August 1, 1985, the owner may continue to license it as a motor vehicle until it is conveyed or otherwise transferred to another owner, is destroyed, or fails to comply with the registration and licensing requirements of this chapter.

Subd. 5. **Owner.** "Owner" means any person, firm, association, or corporation owning or renting a motor vehicle, or having the exclusive use thereof, under a lease or otherwise, for a period of greater than 30 days.

Subd. 6. **Tax, fee.** "Tax" or "fee" means the annual tax imposed on motor vehicles in lieu of all other taxes thereon, except wheelage taxes, so-called, which may be imposed by any city and except gross earnings taxes paid by companies subject or made subject thereto. Such annual tax shall be deemed both a property tax and a highway use tax and shall be on the basis of the calendar year.

Subd. 7. **Passenger automobile.** "Passenger automobile" means any motor vehicle designed and used for the carrying of not more than ten persons including station wagons but excluding motorcycles and motor scooters. For purposes of taxation only, "passenger automobile" includes pickup trucks and vans.

Subd. 8. **Manufactured home and house trailer.** (a) "Manufactured home" means any trailer or semitrailer which is designed, constructed, and equipped for use as a human dwelling place, living abode, or living quarters except house trailers.

(b) "House trailer" means any trailer or semitrailer which is not more than eight feet in width and not more than 35 feet in length and which is designed, constructed, and equipped for use as a human dwelling place, living abode, or living quarters.

Subd. 9. **Bus; intercity bus.** (a) "Bus" means every motor vehicle designed for carrying more than ten passengers and used for transporting persons, and every motor vehicle, other than a taxicab, designed and used for transporting persons for compensation.

The term "bus" does not include a vehicle designed for carrying more than ten passengers but not more than 14 passengers and operated for the personal or family use of the owner or operator.

(b) "Intercity bus" means any bus operating as a common passenger carrier over regular routes and between fixed termini, but excluding all buses operating wholly within the limits of one city, or wholly within two or more contiguous cities, or between contiguous cities and a terminus outside the corporate limits of such cities, and not more than 20 miles distant measured along the fixed route from such corporate limits.

Subd. 10. **Truck.** "Truck" means any motor vehicle designed and used for carrying things other than passengers, except pickup trucks and vans included within the definition of passenger automobile in subdivision 7.

Subd. 11. **Tractor.** "Tractor" means any motor vehicle designed or used for drawing other vehicles but having no provision for carrying loads independently.

Subd. 12. **Truck-tractor.** "Truck-tractor" means:

(a) a motor vehicle designed and used primarily for drawing other vehicles and not constructed to carry a load other than a part of the weight of the vehicle and load drawn; and

(b) a motor vehicle designed and used primarily for drawing other vehicles used exclusively for transporting motor vehicles and capable of carrying motor vehicles on its own structure.

Subd. 13. **Trailer.** "Trailer" means any vehicle designed for carrying property or passenger on its own structure and for being drawn by a motor vehicle but shall not include a trailer drawn by a truck-tractor semitrailer combination, or an auxiliary axle on a motor vehicle which carries a portion of the weight of the motor vehicle to which it is attached.

Subd. 14. **Semitrailer.** "Semitrailer" means a vehicle of the trailer type so designed and used in conjunction with a truck-tractor that a considerable part of its own weight or that of its load rests upon and is carried by the truck-tractor and shall include a trailer drawn by a truck-tractor semitrailer combination.

Subd. 15. **Unloaded weight.** "Unloaded weight" means the actual weight of the vehicle fully equipped without a load.

Subd. 16. **Gross weight.** "Gross weight" means the actual unloaded weight of the vehicle, either a truck or tractor, or the actual unloaded combined weight of a truck-tractor and semitrailer or semitrailers, or of the truck-tractor, semitrailer and one additional semitrailer, fully equipped for service, plus the weight of the maximum load which the applicant has elected to carry on such vehicle or combined vehicles. The term gross weight applied to a truck used for towing a trailer means the unloaded weight of the truck, fully equipped for service, plus the weight of the maximum load which the applicant has elected to carry on such truck, including the weight of such part of the trailer and its load as may rest upon the truck. The term gross weight applied to school buses means the weight of the vehicle fully equipped with all fuel tanks full of fuel, plus the weight of the passengers and their baggage computed at the rate of 100 pounds per passenger seating capacity, including that for the driver. The term gross weight applied to other buses means the weight of the vehicle fully equipped with all fuel tanks full of fuel, plus the weight of passengers and their baggage computed at the rate of 150 pounds per passenger seating capacity, including that for the driver. For bus seats designed for more than one passenger, but which are not divided so as to allot individual seats for the passengers that occupy them, allow two feet of its length per passenger to determine seating capacity. The term gross weight applied to a truck, truck-tractor or a truck used as a truck-tractor used exclusively by the owner thereof for transporting unfinished forest products or used by the owner thereof to transport agricultural, horticultural, dairy and other farm products including livestock produced or finished by the owner of the truck and any other personal property owned by the farmer to whom the license for such truck is issued, from the farm to market, and to transport property and supplies to the farm of the owner, as described in subdivision 17, shall be the actual weight of the truck, truck-tractor or truck used as a truck-tractor or the combined weight of the truck-tractor and semitrailer plus the weight of the maximum load which the applicant has elected to carry on such vehicle or combined vehicles and shall be licensed and taxed as provided by section 168.013, subdivision 1c. The term gross weight applied to a truck-tractor or a truck used as a truck-tractor used exclusively by the owner, or by a for hire carrier hauling exclusively for one owner, for towing an equipment dolly shall be the actual weight of the truck-tractor or truck used as a truck-tractor plus the weight of such part of the equipment dolly and its load as may rest upon the truck-tractor or truck used as a truck-tractor, and shall be licensed separately and taxed as provided by section 168.013, subdivision 1e, and the equipment dolly shall be licensed separately and taxed as provided in section 168.013, subdivision 1d, which is applicable for the balance of the weight of the equipment dolly and the balance of the

maximum load the applicant has elected to carry on such combined vehicles. The term "equipment dolly" as used in this subdivision means a heavy semitrailer used solely by the owner, or by a for hire carrier hauling exclusively for one owner, to transport the owner's construction machinery, equipment, implements and other objects used on a construction project, but not to be incorporated in or to become a part of a completed project. The term gross weight applied to a wrecker defined in section 169.01, subdivision 52, means the weight of the wrecker fully equipped for service, including the weight of the crane, winch and other equipment to control the movement of a towed vehicle, but does not include the weight of a wrecked or disabled vehicle towed or drawn by the wrecker.

Subd. 17. **Farm truck.** "Farm truck" means all single unit trucks, truck-tractors, tractors, semitrailers, and trailers used by the owner thereof to transport agricultural, horticultural, dairy, and other farm products, including livestock, produced or finished by the owner of the truck, and any other personal property owned by the farmer to whom the license for the truck is issued, from the farm to market, and to transport property and supplies to the farm of the owner. Trucks, truck-tractors, tractors, semitrailers, and trailers registered as "farm trucks" may be used by the owner thereof to occasionally transport unprocessed and raw farm products, not produced by the owner of the truck, from the place of production to market when the transportation constitutes the first haul of the products, and may be used by the owner thereof, either farmer or logger who harvests and hauls forest products only, to transport logs, pulpwood, lumber, chips, railroad ties and other raw and unfinished forest products from the place of production to an assembly yard or railhead when the transportation constitutes the first haul thereof, provided that the owner and operator of the vehicle transporting planed lumber shall have in immediate possession a statement signed by the producer of the lumber designating the governmental subdivision, section and township where the lumber was produced and that this haul, indicating the date, is the first haul thereof. The licensed vehicles may also be used by the owner thereof to transport, to and from timber harvesting areas, equipment and appurtenances incidental to timber harvesting, and gravel and other road building materials for timber haul roads.

"Farm trucks" shall also include only single unit trucks, which, because of their construction, cannot be used for any other purpose and are used exclusively to transport milk and cream enroute from farm to an assembly point or place for final manufacture, and for transporting milk and cream from an assembly point to a place for final processing or manufacture. This section shall not be construed to mean that the owner or operator of the truck cannot carry on usual accommodation services for patrons on regular return trips, such as butter, cream, cheese, and other dairy supplies.

Subd. 18. **Registrar.** "Registrar" means the registrar of motor vehicles designated in this chapter.

Subd. 19. **Sworn statement.** "Sworn statement" means any statement required by or made pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, made under oath administered by an officer authorized to administer oaths.

Subd. 20. **First year of life.** "First year of life" means the year of model designation of the vehicle, or, if there be no year of model designation, it shall mean the year of manufacture.

Subd. 21. **Dealer.** "Dealer" means any person, firm, or corporation regularly engaged in the business of manufacturing, or selling, purchasing, and generally dealing in new and unused motor vehicles having an established place of business for the sale, trade, and display of new and unused motor vehicles and having in possession new and unused motor vehicles for the purposes of sale or trade. "Dealer" also includes any person, firm or corporation regularly engaged in the business of manufacturing or selling, purchasing, and generally dealing in new and unused motor vehicle bodies, chassis mounted or not, and having an established place of business for the sale, trade and display of such new and unused motor vehicle bodies, and having in possession new and unused motor vehicle bodies for the purposes of sale or trade.

Subd. 22. **Special mobile equipment.** "Special mobile equipment" means every

vehicle not designed or used primarily for the transportation of persons or property and only incidentally operated or moved over a highway, including but not limited to: ditch digging apparatus, moving dollies and other machinery such as asphalt spreaders, bituminous mixers, bucket loaders, tractors other than truck-tractors, ditchers, leveling graders, finishing machines, motor graders, road rollers, scarifiers, earth moving carryalls, scrapers, power shovels, drag lines, self-propelled cranes and earth moving equipment. The term does not include house trailers, dump trucks, truck mounted transit mixers, truck mounted feed grinders or other motor vehicles designed for the transportation of persons or property to which machinery has been attached.

**Subd. 23. Station wagon.** "Station wagon" means a dual purpose vehicle designed for the transportation of persons and also designed in such a manner that the seats may be removed or folded out of the way for the purpose of increasing the property carrying space within the vehicle. The term includes, but is not limited to, types of vehicles which carry the trade names of station wagon, estate wagon, ranch wagon, town and country wagon, country sedan, suburban, travelall, and carryall.

**Subd. 24.** [Repealed, 1973 c 218 s 9]

**Subd. 25. Recreational equipment.** (a) "Recreational equipment" means house trailers including those which telescope or fold down, chassis mounted campers, house cars, motor homes, tent trailers, slip in campers, and converted buses that provide temporary human living quarters. A vehicle is considered to provide temporary living quarters if it:

- (1) is not used as the residence of the owner or occupant;
- (2) is used for temporary living quarters by the owner or occupant while engaged in recreational or vacation activities; and
- (3) is self-propelled or towed on the public streets or highways incidental to the recreational or vacation activities.

(b) For the purposes of this subdivision, a motor home means a unit designed to provide temporary living quarters, built into as an integral part of, or permanently attached to, a self-propelled motor vehicle chassis or van. A motor home must contain permanently installed independent life support systems which meet the American National Standards Institute standard number A119.2 for recreational vehicles and provide at least four of the following facilities, two of which must be from the systems listed in clauses (1), (5), and (6): (1) cooking facility with liquid propane gas supply, (2) refrigerator, (3) self-contained toilet or a toilet connected to a plumbing system with connection for external water disposal, (4) heating or air conditioning separate from the vehicle engine, (5) a potable water supply system including a sink with faucet either self-contained or with connections for an external source, and (6) separate 110-125 volt electrical power supply. For purposes of this subdivision, "permanently installed" means built into or attached as an integral part of a chassis or van, and designed not to be removed except for repair or replacement. A system which is readily removable or held in place by clamps or tie downs is not permanently installed.

Motor homes include but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Type A Motor Home — a raw chassis upon which is built a driver's compartment and an entire body that provides temporary living quarters as defined in this paragraph;

(2) Type B Motor Home — a van-type vehicle that conforms to the motor home definition in this paragraph and has been completed or altered by the final stage manufacturer; and

(3) Type C Motor Home — an incomplete vehicle upon which is permanently attached a body designed to provide temporary living quarters as defined in this paragraph.

(c) Slip in campers are mounted into a pickup truck in the pickup box, either by bolting through the floor of the pickup box or by firmly clamping to the side of the pickup box. The vehicle must be registered as a passenger automobile.

**Subd. 26. Motorcycle.** "Motorcycle" means every motor vehicle having a seat

or saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, including motor scooters and bicycles with motor attached, other than those vehicles defined as motorized bicycles in subdivision 27, but excluding a tractor.

Subd. 27. **Motorized bicycle.** "Motorized bicycle" means a bicycle with fully operatable pedals which may be propelled by human power or a motor, or by both, with a motor of a capacity of less than 50 cubic centimeters piston displacement, and a maximum of two brake horsepower, which is capable of a maximum speed of not more than 30 miles per hour on a flat surface with not more than one percent grade in any direction when the motor is engaged.

Subd. 28. **Van.** "Van" means any vehicle of box-like design with no barrier or separation between the operator's area and the remainder of the passenger-carrying or cargo-carrying area, and with a manufacturer's nominal rated carrying capacity of three-fourths ton or less and commonly known as a van.

Subd. 29. **Pickup trucks.** "Pickup truck" means any truck with a manufacturer's nominal rated carrying capacity of three-fourths ton or less and commonly known as a pickup truck.

Subd. 30. **Distributor.** "Distributor" means a person, firm, or corporation which has a bona fide contract or franchise with a manufacturer to distribute the new motor vehicles of that manufacturer to licensed new motor vehicle dealers, but does not include a dealer.

Subd. 31. **First-stage manufacturer.** "First-stage manufacturer" means a person, firm, or corporation which manufactures, assembles, and sells new motor vehicles for resale in this state.

Subd. 32. **Final-stage manufacturer.** "Final-stage manufacturer" means a person, firm, or corporation which performs manufacturing operations on an incomplete motor vehicle or a van-type motor vehicle so that it becomes a type A, B, or C motor home.

Subd. 33. **Van converter or modifier.** "Van converter or modifier" means a person, firm, or corporation engaged in the business of modifying, completing or converting van-type vehicles into multipurpose passenger vehicles which are not motor homes as defined in subdivision 25.

Subd. 34. **Fleet.** "Fleet" means a combination of 1,000 or more vehicles and trailers owned by a person solely for the use of that person or employees of the person and registered in this state under section 168.127. It does not include vehicles licensed under section 168.187.

**History:** 1949 c 694 s 1; 1951 c 574 s 1,2; 1953 c 275 s 1; 1955 c 352 s 1; 1955 c 600 s 1; 1957 c 175 s 1; 1959 c 178 s 1; 1959 c 258 s 1; 1959 c 562 s 1; 1959 c 627 s 1; 1961 c 340 s 1; 1963 c 597 s 1; 1963 c 637 s 1; 1965 c 108 s 1,2; 1965 c 364 s 1; 1967 c 876 s 1; 1969 c 824 s 1,2; 1971 c 754 s 1; 1971 c 797 s 1; 1973 c 123 art 5 s 7; 1973 c 218 s 1,2; 1973 c 546 s 1-3; 1974 c 273 s 9; 1975 c 29 s 1; 1976 c 343 s 2; 1977 c 214 s 1,2; 1979 c 213 s 1; 1981 c 363 s 2-6; 1981 c 365 s 9; 3Sp1981 c 1 art 2 s 1-4; 1983 c 198 s 1; 1984 c 549 s 1,2; 1985 c 63 s 1-5; 1985 c 291 s 2-4; 1986 c 444; 1986 c 453 s 1; 1986 c 454 s 10

NOTE: For taxation of manufactured homes, see section 273.13, subdivision 3.

## 168.012 VEHICLES EXEMPT FROM LICENSE FEES.

Subdivision 1. Vehicles owned and used solely in the transaction of official business by representatives of foreign powers, by the federal government, the state, or any political subdivision thereof, or vehicles owned and used exclusively by educational institutions and used solely in the transportation of pupils, to and from such institutions, or vehicles owned and used by honorary consul or consul general of foreign governments shall be exempt from the provision of this chapter requiring payment of tax or registration fees, except as provided in subdivision 1c.

Vehicles owned by the federal government, municipal fire apparatus, police patrols and ambulances, the general appearance of which is unmistakable, shall not be required to register or display number plates.

Unmarked vehicles used in general police work, arson investigations, and passenger vehicles, station wagons, and buses owned or operated by the department of corrections shall be registered and shall display passenger vehicle classification license number plates which shall be furnished by the registrar at cost. Original and renewal applications for these passenger vehicle license plates authorized for use in general police work and for use by the department of corrections must be accompanied by a certification signed by the appropriate chief of police if issued to a police vehicle, the appropriate sheriff if issued to a sheriff's vehicle, the commissioner of corrections if issued to a department of corrections vehicle, or the appropriate officer in charge if issued to a vehicle of any other law enforcement agency. The certification must be on a form prescribed by the commissioner and state that the vehicle will be used exclusively for a purpose authorized by this section.

All other motor vehicles shall be registered and display tax exempt number plates which shall be furnished by the registrar at cost, except as provided in subdivision 1c.

All vehicles required to display tax exempt number plates shall have the name of the state department or public subdivision on the vehicle plainly printed on both sides thereof in letters not less than 2-1/2 inches high, one inch wide and of a three-eighths inch stroke; except that each state hospital and institution for the mentally ill and mentally retarded may have one vehicle without the required printing on the sides of the vehicle. Such printing shall be in a color giving a marked contrast with that of the part of the vehicle on which it is placed and shall be done with a good quality of paint that will endure throughout the term of the registration. The printing must be on a part of the vehicle itself and not on a removable plate or placard of any kind and shall be kept clean and visible at all times; except that a removable plate or placard may be utilized on vehicles leased or loaned to a political subdivision.

Subd. 1a. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, or any other law to the contrary, motor vehicles of the conservation officer service need not be specially marked in any way.

Subd. 1b. Motor vehicles of the conservation officer service shall have printed thereon the markings required by this section, for tax exempt vehicles.

Subd. 1c. (a) The annual administrative fee for a tax-exempt vehicle under this section is \$5. The license plate fee for a tax-exempt vehicle, except a trailer, is \$10 for two plates per vehicle, payable only on the first tax-exempt registration of the vehicle. The registration period for a tax-exempt vehicle is biennial. The administrative fee is due on March 1 biennially and payable the preceding January 1, with validating stickers issued at time of payment.

(b) The owner of a tax-exempt vehicle shall apply for tax-exempt license plates, and pay the administrative and plate fees, and the filing fee under section 168.33, subdivision 7, only to a deputy registrar in the county in which the vehicle is domiciled.

Subd. 2. Implements of husbandry and tractors used solely for agricultural purposes or tractors, together with trailers or wagons thereto attached, occasionally hauling agricultural products or necessary commodities used on the farm from said farm to and from the usual market place of the owner, tractors for drawing threshing machinery and implements of husbandry temporarily moved upon the highway shall not be taxed as motor vehicles using the public streets and highways and shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

Subd. 2a. Farm trailers with a gross weight of less than 10,000 pounds, drawn by a passenger automobile or farm truck and used exclusively for transporting agricultural products from farm to farm and to and from the usual market place of the owner, shall not be taxed as motor vehicles using the public streets and highways and shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

Subd. 2b. A trailer used exclusively to carry liquid fertilizer for use on a farm shall not be taxed as a motor vehicle using the public streets and highways and shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

Subd. 3. Special mobile equipment and snowmobiles shall not be taxed as motor

vehicles using the public streets and highways, and shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

Subd. 3a. **Special handicapped permits.** Motorized golf carts and four-wheel all-terrain vehicles operated under permit and on roadways designated pursuant to section 169.045 are exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

Subd. 4. Bunkhouses, supply cars, shop cars, and other similar camp equipment mounted on trailers and used by highway construction contractors exclusively at construction camp sites shall not be taxed as motor vehicles using the public streets and highways and shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter. Such trailers with such mounted bunkhouses, supply cars, shop cars, and other similar camp equipment thereon shall be listed and taxed as personal property.

Subd. 5. Motor vehicles, which are used only for the purpose of carrying sawing machines, well drilling machines, barn sprayers or corn shellers permanently attached to them, shall not be subject to the registration tax as herein provided, but shall be listed for taxation as personal property as provided by law.

Subd. 6. All motor vehicle fire apparatus and ambulances operated without profit while owned by a farmers' cooperative association, a body of farmers, a volunteer fire department or association, or a group of citizens, and used solely for the extinguishment of fire in the community in which it is so owned and employed or, in the case of an ambulance used only for the benefit of the community in which it is owned or employed, shall be exempt from taxation.

Subd. 7. Motor vehicles which during any calendar year, or in the case of a vehicle registered pursuant to section 168.017, during the registration period there provided for, are not operated on a public highway shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter requiring registration, payment of tax and penalties for nonpayment thereof, provided that the owner of any such vehicle shall first file a verified written application with the commissioner of public safety, correctly describing the vehicle and certifying that it has not been and will not be operated upon a public highway. Motor vehicles whose domicile is in a foreign state and are legally licensed in that state and owned by a Minnesota resident shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter and subject to the provisions of section 168.191. Provided, that this exemption does not conflict with any existing reciprocal agreement with the state in which the vehicle is domiciled.

Subd. 8. Every passenger automobile, house trailer, other than manufactured homes, or passenger car utility trailer duly registered in any foreign state, district, territory or country and displaying all license number plates or like insignia required by the laws of such state, district, territory or country shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter during the first 60 days of residence of the owner in this state; provided that if the 60-day period expires after the 15th day of any month, the remainder of that month shall be deemed to be within the 60-day period and provided further that any such vehicles shall become subject to the provisions of this chapter immediately upon transfer of the ownership of such vehicles or upon expiration of the registration.

Subd. 9. Manufactured homes shall not be taxed as motor vehicles using the public streets and highways and shall be exempt from the motor vehicle tax provisions of this chapter. Except as provided in section 274.19, manufactured homes shall be taxed as personal property. The provisions of Minnesota Statutes 1957, section 272.02 or any other act providing for tax exemption shall be inapplicable to manufactured homes, except such manufactured homes as are held by a licensed dealer and exempted as inventory. House trailers not used on the highway during any calendar year shall be taxed as manufactured homes if occupied as human dwelling places.

Subd. 10. If a vehicle is used for a purpose which would make it exempt pursuant to subdivision 1 but title is held by a seller or a vendor or is assigned to a third party under a lease purchase agreement or installment sale permitted under section 465.71, exemption shall be determined by the use rather than the holder of the title.

Subd. 11. Semitrailers as defined in section 168.011, subdivision 14, shall not be

# MINNESOTA STATUTES 1986

3737

MOTOR VEHICLES; REGISTRATION; TAXATION; SALES; DEALERS 168.013

taxed as a motor vehicle using the public streets and highways and shall display a number plate for identification purposes only.

**History:** 1949 c 694 s 2; 1951 c 690 s 1; 1957 c 166 s 1; 1959 c 133 s 1; 1959 c 151 s 1; 1959 c 178 s 2,3; 1959 c 562 s 2; 1961 c 340 s 2; 1961 c 621 s 1; 1965 c 176 s 1; 1965 c 871 s 1; 1967 c 56 s 1; 1967 c 117 s 1; 1967 c 876 s 2; 1967 c 905 s 9; Ex1967 c 48 s 57; 1969 c 95 s 1; 1969 c 965 s 1; 1969 c 1129 art 1 s 15; 1971 c 797 s 2; 1973 c 208 s 1; 1973 c 549 s 1; 1974 c 406 s 26; 1975 c 12 s 1; 1976 c 39 s 1; 1976 c 225 s 1; 1980 c 364 s 1; 1980 c 607 art 2 s 1; 1981 c 37 s 2; 1981 c 113 s 1; 1981 c 365 s 9; 1982 c 523 art 15 s 1; 1982 c 549 s 1; 1983 c 363 s 2; 1985 c 291 s 5-7; 1Sp1985 c 10 s 75; 1Sp1985 c 14 art 4 s 28; 1986 c 336 s 1; 1986 c 444; 1986 c 452 s 18; 1986 c 454 s 11

**NOTE:** For taxation of manufactured homes, see section 273.13, subdivision 3.

## 168.013 RATE OF TAX.

Subdivision 1. **Imposition.** Motor vehicles, except as set forth in section 168.012, using the public streets or highways in the state, shall be taxed in lieu of all other taxes thereon, except wheelage taxes, so-called, which may be imposed by any city as provided by law, and except gross earnings taxes paid by companies subject or made subject thereto, and shall be privileged to use the public streets and highways, on the basis and at the rate for each calendar year as hereinafter provided.

Subd. 1a. MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 218 s 9]

Subd. 1a. **Passenger automobiles; ambulances; hearses.** On passenger automobiles as defined in section 168.011, subdivision 7, ambulances, and hearses, except as otherwise provided, the tax shall be \$10 plus an additional tax equal to 1.25 percent of the base value, except that on pickup trucks the tax shall be:

(a) for the 1982 registration year, \$10 plus an additional tax equal to .75 percent of base value;

(b) for the 1983 registration year and each succeeding year, \$10 plus an additional tax equal to 1.25 percent of base value.

Subject to the classification provisions herein, "base value" means the manufacturer's suggested retail price of the vehicle including destination charge as reflected on the price listing affixed to the vehicle in conformity with United States Code, title 15, sections 1231 to 1233 (Public Law Number 85-506) or otherwise suggested by the manufacturer or determined by the registrar if no suggested retail price exists, and shall not include the cost of each accessory or item of optional equipment separately added to the vehicle and the suggested retail price.

If unable to determine the base value because the vehicle is specially constructed, or for any other reason, the registrar may establish such value upon the cost price to the purchaser or owner as evidenced by a certificate of cost but not including Minnesota sales or use tax or any local sales or other local tax.

The registrar shall classify every vehicle in its proper base value class as follows:

FROM	TO
\$ 0	\$199.99
200	399.99

and thereafter a series of classes successively set in brackets having a spread of \$200 consisting of such number of classes as will permit classification of all vehicles.

The base value for purposes of this section shall be the middle point between the extremes of its class.

The registrar shall establish the base value, when new, of every passenger automobile, ambulance and hearse registered prior to the effective date of Extra Session Laws 1971, chapter 31, using list price information published by the manufacturer or any nationally recognized firm or association compiling such data for the automotive industry. If unable to ascertain the base value of any registered vehicle in the foregoing manner, the registrar may use any other available source or method. The tax on all

previously registered vehicles shall be computed upon the base value thus determined taking into account the depreciation provisions of Extra Session Laws 1971, chapter 31.

The annual additional tax computed upon the base value as provided herein, during the first year of vehicle life shall be computed upon 100 percent of the base value; for the second year, 90 percent of such value; for the third year, 75 percent of such value; for the fourth year, 60 percent of such value; for the fifth year, 45 percent of such value; for the sixth year, 35 percent of such value; for the seventh year, 30 percent of such value; for the eighth year, 20 percent of such value; for the ninth year, 15 percent of such value; for the tenth year, ten percent of such value; for the 11th and each succeeding year, the sum of \$13; provided that for registrations renewed on or after January 1, 1982, the annual additional tax for the 11th and each succeeding year of vehicle life shall be \$13, for registrations renewed on or after January 1, 1983, the annual additional tax shall be \$18, for registrations renewed on or after January 1, 1984, the annual additional tax shall be \$22, and for registrations renewed on or after January 1, 1985, the annual additional tax shall be \$25.

In no event shall the annual additional tax be less than \$13 for any registration renewed after January 1, 1982, nor less than \$18 for any registration renewed after January 1, 1983, \$22 for any registration renewed after January 1, 1984, and \$25 for any registration renewed after January 1, 1985.

**Subd. 1b. Motorcycles.** On motorcycles the tax is \$10, which includes the surtax provided for in subdivision 14.

**Subd. 1c. Farm trucks.** (1) On farm trucks having a gross weight of not more than 57,000 pounds, the tax shall be based on total gross weight and shall be 45 percent of the Minnesota base rate prescribed by subdivision 1e during each of the first eight years of vehicle life, but in no event less than \$35, and during the ninth and succeeding years of vehicle life the tax shall be 27 percent of the Minnesota base rate prescribed by subdivision 1e, but in no event less than \$21.

(2) On farm trucks having a gross weight of more than 57,000 pounds, the tax shall be 60 percent of the Minnesota base rate during each of the first eight years of vehicle life and 36 percent of the Minnesota base rate during the ninth and succeeding years.

**Subd. 1d. Trailers.** On trailers the annual tax is based on total gross weight and is 30 percent of the Minnesota base rate prescribed in subdivision 1e, when the gross weight is 15,000 pounds or less, and when the gross weight of a trailer is more than 15,000 pounds, the tax for the first eight years of vehicle life is 100 percent of the tax imposed in the Minnesota base rate schedule, and during the ninth and succeeding years of vehicle life the tax is 75 percent of the Minnesota base rate prescribed by subdivision 1e, but in no event less than \$5, provided, that the tax on trailers with a total gross weight of 3,000 pounds or less is payable biennially.

Farm trailers with a gross weight in excess of 10,000 pounds and as described in section 168.011, subdivision 17, are taxed as farm trucks as prescribed in subdivision 1c.

**Subd. 1e. Trucks; tractors; combinations; exceptions.** On trucks and tractors except those in this chapter defined as farm trucks, on truck-tractor and semitrailer combinations except those defined as farm combinations, and on commercial zone vehicles, the tax based on total gross weight shall be graduated according to the Minnesota base rate schedule prescribed in this subdivision, but in no event less than \$120.

# MINNESOTA STATUTES 1986

3739

MOTOR VEHICLES; REGISTRATION; TAXATION; SALES; DEALERS 168.013

Minnesota Base Rate Schedule Scheduled taxes  
include five percent surtax provided for in subdivision 14

TOTAL GROSS WEIGHT IN POUNDS		TAX
A	0 - 1,500	\$ 15
B	1,501 - 3,000	20
C	3,001 - 4,500	25
D	4,501 - 6,000	35
E	6,001 - 9,000	45
F	9,001 -12,000	70
G	12,001 -15,000	105
H	15,001 -18,000	145
I	18,001 -21,000	190
J	21,001 -26,000	270
K	26,001 -33,000	360
L	33,001 -39,000	475
M	39,001 -45,000	595
N	45,001 -51,000	715
O	51,001 -57,000	865
P	57,001 -63,000	1015
Q	63,001 -69,000	1185
R	69,001 -73,280	1325
S	73,281 -78,000	1595
T	78,001 -81,000	1760

For purposes of the Minnesota base rate schedule, for vehicles with six or more axles in the "S" and "T" categories, the base rates are \$1,520 and \$1,620 respectively.

For each vehicle with a gross weight in excess of 81,000 pounds an additional tax of \$50 is imposed for each ton or fraction thereof in excess of 81,000 pounds, subject to subdivision 12.

Truck-tractors except those herein defined as farm and commercial zone vehicles shall be taxed in accord with the foregoing gross weight tax schedule on the basis of the combined gross weight of the truck-tractor and any semitrailer or semitrailers which the applicant proposes to combine with the truck-tractor.

Commercial zone trucks include only trucks, truck-tractors, and semitrailer combinations which are:

(1) used by an authorized local cartage carrier operating under a permit issued under section 221.296 and whose gross transportation revenue consists of at least 60 percent obtained solely from local cartage carriage, and are operated solely within an area composed of two contiguous cities of the first class and municipalities contiguous thereto as defined by section 221.011, subdivision 17; or,

(2) operated by an interstate carrier registered under section 221.60, or by an authorized local cartage carrier or other carrier receiving operating authority under chapter 221, and operated solely within a zone exempt from regulation by the interstate commerce commission pursuant to United States Code, title 49, section 10526(b).

The license plates issued for commercial zone vehicles shall be plainly marked. A person operating a commercial zone vehicle outside the zone or area in which its operation is authorized is guilty of a misdemeanor and, in addition to the penalty therefor, shall have the registration of the vehicle as a commercial zone vehicle revoked by the registrar and shall be required to reregister the vehicle at 100 percent of the full annual tax prescribed in the Minnesota base rate schedule, and no part of this tax shall be refunded during the balance of the registration year.

On commercial zone trucks the tax shall be based on the total gross weight of the vehicle and during each of the first eight years of vehicle life shall be 75 percent of the

# MINNESOTA STATUTES 1986

168.013 MOTOR VEHICLES; REGISTRATION; TAXATION; SALES; DEALERS

3740

Minnesota base rate schedule. During the ninth and succeeding years of vehicle life the tax shall be 50 percent of the Minnesota base rate schedule.

On trucks, truck-tractors and semitrailer combinations, except those defined as farm trucks and farm combinations, and except for those commercial zone vehicles specifically provided for in this subdivision, the tax for each of the first eight years of vehicle life shall be 100 percent of the tax imposed in the Minnesota base rate schedule, and during the ninth and succeeding years of vehicle life, the tax shall be 75 percent of the Minnesota base rate prescribed by this subdivision.

**Subd. 1f. Buses.** On all intercity buses, the tax during each the first two years of vehicle life shall be based on the gross weight of the vehicle and graduated according to the following schedule:

Gross Weight of Vehicle	Tax
Under 6,000 lbs. ....	\$125
6,000 to 8,000 lbs., incl. ....	125
8,001 to 10,000 lbs., incl. ....	125
10,001 to 12,000 lbs., incl. ....	150
12,001 to 14,000 lbs., incl. ....	190
14,001 to 16,000 lbs., incl. ....	210
16,001 to 18,000 lbs., incl. ....	225
18,001 to 20,000 lbs., incl. ....	260
20,001 to 22,000 lbs., incl. ....	300
22,001 to 24,000 lbs., incl. ....	350
24,001 to 26,000 lbs., incl. ....	400
26,001 to 28,000 lbs., incl. ....	450
28,001 to 30,000 lbs., incl. ....	500
30,001 and over ....	550

During each of the third and fourth years of vehicle life, the tax shall be 75 percent of the foregoing scheduled tax; during the fifth year of vehicle life, the tax shall be 50 percent of the foregoing scheduled tax; during the sixth year of vehicle life, the tax shall be 37-1/2 percent of the foregoing scheduled tax; and during the seventh and each succeeding year of vehicle life, the tax shall be 25 percent of the foregoing scheduled tax; provided that the annual tax paid in any year of its life for an intercity bus shall be not less than \$175 for a vehicle of over 25 passenger seating capacity and not less than \$125 for a vehicle of 25 passenger and less seating capacity.

On all intracity buses operated by an auto transportation company in the business of transporting persons for compensation as a common carrier and operating within the limits of cities having populations in excess of 200,000 inhabitants, the tax during each year of the vehicle life of each such bus shall be \$40; on all of such intracity buses operated in cities having a population of less than 200,000 and more than 70,000 inhabitants, the tax during each year of vehicle life of each bus shall be \$10; and on all of such intracity buses operating in cities having a population of less than 70,000 inhabitants, the tax during each year of vehicle life of each bus shall be \$2.

On all other buses the tax during each of the first three years of the vehicle life shall be based on the gross weight of the vehicle and graduated according to the following schedule: Where the gross weight of the vehicle is 6,000 pounds or less, \$25. Where the gross weight of the vehicle is more than 6,000 pounds, and not more than 8,000 pounds, the tax shall be \$25 plus an additional tax of \$5 per ton for the ton or major portion in excess of 6,000 pounds. Where the gross weight of the vehicle is more than 8,000 pounds, and not more than 20,000 pounds, the tax shall be \$30 plus an additional tax of \$10 per ton for each ton or major portion in excess of 8,000 pounds. Where the gross weight of the vehicle is more than 20,000 pounds and not more than 24,000 pounds, the tax shall be \$90 plus an additional tax of \$15 per ton for each ton or major portion in excess of 20,000 pounds. Where the gross weight of the vehicle is more than 24,000 pounds and not more than 28,000 pounds, the tax shall be \$120 plus an additional tax of \$25 per ton for each ton or major portion in excess of 24,000 pounds.

# MINNESOTA STATUTES 1986

3741

MOTOR VEHICLES; REGISTRATION; TAXATION; SALES; DEALERS 168.013

Where the gross weight of the vehicle is more than 28,000 pounds, the tax shall be \$170 plus an additional tax of \$30 per ton for each ton or major portion in excess of 28,000 pounds.

During the fourth and succeeding years of vehicle life, the tax shall be 80 percent of the foregoing scheduled tax but in no event less than \$20 per vehicle.

Subd. 1g. **Recreational vehicles.** Self-propelled recreational vehicles shall be separately licensed and taxed annually on the basis of total gross weight and the tax shall be graduated according to the Minnesota base rate schedule prescribed in subdivision 1e, but in no event less than \$20, except as otherwise provided in this subdivision.

For all self-propelled recreational vehicles, the tax for the ninth and succeeding years of vehicle life shall be 75 percent of the tax imposed in the Minnesota base rate schedule.

Towed recreational vehicles shall be separately licensed and taxed annually on the basis of total gross weight at 30 percent of the Minnesota base rate prescribed in subdivision 1e but in no event less than \$5.

Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, all trailers and semitrailers taxed pursuant to this section shall be exempt from any wheelage tax now or hereafter imposed by any political subdivision or political subdivisions.

Subd. 1h. **Motorized bicycles.** On motorized bicycles the tax is \$6, which includes the surtax provided for in subdivision 14.

Subd. 1i. [Repealed, 1985 c 291 s 27]

Subd. 2. **Prorated fees.** When a motor vehicle first becomes subject to taxation during the registration period for which the tax is paid, the tax shall be for the remainder of the period prorated on a monthly basis, 1/12 of the annual tax for each calendar month or fraction thereof; provided, however, that for a vehicle having an annual tax of \$10 or less there shall be no reduction until on and after September 1 when the annual tax shall be reduced one-half.

Subd. 3. **Application; cancellation; excessive gross weights forbidden.** The applicant for all licenses based on gross weight shall state in writing upon oath, the unloaded weight of the motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer and the maximum load the applicant proposes to carry thereon, the sum of which shall constitute the gross weight upon which the license tax shall be paid, but in no case shall the declared gross weight upon which the tax is paid be less than 1-1/4 times the declared unloaded weight of the motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer to be registered, except recreational vehicles taxed under subdivision 1g, school buses taxed under subdivision 18 and wreckers defined in section 169.01, subdivision 52. The gross weight of a wrecker is the actual weight of the wrecker fully equipped, but does not include the weight of a wrecked or disabled vehicle towed or drawn by the wrecker.

The gross weight of no motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer shall exceed the gross weight upon which the license tax has been paid by more than four percent or 1,000 pounds, whichever is greater.

The gross weight of the motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer for which the license tax is paid shall be indicated by a distinctive character on the license plate or plates except as provided in subdivision 12 and the plate or plates shall be kept clean and clearly visible at all times.

The owner, driver, or user of a motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer upon conviction for transporting a gross weight in excess of the gross weight for which it was registered or for operating a vehicle with an axle weight exceeding the maximum lawful axle load weight shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and be subject to increased registration or reregistration according to the following schedule:

(1) The owner, driver or user of a motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer upon conviction for transporting a gross weight in excess of the gross weight for which it is registered by more than four percent or 1,000 pounds, whichever is greater, but less than 25 percent or for operating or using a motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer with an axle weight exceeding the maximum lawful axle load as provided in section 169.825

by more than four percent or 1,000 pounds, whichever is greater, but less than 25 percent, in addition to any penalty imposed for the misdemeanor shall apply to the registrar to increase the authorized gross weight to be carried on the vehicle to a weight equal to or greater than the gross weight the owner, driver, or user was convicted of carrying, the increase computed for the balance of the calendar year on the basis of 1/12 of the annual tax for each month remaining in the calendar year beginning with the first day of the month in which the violation occurred. If the additional registration tax computed upon that weight, plus the tax already paid, amounts to more than the regular tax for the maximum gross weight permitted for the vehicle under section 169.825, that additional amount shall nevertheless be paid into the highway fund, but the additional tax thus paid shall not permit the vehicle to be operated with a gross weight in excess of the maximum legal weight as provided by section 169.825. Unless the owner within 30 days after a conviction shall apply to increase the authorized weight and pay the additional tax as provided in this section, the registrar shall revoke the registration on the vehicle and demand the return of the registration card and plates issued on that registration.

(2) The owner or driver or user of a motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer upon conviction for transporting a gross weight in excess of the gross weight for which the motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer was registered by 25 percent or more, or for operating or using a vehicle or trailer with an axle weight exceeding the maximum lawful axle load as provided in section 169.825 by 25 percent or more, in addition to any penalty imposed for the misdemeanor, shall have the reciprocity privileges on the vehicle involved if the vehicle is being operated under reciprocity canceled by the registrar, or if the vehicle is not being operated under reciprocity, the certificate of registration on the vehicle operated shall be canceled by the registrar and the registrar shall demand the return of the registration certificate and registration plates. The registrar may not cancel the registration or reciprocity privileges for any vehicle found in violation of seasonal load restrictions imposed under section 169.87 unless the axle weight exceeds the year-round weight limit for the highway on which the violation occurred. The registrar may investigate any allegation of gross weight violations and demand that the operator show cause why all future operating privileges in the state should not be revoked unless the additional tax assessed is paid.

(3) When the registration on a motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer is revoked by the registrar according to provisions of this section, the vehicle shall not be operated on the highways of the state until it is registered or reregistered, as the case may be, and new plates issued, and the registration fee shall be the annual tax for the total gross weight of the vehicle at the time of violation. The reregistration pursuant to this subdivision of any vehicle operating under reciprocity agreements pursuant to section 168.181 or 168.187 shall be at the full annual registration fee without regard to the percentage of vehicle miles traveled in this state.

**Subd. 4. Gross earnings tax system.** Motor vehicles using the public streets and highways of this state, and owned by companies paying taxes under gross earnings system of taxation, shall be registered and taxed as provided for the registration and taxation of motor vehicles by this chapter, notwithstanding the fact that earnings from such vehicles may be included in the earnings of such companies upon which such gross earnings taxes are computed, and all provisions of this chapter are hereby made applicable to the enforcement and collection of the tax herein provided for.

**Subd. 5. Certain vehicles subject to personal property tax.** Motor vehicles not subject to taxation as provided in section 168.012, but subject to taxation as personal property within the state, shall be assessed and valued at 33-1/3 percent of the market value thereof, provided, that if the person against whom any tax has been levied on the ad valorem basis because of any motor vehicle shall, during the calendar year for which such tax is levied, be also taxed under the provisions of this chapter, then and in that event, upon proper showing, the commissioner of revenue shall grant to the person against whom said ad valorem tax was levied, such reduction or abatement of assessed valuation of taxes as was occasioned by the so-called ad valorem tax imposed, and

provided further that, if said ad valorem tax upon any motor vehicle has been assessed against a dealer in new and unused motor vehicles, and the tax imposed by this chapter for the required period is thereafter paid by the owner, then and in that event, upon proper showing, the commissioner of revenue, upon the application of said dealer, shall grant to such dealer against whom said ad valorem tax was levied such reduction or abatement of assessed valuation or taxes as was occasioned by the so-called ad valorem tax imposed. If such motor vehicle be registered and taxed under this chapter for a fractional part of the calendar year only, then such ad valorem tax shall be reduced in the percentage which such fractional part of the years bears to a full year.

**Subd. 6. Listing by dealers.** The owner of every motor vehicle not exempted by section 168.012 or 168.28, shall, so long as it is subject to taxation within the state, list and register the same and pay the tax herein provided annually; provided, however, that any dealer in motor vehicles, to whom dealer's plates have been issued as provided in this chapter, coming into the possession of any such motor vehicle to be held solely for the purpose of sale or demonstration or both, shall be entitled to withhold the tax becoming due on such vehicle for the following year if the vehicle is received before the current year registration expires and the transfer is filed with the registrar on or before such expiration date. When, thereafter, such vehicle is otherwise used or is sold, leased, or rented to another person, firm, corporation, or association, the whole tax for the year shall become payable immediately with all arrears.

**Subd. 7. Agents.** Any act required herein of an owner may be performed in the owner's behalf by a duly authorized agent. Any person having a lien upon, or claim to, any motor vehicle may pay any tax due thereon to prevent the penalty for delayed registration from accruing, but the registration certificate and number plates shall not be issued until legal ownership is definitely determined.

**Subd. 8. Proceeds to highway user tax distribution fund.** The proceeds of the tax imposed on motor vehicles under this chapter shall be collected by the registrar of motor vehicles and paid into the state treasury and credited to the highway user tax distribution fund.

**Subd. 9. Municipalities not to impose tax; exceptions.** No city shall impose any tax or license fee or bond of any kind for the operation of any motor vehicle on its streets if the person or company owning or operating such vehicle holds a certificate or permit to operate such vehicle issued in accordance with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 1945, Chapter 221, provided, that this section shall not apply to vehicles transporting persons for hire which are operated exclusively within any city or contiguous cities.

**Subd. 10.** [Repealed, 1973 c 218 s 9]

**Subd. 12. Gross weight, additional tax for excessive.** Whenever an owner has registered a vehicle and paid the tax as provided in subdivisions 1 to 1g, on the basis of a selected gross weight of the vehicle and thereafter such owner desires to operate such vehicle with a greater gross weight than that for which the tax has been paid, such owner shall be permitted to reregister such vehicle by paying the additional tax due thereon for the remainder of the calendar year for which such vehicle has been reregistered, the additional tax computed pro rata by the month, 1/12 of the annual tax due for each month of the year remaining in the calendar year, beginning with the first day of the month in which such owner desires to operate the vehicle with the greater weight. In computing the additional tax as aforesaid, the owner shall be given credit for the unused portion of the tax previously paid computed pro rata by the month, 1/12 of the annual tax paid for each month of the year remaining in the calendar year beginning with the first day of the month in which such owner desires to operate the vehicle with the greater weight. An owner will be permitted one reduction of gross weight or change of registration per year, which will result in a refund. This refund will be prorated monthly beginning with the first day of the month after such owner applies to amend the registration. The application for amendment shall be accompanied by a fee of \$3, and all fees shall be deposited in the highway user tax distribution fund. Provided, however, the owner of a vehicle may reregister the vehicle for a weight of

more than 81,000 pounds for one or more 30-day periods. For each 30-day period, the additional tax shall be equal to 1/12 of the difference between the annual tax for the weight at which the vehicle is registered and reregistered. When a vehicle is reregistered in accordance with this provision, a distinctive windshield sticker provided by the commissioner of public safety shall be permanently displayed.

Subd. 13. [Repealed, 1973 c 218 s 9]

Subd. 14. **Increase of tax rate.** Beginning in and for the first calendar year following the issuance and sale of bonds of the state of Minnesota under the provisions of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, article 14, section 4, and after July 1, 1957, under the provisions of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, article 14, section 11, the proceeds of the sale of which are to be used in the construction of bridges and approaches thereto forming a part of the trunk highway system, all motor vehicle taxes imposed by section 168.013, subdivisions 1 to 1g shall be increased by 5 percent; such increased rate of tax shall remain in effect until and including the calendar year following the year in which all principal and interest on all of any such bonds shall be paid in full. Immediately upon the payment in full of all interest and principal on all of any such bonds, the commissioner of finance shall certify that fact to the registrar of motor vehicles and the registrar shall, for the second calendar year and thereafter following receipt of such certification, cease to collect motor vehicle taxes at the increased rate prescribed by this subdivision.

Subd. 15. **Adjustment of tax.** Whenever the tax on any vehicle as computed under the provisions of this section is found to be indivisible by \$1, the registrar is authorized to adjust such tax to the nearest even dollar.

Subd. 16. **Repair and servicing permit.** Upon the written application of the owner of a motor vehicle registered and taxed as a commercial zone truck, a truck tractor, a semitrailer, or any combination thereof in accordance with this section, the registrar may grant permission in writing to such owner to operate such vehicle to and from a repair shop or service station outside of its licensed zone of operation for the limited purpose of repair or servicing. The application and any permit issued under this subdivision shall state the location of the repair or servicing facility, together with such other information and subject to such conditions as the registrar may specify. Any motor vehicle operated under such a permit shall carry no load.

Subd. 17. [Repealed, 1981 c 363 s 58]

Subd. 18. **School buses.** Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision 1, school buses used exclusively for the transportation of students under contract with a school district, or used in connection with transportation for nonprofit educational institutions, shall be taxed during each year of the vehicle life of such bus the amount of \$25.

Subd. 19. **Limited rental of farm trucks to governmental units.** A motor vehicle licensed as a farm truck may be rented to any governmental unit for use in snow removal, flood, tornado, fire or other emergency or disaster situation without affecting its license status.

Subd. 20. **Federal heavy vehicle use tax; proof of payment.** No person may register a motor vehicle that, along with the trailers and semitrailers customarily used with the same type of motor vehicle, has a taxable gross weight of at least 33,000 pounds and is subject to the use tax imposed by the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, section 4481, unless proof of payment of the use tax, if required and in a form as may be prescribed by the secretary of the treasury, is presented.

**History:** 1949 c 694 s 3; 1951 c 123 s 1,2; 1951 c 575 s 1; 1951 c 576 s 1; 1953 c 58 s 1; 1953 c 374 s 1; 1953 c 737 s 1; 1955 c 352 s 2; 1955 c 605 s 1; 1955 c 749 s 1; 1957 c 60 s 1; 1957 c 176 s 1; 1957 c 875 s 1; 1957 c 961 s 1; 1959 c 154 s 1; 1961 c 282 s 1; 1963 c 119 s 1; 1965 c 94 s 1; 1965 c 108 s 3; 1965 c 147 s 1; 1965 c 202 s 1,2; 1967 c 332 s 1; 1969 c 9 s 31; 1969 c 24 s 1; 1969 c 824 s 3; 1969 c 1059 s 1; 1971 c 700 s 1; 1971 c 754 s 2; Ex1971 c 31 art 5 s 1; 1973 c 54 s 1; 1973 c 123 art 5 s 7; 1973 c 218 s 3-6; 1973 c 260 s 1; 1973 c 492 s 14; 1973 c 582 s 3; 1974 c 406 s 28-31; 1975 c 339 s 8; 1976 c 2 s 172; 1976 c 39 s 2-4; 1977 c 108 s 1; 1977 c 214 s 3; 1977 c 248 s 1-3; 1977 c 347

*s 26; 1979 c 213 s 2; 1980 c 427 s 1; 1981 c 321 s 1; 1981 c 357 s 51-54; 1981 c 363 s 7-17; 1Sp1981 c 4 art 4 s 61; 3Sp1981 c 1 art 2 s 5-7; 1982 c 424 s 41; 1983 c 198 s 2,3; 1983 c 371 s 1; 1984 c 549 s 3,4; 1985 c 291 s 8-11; 1985 c 299 s 8,9; 1986 c 398 art 13 s 1; 1986 c 444; 1986 c 454 s 12,13; 1Sp1986 c 3 art 2 s 11*

## **168.014 MONTHLY SERIES SYSTEM; OWNER'S RIGHT TO CERTIFICATE; EXPIRATION.**

The registered owner's right to the registration certificate provided for herein and the right to use the number plates issued therewith shall expire upon the termination of ownership of any person in the motor vehicle for which the same was issued, and in any event at midnight on December 31 of the year for which issued except as provided in section 168.017.

**History:** *1949 c 694 s 4; 1973 c 6 s 1; 1974 c 406 s 32*

## **168.015 [Repealed, 1973 c 218 s 9]**

## **168.016 COLLECTION OF TAX RATE INCREASE.**

The tax provisions include the five percent surtax imposed under section 168.013, subdivision 14 for passenger automobiles, ambulances and hearses, and the five percent increase in taxes provided for in said subdivision 14 shall not be added to the taxes imposed on such vehicles under the provisions of Extra Session Laws 1971, chapter 31.

**History:** *Ex1971 c 31 art 5 s 4*

## **168.017 MONTHLY SERIES SYSTEM OF REGISTRATION FOR PASSENGER AUTOMOBILES.**

Subdivision 1. All passenger automobiles, ambulances, hearses, pickup trucks, and station wagons shall be registered by the registrar according to the monthly series system of registration prescribed by this section.

Subd. 2. There are established 12 registration periods, each to be designated by a calendar month and to start on the first day of such month and end on the last day of the 12th month from the date of commencing. The registrar shall administer the monthly series system of registration to distribute the work of registering vehicles described in subdivision 1 as uniformly as practicable through the calendar year.

Subd. 3. All vehicles subject to registration under the monthly series system shall be registered by the registrar for a period of 12 consecutive calendar months, except as follows:

(a) If the application is an original rather than renewal application; or,

(b) The application is the next registration occurring after a dealer or distributor has registered a motor vehicle prior to its assessment or taxation as personal property pursuant to section 168.28; or,

(c) The application is a renewal application for a pickup truck for the registration year of 1982.

In such instance the registrar may register the vehicle which is the subject of the application for a period of not less than three nor more than 15 calendar months, when the registrar determines that such registration will help to equalize the registration and renewal work load of the department.

Subd. 4. Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, the applicant for registration of a vehicle under the monthly series system shall pay in full the calendar year registration fee prescribed by law during the 12 consecutive calendar months of registration under the monthly series system. If the registrar registers the vehicle for a period greater or less than a calendar year pursuant to subdivision 3, the calendar year registration fee shall be apportioned as follows: During the first period the fee is 1/12 of the first calendar year fee times the number of months in the period. During the first 12 consecutive months of registration under the monthly series system, the fee is the sum of the following: (a) 1/12 of the first calendar year fee times the months remaining

after subtracting the months in the first period of issuance from 12 months, and (b) 1/12 of the second calendar year fee times the number of months in the first period of issuance. The registration fee shall be computed in the same manner for second and subsequent periods of 12 consecutive months of registration under the monthly series system, subject to changes provided by law for registration fees under the calendar year system. If the registrar registers the vehicle for a part of a year pursuant to subdivision 3, the calendar year registration fee shall be apportioned as above in the case of an original registration for part of a year except that the computation shall begin with the second calendar year fee.

Subd. 5. The registrar may promulgate the rules necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

**History:** 1973 c 6 s 2; 1974 c 121 s 1-4; 1981 c 363 s 18-19; 1985 c 248 s 70

#### **168.018 QUARTERLY REGISTRATION OF FARM TRUCKS.**

The owner of any farm truck as defined in section 168.011, subdivision 17, may elect to register and license the farm truck only for one or more quarters of a registration year, at a tax of one-fourth of the annual tax on the vehicle plus \$5 for each quarterly registration. The owner may not apply for quarterly registration or renewal until seven days before the selected quarter or concurrent quarters. The expiration date of a registration shall be displayed on the license plate in such a manner as the registrar shall direct. No farm truck registered on a quarterly basis shall be operated on the public streets and highways more than ten days beyond the end of the quarter for which it is registered unless the registration has been renewed for another quarter or for the remainder of the registration year.

For purposes of this section registration quarters shall begin on March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 1.

**History:** 1981 c 363 s 20; 1984 c 549 s 5

#### **168.02 [Repealed, 1949 c 694 s 5]**

#### **168.021 LICENSE PLATES FOR PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Special plates; application for issuance.** When a motor vehicle registered under section 168.017, or a self-propelled recreational vehicle, is owned or primarily operated by a physically handicapped person, the owner may apply for and secure from the registrar of motor vehicles two license number plates with attached emblems, one plate to be attached to the front, and one to the rear of the vehicle. Application for issuance of these plates must be made at the time of renewal or first application for registration.

Subd. 1a. **Scope of privilege.** If any physically handicapped person parks a vehicle displaying license plates described in this section or any person parks such a vehicle while transporting a physically handicapped person, that person shall be entitled to courtesy in the parking of the vehicle and be relieved of any liability with respect to parking except as provided in sections 169.32 and 169.34; provided that any municipal governing body may, by ordinance, prohibit parking on any street or highway for the purpose of creating a fire lane, or to provide for the accommodation of heavy traffic during morning and afternoon rush hours and the privileges extended to handicapped persons shall not apply on streets or highways where and at the time parking is prohibited. The license plates specified in this section shall also serve to identify vehicles properly parked in designated handicapped parking spaces, as provided in section 169.346.

Subd. 2. **Design of plates; furnishing by registrar.** The registrar of motor vehicles shall design and furnish two license number plates with attached emblems to each such owner. The emblem shall bear the internationally accepted wheelchair symbol, as designated in section 16.8632, approximately three inches square. The emblem shall be of such size as to be visible plainly from a distance of 50 feet. Applicants eligible

# MINNESOTA STATUTES 1986

3747

MOTOR VEHICLES; REGISTRATION; TAXATION; SALES; DEALERS 168.031

for these special plates shall pay the motor vehicle registration fee authorized by law less a credit of \$1 for each month registered.

**Subd. 3. Unauthorized use of plate.** A person who appropriates or uses the plate provided in this section upon a motor vehicle other than as authorized by this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. This subdivision does not preclude a person who is not physically handicapped from operating a vehicle upon which these plates are displayed where the person is the owner of the vehicle and permits its operation by a physically handicapped person, or where the person operates the vehicle with the consent of the owner who is physically handicapped. A nonhandicapped driver is not entitled to the parking privileges provided in this section and in section 169.346 unless transporting a physically handicapped person.

**Subd. 4. Fees; disposition.** All fees collected from the sale of plates under this section shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the highway user tax distribution fund.

**Subd. 5. Definitions.** For the purposes of this section, a "physically handicapped person" means a person who has sustained an amputation or material disability of either or both arms or legs, or who has been otherwise disabled in any manner, rendering it difficult and burdensome for the person to walk.

**Subd. 6. Drivers license law not affected.** Nothing in this section shall be construed to revoke, limit, or amend any of the terms of the drivers license law.

**Subd. 7. Additional plates.** Additional plates bearing the emblem, but with different letter or number combinations may be issued to a qualified applicant upon payment of the regularly required registration fee.

**History:** 1953 c 152 s 1-6; 1965 c 51 s 21; 1975 c 217 s 1; 1976 c 19 s 1,2; 1977 c 205 s 2; 1979 c 225 s 1; 1979 c 277 s 1-3; 1983 c 117 s 1; 1983 c 216 art 1 s 27; 1985 c 291 s 12; 1986 c 444

## 168.022 REFUNDS; MANDATORY REFUND OR REPLACEMENT LAWS.

**Subdivision 1. Entitlement to refund.** If a manufacturer of motor vehicles is required by section 325F.665, subdivision 3, to refund the tax imposed by this chapter, the tax shall be refunded to the manufacturer as provided in this section.

**Subd. 2. Amount of refund.** The amount of the refund shall be the tax paid by the purchaser pursuant to this chapter less 1/12 of the annual tax for the vehicle for each calendar month or fraction of a calendar month between the date of registration and the date the purchase price is refunded.

**Subd. 3. Application.** The refund shall be paid to the manufacturer upon written application to the registrar of motor vehicles with proof of compliance with this section as the registrar may require.

**Subd. 4. Payment out of highway user fund.** Payment of any refund pursuant to this section shall be made out of the highway user fund and the amounts necessary to pay the refunds are appropriated out of the highway user fund.

**History:** 1983 c 342 art 20 s 1

## 168.03 [Repealed, 1949 c 694 s 5]

## 168.031 EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION; PERSONS IN ARMED FORCES, DISABLED VETERANS.

The motor vehicle of any person who engages in active service in time of war or other emergency declared by proper authority in any of the military or naval forces of the United States shall be exempt from the motor vehicle registration tax during the period of such active service and for 40 days immediately thereafter if the owner has filed with the registrar of motor vehicles a written application for exemption with such proof of military service as the registrar may have required and if the motor vehicle is not operated on a public highway within the state, except by the owner while on furlough or leave of absence.

# MINNESOTA STATUTES 1986

The motor vehicle of any disabled war veteran, which vehicle has been furnished free, in whole or in part, by the United States government to said disabled veteran, shall be exempt from the motor vehicle registration tax.

**History:** 1941 c 7 s 1; 1943 c 458 s 1; 1951 c 248 s 1; 1971 c 83 s 1

## 168.032 REFUNDMENT.

If such person shall have paid the tax for the year when entering upon such active service the person shall surrender to the registrar on applying for the exemption the number plates issued upon the registration. Upon proper application and surrender of the number plates, the registrar shall refund to the applicant from the motor vehicle license suspense fund the portion of the tax paid proportionate to the portion of the year during which the motor vehicle will not be used on any highway of the state.

**History:** 1941 c 7 s 2; 1986 c 444

## 168.033 MAY PAY PROPORTIONATE PART OF TAX.

If such person shall not have paid the tax for the year when entering upon such active service, the registrar shall not accept the application until the person has registered the motor vehicle and paid the portion of the tax with penalties, if any, proportionate to the portion of the year up to the date of application.

**History:** 1941 c 7 s 3; 1986 c 444

**168.034** [Repealed, 1967 c 515 s 3]

**168.035** [Repealed, 1967 c 515 s 3]

**168.036** [Repealed, 1967 c 515 s 3]

**168.037** [Repealed, 1967 c 515 s 3]

**168.038** [Repealed, 1967 c 515 s 3]

**168.039** [Repealed, 1967 c 515 s 3]

## 168.04 MILITARY PERSONNEL; EXEMPTIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Licensed in other states.** The provisions of this chapter, requiring the registration and taxation of motor vehicles and the display of license number plates shall not apply to a motor vehicle operated by an owner who is not a resident of this state or the owner's authorized agent while the owner is serving in the armed forces of the United States, subject to the following conditions and limitations:

(1) The vehicle is properly registered in another state in the name of the owner and displays the license number plates or other insignia required by the laws of the other state;

(2) The owner is a resident of the state in which the vehicle is registered;

(3) The vehicle is used only for personal transportation or for transportation of the owner or authorized agent's personal property; and

(4) The vehicle is subject to all provisions of law applicable to vehicles owned by Minnesota residents except to the extent exemption from law is provided by this section.

Subd. 2. **Licensed by the armed forces.** The provisions of this chapter, requiring the registration and taxation of motor vehicles and the display of license number plates shall not apply to a motor vehicle operated by the owner or authorized agent while the owner is engaged in active service in the armed forces of the United States, subject to the following conditions and limitations:

(1) That such vehicle is properly registered with, and displays the license number plates of, the armed forces of the United States in a foreign country;

(2) That such vehicle is used only for personal transportation or for transportation of the owner or authorized agent's personal property;

(3) That such vehicle shall be subject to all provisions of law applicable to vehicles

owned by Minnesota residents except to the extent that exemption from said law is provided by this section;

(4) That the exemption provided by this subdivision shall be valid only for a period of 30 days after a vehicle has arrived in this state.

**History:** 1967 c 515 s 1,2; 1981 c 167 s 1; 1986 c 444

## **168.041 IMPOUNDING REGISTRATION PLATES AND CERTIFICATES.**

Subdivision 1. When any person is convicted of driving a motor vehicle after the suspension or revocation of the drivers license or driving privileges of such person, the court shall require the registration plates and registration certificates of any motor vehicle involved in such violation owned by such person or registered in that person's name to be surrendered to the court. Upon surrender thereof the court shall issue a receipt therefor.

If the violator is not the owner of such motor vehicle, the court shall require the registration plates and the registration certificate of any motor vehicle used by the violator, with the permission of the owner who had knowledge of the fact that the violator's drivers license had been revoked or suspended prior to the commission of the offense, to be surrendered to the court.

Subd. 2. If any person is convicted of violating any law or municipal ordinance, except parking laws or ordinances, regulating the operation of motor vehicles on the streets or highways, and the record of such person so convicted shows a previous conviction for driving after suspension or revocation of the person's driver's license or driving privileges, the court may direct the commissioner of public safety to suspend the driver's license of such person for not exceeding one year. The court may also require the registration plates and registration certificates of any motor vehicles owned by the violator or registered in the violator's name to be surrendered to the court.

Subd. 3. If a person is convicted of any offense which makes mandatory the revocation of the drivers license of such person, or is convicted of driving a motor vehicle without having a valid driver's license in force, the court may require the registration plates and registration certificates of any motor vehicle owned by such person or any motor vehicles registered in that person's name to be surrendered to the court.

Subd. 4. Except as provided in subdivision 6 or subdivision 7, the court shall retain custody of the surrendered plates and certificates until such time as the drivers license of the violator has been reissued or reinstated.

Subd. 5. At the time of ordering the surrender of the registration plates and registration certificates of a violator or owner, the court shall notify the registrar of motor vehicles of that fact. Except as provided in subdivision 6 or subdivision 7, no new or duplicate registration plates or new registration certificates shall be issued to such violator or owner until the surrendered plates and certificates are returned to the violator or owner by the court.

Subd. 6. Any such violator or owner may apply to the registrar of motor vehicles for new registration plates which shall bear a special series number which may be readily identified by traffic law enforcement officers. A fee of \$5 shall accompany the application. The registrar of motor vehicles shall forthwith notify the court of such application. The court may return the registration certificate of such violator or owner to the registrar of motor vehicles, together with its consent to the issuance of such registration plates to such violator or owner. Thereupon the registrar of motor vehicles shall issue such new registration plates. Until the drivers license of such violator is reinstated, any new registration plates issued to the violator or to an owner whose plates have been impounded shall bear a special series number.

Subd. 7. If an owner wishes to sell a motor vehicle during the time its registration plates and registration certificate are impounded or during the time its registration plates bear a special series number, the owner may apply to the court which impounded such plates and certificate, for consent to transfer title to the motor vehicle. If the court

is satisfied that the proposed sale is in good faith and for a valid consideration, that the owner will thereby be deprived of the custody and control of the motor vehicle, and that the sale is not for the purpose of circumventing the provisions of this section, it may certify its consent to the registrar of motor vehicles and return the impounded registration plates and certificates. If during the time the registration plates and certificate of registration are impounded the title to said motor vehicle is transferred by the foreclosure of a chattel mortgage, the cancellation of a conditional sales contract, a sale upon execution, or by decree or order of a court of competent jurisdiction, the court shall order the license plates and registration certificate surrendered to the new owner and notify the registrar of motor vehicles of such action. The registrar of motor vehicles shall then transfer the registration plates and registration certificates to the new owner.

Subd. 8. Nothing contained in this section is intended to change or modify any provision of this chapter, with respect to the taxation of motor vehicles or the time within which the taxes thereon shall be paid.

Subd. 9. Any person who fails to surrender any impounded registration plates or registration certificates to the court upon demand or who operates any motor vehicle on a street or highway at a time when a court has ordered the surrender of its registration plates and registration certificate is guilty of a misdemeanor.

**History:** 1955 c 468 s 1-9; 1961 c 386 s 1,2; 1976 c 166 s 7; 1979 c 50 s 16; 1984 c 549 s 6; 1986 c 444

**168.05** [Held unconstitutional]

## **168.053 DRIVE-AWAY IN TRANSIT LICENSE.**

Subdivision 1. Any person, firm, or corporation engaged in the business of transporting motor vehicles owned by another, by delivering, by drive-away or towing methods, either singly or by means of the full mount method, the saddle mount method, the tow bar method, or any other combination thereof, and under their own power, vehicles over the highways of the state from the manufacturer or any other point of origin, to any point of destination, within or without the state, shall make application to the registrar for a drive-away in transit license. This application for annual license shall be accompanied by a registration fee of \$250 and contain such information as the registrar may require. Upon the filing of the application and the payment of the fee, the registrar shall issue to each drive-away operator a general distinguishing number, which number must be carried and displayed on the power unit consistent with section 169.79 and such number shall remain on the vehicle while being operated within the state. Additional plates bearing the same distinguishing number desired by any drive-away operator may be secured from the registrar of motor vehicles upon the payment of a fee of \$2 for each set of additional license plates. Any person, firm, or corporation engaging in the business as a drive-away operator, of transporting and delivering by means of full mount method, the saddle mount method, the tow bar method, or any combination thereof, and under their own power, motor vehicles, who fails or refuses to file or cause to be filed an application, as is required by law, and to pay the fees therefor as the law requires, shall be found guilty of violating the provisions of sections 168.053 to 168.057; and, upon conviction, fined not less than \$50, and not more than \$100, and all costs of court. Each day so operating without securing the license and plates as required therein shall constitute a separate offense within the meaning thereof.

Subd. 2. Notwithstanding any provisions of subdivision 1 inconsistent herewith the provisions of sections 168.053 to 168.057 shall also apply to the delivery of new house trailers, manufactured homes, sectional buildings, and semitrailers by towing methods whether or not the power unit is a part of the combination being delivered.

**History:** 1941 c 213 s 1; 1959 c 153 s 1; 1961 c 38 s 1; 1961 c 554 s 1; 1969 c 121 s 1; 1981 c 365 s 9; 1984 c 549 s 7; 1986 c 444

## **168.054 LIABILITY INSURANCE POLICY.**

Any person pulling or towing any vehicle as provided in section 168.053 designed, equipped, or intended to operate under its own power, the pulling or towing being accomplished by another vehicle when operating upon any public highway of the state, shall, before such pulling or towing, file with the registrar a liability insurance policy or bond covering public liability and property damage, issued by some insurance or bonding company, or insurance carrier authorized to do business in the state, which policy or bond shall be approved by the registrar and be in the amount of \$10,000 because of bodily injury to or death of one person in any one accident, and, subject to said limit for one person, in the amount of \$100,000 because of bodily injury to or death of two or more persons in any one accident, and in the amount of \$5,000 because of injury to or destruction of property of others in any one accident.

**History:** 1941 c 213 s 2; 1947 c 166 s 1

## **168.055 SAFETY CHAINS; SPEED LIMIT.**

In pulling or towing such motor vehicles, at least two safety chains shall be used in addition to tow bars and all sets shall be not less than 500 feet apart and no person shall operate such vehicle in excess of 35 miles per hour.

**History:** 1941 c 213 s 3

## **168.056 VIOLATION A MISDEMEANOR.**

Any person violating the provisions of sections 168.053 to 168.055 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. The provisions of sections 168.053 to 168.057 shall not apply where such vehicle is being towed as a temporary movement for the purpose of making repairs, or for the purpose of pulling or towing such vehicle from one point to another point for the purpose of making repairs, or on repossessed cars being towed by an agent or employee of any person or bona fide finance company in the state where such towing is incidental to the repossession of such vehicle.

**History:** 1941 c 213 s 4; 1969 c 6 s 28

## **168.057 FEES CREDITED TO HIGHWAY USER TAX DISTRIBUTION FUND.**

All fees derived from sections 168.053 to 168.057 shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the highway user tax distribution fund.

**History:** 1941 c 213 s 5; 1957 c 60 s 2

**168.06** [Repealed, 1949 c 694 s 5]

**168.073** [Repealed, 1949 c 694 s 5]

**168.075** [Repealed, 1949 c 694 s 5]

**168.08** [Repealed, 1949 c 694 s 5]

## **168.09 REGISTRATION; REREGISTRATION.**

Subdivision 1. No motor vehicle, except as is exempted by section 168.012, shall use or be operated upon the public streets or highways of the state in any calendar year until it is registered, as provided in this section, and the motor vehicle tax and fees as provided in this chapter are paid and the number plates issued for the motor vehicle are displayed on the vehicle. No motor vehicle, except as provided by section 168.012, which shall for any reason not be subject to taxation as provided in this chapter, shall use or be operated upon the public streets or highways of this state until it is registered, as provided in this section, and shall display number plates as required by the provisions of this chapter, except that the purchaser of a new motor vehicle may operate that motor vehicle without plates if the permit authorized by section 168.091 or 168.092 is displayed.

Subd. 2. When a motor vehicle registered in Minnesota, has during the calendar year for which it is so registered, been reregistered for the following year, the display

on such motor vehicle of the plates issued for such motor vehicle on its reregistration for the following year shall on and after November 15 of the calendar year in which it was so reregistered constitute compliance with subdivision 1 requiring display of plates except as provided in subdivisions 3 and 4.

Subd. 3. Plates or other insignia issued for a motor vehicle registered under the provisions of section 168.187 for a calendar year shall be displayed on the motor vehicle not later than 12:01 a.m. on March 2 of the year unless extended by the registrar for the period of time required for the issuance of the new plates or insignia. Plates or other insignia issued for a self-propelled motor vehicle registered for over 27,000 pounds except a motor vehicle registered under the provision of sections 168.017 and 168.187 shall be displayed on the vehicle not later than 12:01 a.m. on March 2 of the year, nor earlier than 12:01 a.m. on February 15 of the year, unless otherwise extended by the registrar for the period of time required for the issuance of the new plates or insignia. Plates or other insignia issued for a self-propelled vehicle registered for 27,000 pounds or less and all other motor vehicles except those registered under the provisions of section 168.017 or 168.187 shall be displayed not later than 12:01 a.m. on March 2 of the year, and not earlier than January 1 of the year unless otherwise extended by the registrar for the period of time required for the issuance of the new plates or insignia. The commissioner of public safety shall register all motor vehicles with the exception of those registered under sections 168.017 or 168.187 for a period of 14 months for the registration year 1978 to implement the provisions of this subdivision. The registration year for all vehicles as provided in this section shall be from March 1 to the last day of February for 1979 and succeeding years.

Subd. 4. A vehicle registered under the monthly series system of registration shall display the plates and insignia issued within ten days of the first day of the month which commences the registration period.

Subd. 5. No person may be charged with violating this section by reason of failure to renew the registration of a previously registered motor vehicle if:

(1) the person produces a statement from the registrar to the effect that the person was not notified by the registrar of the annual renewal for the registration of the vehicle to which a citation was issued; and

(2) the person renews the registration and pays the motor vehicle tax and fees due within ten days of being cited for the violation.

Subd. 6. On semitrailers as defined in section 168.011, subdivision 14, a number plate must be assigned to the registered owner as identification for the vehicle and correlate with the certificate of title documentation on file with the department. This number plate shall not display a year designator. The registration card must indicate the number plate for the number plate to be valid.

**History:** (2675) 1921 c 461 s 4; 1923 c 418 s 4; 1927 c 88; 1945 c 14 s 1; 1949 c 130; 1957 c 714 s 1; 1969 c 75 s 1; 1971 c 1 s 1; 1974 c 121 s 6; 1976 c 39 s 5; 1978 c 613 s 1,2; 1981 c 167 s 2,3; 1984 c 549 s 8,9; 1985 c 64 s 1; 1985 c 291 s 13; 1986 c 444

### 168.091 TEMPORARY VEHICLE PERMITS FOR NONRESIDENTS.

Subdivision 1. Upon payment of a fee of \$1, the registrar may issue a permit to a nonresident purchasing a new or used motor vehicle in this state for the purpose of allowing such nonresident to remove the vehicle from this state for registration in another state or country. Such permit shall be in lieu of any other registration or taxation for use of the highways and shall be valid for a period of 21 days. The permit shall be in such form as the registrar may determine and, whenever practicable, shall be posted upon the left side of the inside rear window of the vehicle. Each such permit shall be valid only for the vehicle for which issued.

Subd. 2. The registrar may issue a quantity of permits in booklet form to licensed dealers upon payment of the proper fee for each permit contained in said booklet. When issuing a permit, the dealer shall immediately forward to the registrar information on forms supplied by the registrar showing to whom the permit was issued, the

vehicle description, date of issue and expiration, and such other information as the registrar may require.

Subd. 3. All payments received for such permits shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the highway user tax distribution fund.

**History:** 1969 c 357 s 1; 1976 c 94 s 1; 1986 c 444

### 168.092 TEMPORARY VEHICLE PERMITS.

Subdivision 1. The motor vehicle registrar may issue a permit to a person purchasing a new or used motor vehicle in this state for the purpose of allowing the purchaser a reasonable time to register the vehicle and pay fees and taxes due on the transfer. The permit is valid for a period of 21 days. The permit must be in a form as the registrar may determine and, whenever practicable must be posted upon the left side of the inside rear window of the vehicle. Each permit is valid only for the vehicle for which issued.

Subd. 2. The registrar may issue a quantity of permits in booklet form to licensed dealers. When issuing a permit, the dealer shall immediately forward to the registrar information on forms supplied by the registrar showing to whom the permit was issued, the vehicle description, date of issue and expiration, and such other information as the registrar may require.

**History:** 1971 c 853 s 14; 1976 c 94 s 2; 1983 c 68 s 1; 1986 c 444

### 168.10 REGISTRATION; CLASSIC CARS.

Subdivision 1. **Application.** Except as provided in subdivisions 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1g, and 1h, every owner of any motor vehicle in this state, not exempted by section 168.012 or 168.26, shall as soon as ownership of a motor vehicle is acquired and annually thereafter during the period provided in section 168.31, file with the commissioner of public safety on a blank provided by the commissioner a listing for taxation and application for the registration of such vehicle, stating the first, middle and last names, the dates of birth, and addresses of all owners thereof who are natural persons, the full names and addresses of all other owners, the name and address of the person from whom purchased, make of motor vehicle, year and number of the model, manufacturer's identification number or serial number, type of body, the weight of the vehicle in pounds, for trailers only, its rated load carrying capacity and for buses only, its seating capacity, and such other information as the commissioner may require. Any false statement willfully and knowingly made in regard thereto shall be deemed perjury and punished accordingly. The listing and application for registration by dealers or manufacturers' agents within the state, of motor vehicles received for sale or use within the state shall be accepted as compliance with the requirements of this chapter, imposed upon the manufacturer.

Registration shall be refused a motor vehicle if the original identification or serial number has been destroyed, removed, altered, covered or defaced. However, if the commissioner is satisfied on the sworn statements of the owner or owners or such other persons as the commissioner may deem advisable that the applicant is the legal owner, a special identification number in the form prescribed by the commissioner shall be assigned to the motor vehicle. When it has been determined that the number had been affixed to such vehicle in a manner prescribed by the commissioner, the vehicle may thereafter be registered in the same manner as other motor vehicles. In the case of a new or rebuilt motor vehicle manufactured or assembled without an identification or serial number, the commissioner may assign an identification number to the motor vehicle in the same manner as prescribed heretofore.

Subd. 1a. **Collector's vehicles, pioneer license.** Any motor vehicle manufactured prior to 1936 and owned and operated solely as a collector's item shall be listed for taxation and registration as follows: An affidavit shall be executed stating the name and address of the owner, the name and address of the person from whom purchased, the make of the motor vehicle, year and number of the model, the manufacturer's identification

number and that the vehicle is owned and operated solely as a collector's item and not for general transportation purposes. If the registrar is satisfied that the affidavit is true and correct and the owner pays a \$25 tax, the registrar shall list such vehicle for taxation and registration and shall issue number plates.

The number plates so issued shall bear the inscription "Pioneer," "Minnesota" and the registration number but no date. The number plates are valid without renewal as long as the vehicle is in existence and shall be issued for the applicant's use only for such vehicle. The registrar has the power to revoke said plates for failure to comply with this subdivision.

**Subd. 1b. Collector's vehicle, classic car license.** Any motor vehicle manufactured between and including the years 1925 and 1948, and designated by the registrar of motor vehicles as a classic car because of its fine design, high engineering standards, and superior workmanship, and owned and operated solely as a collector's item shall be listed for taxation and registration as follows: An affidavit shall be executed stating the name and address of the owner, the name and address of the person from whom purchased, the make of the motor vehicle, year and number of the model, the manufacturer's identification number and that the vehicle is owned and operated solely as a collector's item and not for general transportation purposes. If the registrar is satisfied that the affidavit is true and correct and that the motor vehicle qualifies to be classified as a classic car, and the owner pays a \$25 tax, the registrar shall list such vehicle for taxation and registration and shall issue number plates.

The number plates so issued shall bear the inscription "Classic Car," "Minnesota," and the registration number but no date. The number plates are valid without renewal as long as the vehicle is in existence and shall be issued for the applicant's use only for such vehicle. The registrar has the power to revoke said plates for failure to comply with this subdivision.

The following cars built between and including 1925 and 1948 are classic:

A.C.	
Adler	
Alfa Romeo	
Alvis	Speed 20, 25, and 4.3 litre.
Amilcar	
Aston Martin	
Auburn	All 8-cylinder and 12-cylinder models.
Audi	
Austro-Daimler	
Avions Voisin 12	
Bentley	
Blackhawk	
B.M.W.	Models 327, 328, and 335 only.
Brewster	
(Heart-front Ford)	
Bugatti	
Buick	1931 through 1942: series 90 only.
Cadillac	All 1925 through 1935. 1936-1948: Series 67, 70, 72, 75, 80, 85 and 90 only. 1938-1941: 60 special only.
Chrysler	1926 through 1930: Imperial 80. 1931: Imperial 8 Series CG. 1932: Series CG, CH and CL. 1933: Series CL. 1934: Series CW. 1935: Series CW. All Newports and Thunderbolts.
Cord	
Cunningham	

# MINNESOTA STATUTES 1986

3755

MOTOR VEHICLES; REGISTRATION; TAXATION; SALES; DEALERS 168.10

Dagmar	Model 25-70 only.
Daimler	
Delage	
Delahaye	
Doble	
Dorris	
Duesenberg	
du Pont	
Franklin	All models except 1933-34 Olympic Sixes.
Frazer Nash	
Hispano Suiza	
Horch	
Hotchkiss	
Invicta	
Isotta Fraschini	
Jaguar	
Jordan	Speedway Series 'Z' only.
Kissel	1925, 1926 and 1927: Model 8-75. 1928: Model 8-90, and 8-90 White Eagle. 1929: Model 8-126, and 8-90 White Eagle. 1930: Model 8-126. 1931: Model 8-126.
Lagonda	
Lancia	
La Salle	1927 through 1933 only.
Lincoln	All models K, L, KA, and KB. 1941: Model 168H. 1942: Model 268H.
Lincoln	
Continental	1939 through 1948.
Locomobile	All models 48 and 90. 1927: Model 8-80. 1928: Model 8-80. 1929: Models 8-80 and 8-88.
Marmon	All 16-cylinder models. 1925: Model 74. 1926: Model 74. 1927: Model 75. 1928: Model E75. 1930: Big 8 model. 1931: Model 88, and Big 8.
Maybach	
McFarlan	
Mercedes Benz	All models 2.2 litres and up.
Mercer	
M.G.	6-cylinder models only.
Minerva	
Packard	1925 through 1934: All models. 1935 through 1942: Models 1200, 1201, 1202, 1203, 1204, 1205, 1207, 1208, 1400, 1401, 1402, 1403, 1404, 1405, 1407, 1408, 1500, 1501, 1502, 1506, 1507, 1508, 1603, 1604, 1605, 1607, 1608, 1705, 1707, 1708, 1806, 1807 1808, 1906, 1907, 1908, 2006, 2007, and 2008 only. 1946 and 1947: Models 2106 and 2126 only.
Peerless	1926 through 1928: Series 69. 1930-1931: Custom 8. 1932: Deluxe Custom 8.

Pierce Arrow	
Railton	
Renault	Grand Sport model only.
Reo	1930-1931: Royale Custom 8, and Series 8-35 and 8-52 Elite 8. 1933: Royale Custom 8.
Revere	
Roamer	1925: Series 8-88, 6-54e, and 4-75. 1926: Series 4-75e, and 8-88. 1927-1928: Series 8-88. 1929: Series 8-88, and 8-125. 1930: Series 8-125.
Rohr	
Rolls Royce	
Ruxton	
Salmson	
Squire	
Stearns Knight	
Stevens Duryea	
Steyr	
Stutz	
Sunbeam	
Talbot	
Vauxhall	Series 30-98 only.
Wills Saint Claire	

No commercial vehicles such as hearses, ambulances, or trucks are considered to be classic cars.

**Subd. 1c. Collector's vehicle, collector license.** Any motor vehicle, including any truck, that is at least 20 model years old and manufactured after 1935, or any motor vehicle of a defunct make defined as any car or truck originally licensed as a separate identifiable make as designated by the division of motor vehicles, and owned and operated solely as a collector's vehicle, shall be listed for taxation and registration as follows: An affidavit shall be executed stating the name and address of the person from whom purchased and of the new owner, the make of the motor vehicle, year and number of the model, the manufacturer's identification number and that the vehicle is owned and operated solely as a collector's item and not for general transportation purposes. The owner must also prove that the owner also has one or more vehicles with regular license plates. If the registrar is satisfied that the affidavit is true and correct and the owner pays a \$25 tax, the registrar shall list the vehicle for taxation and registration and shall issue number plates.

The number plates issued shall bear the inscription "Collector," "Minnesota" and the registration number, but no date. The number plates are valid without renewal as long as the vehicle is in existence and shall be issued for the applicant's use only for the vehicle. The registrar has the power to revoke the plates for failure to comply with this subdivision.

**Subd. 1d. Collectors vehicles, street rod license.** Any modernized motor vehicle manufactured prior to the year 1949 or designed and manufactured to resemble such vehicle shall be listed for taxation and registration as follows:

An affidavit shall be executed stating the name and address of the person from whom purchased and of the new owner, the make of the motor vehicle, year number of model, and the manufacturer's identification number. The affidavit shall further state that the vehicle is owned and operated solely as a street rod and not for general transportation purposes. The owner must also prove that the owner has one or more vehicles with regular license plates. If the registrar is satisfied that the affidavit is true and correct and the owner pays a \$25 tax, the registrar shall list such vehicle for taxation and registration and shall issue number plates.

The number plates issued shall bear the inscription "Street Rod", "Minnesota" and the registration number but no date. The number plates are valid without renewal as long as the vehicle is in existence and shall be issued for the applicant's use only for such vehicle. The registrar has the power to revoke such plates for failure to comply with this subdivision.

Subd. 1c. **Outdoor storage.** Pioneer, classic, collector vehicles, collector military vehicles, or street rods, licensed or unlicensed, operable or inoperable, may be stored in compliance with local government zoning and ordinances on their owners' property, provided that the vehicles and any outdoor storage areas they may require are maintained in such a manner that they do not constitute a health or environmental hazard and are screened from ordinary public view by means of a fence, shrubbery, rapidly growing trees or other appropriate means. The appropriate local agency or authority may inform an owner of the owner's failure to comply with these requirements, and may order the vehicles removed from the outdoor storage area if the owner fails to comply with these requirements within 20 days after the warning.

Subd. 1f. **Equipment.** Any pioneer, classic, collector vehicle, collector military vehicle, or street rod shall have all equipment, in operating condition, which was specifically required by law as a condition for its first sale after manufacture.

No law requiring any particular equipment or specifying any standards to be met by motor vehicles shall apply to pioneer, classic, collector vehicles, collector military vehicles, or street rods unless it specifically so states.

Subd. 1g. **Original plates.** A vehicle registered pursuant to subdivision 1a, 1b, 1c or 1d may in lieu of being issued number plates by the registrar display original Minnesota number plates issued in the same year as the model year of the car on which they are displayed. The number of the original plates must be provided to the registrar. The original plates must be in good condition and shall be used in pairs one to be displayed in the front of the car and one in the rear. Original Minnesota number plates shall not be used if the number on the original plate is identical to a number on any current street rod plate or any other plate in a numbering system used by the registrar. Any person currently using plates issued pursuant to subdivision 1a, 1b, 1c or 1d shall return those plates to the registrar before substituting original plates. The registrar may charge a fee for registering the number on original plates.

Subd. 1h. **Collector military vehicles.** (a) A motor vehicle, including a truck, shall be listed and registered under this section if it meets the following conditions:

(1) it is at least 20 years old;

(2) its first owner following its manufacture was a branch of the armed forces of the United States and it presently conforms to the vehicle specifications required during the time of military ownership, or it has been restored and presently conforms to the specifications required by a branch of the armed forces for the model year that the restored vehicle could have been owned by that branch of the armed forces; and

(3) it is owned by a nonprofit organization and operated solely as a collector's vehicle. For purposes of this subdivision, "nonprofit organization" means a corporation, society, association, foundation, or institution organized and operated exclusively for historical or educational purposes, no part of the net earnings of which inures to the benefit of a private individual.

(b) The owner of the vehicle shall execute an affidavit stating the name and address of the person from whom purchased and of the new owner; the make, year, and model number of the motor vehicle; the manufacturer's identification number; and the collector military vehicle identification number, if any, located on the exterior of the vehicle. The affidavit must affirm that the vehicle is owned by a nonprofit organization and is operated solely as a collector's item and not for general transportation purposes. If the registrar is satisfied that the affidavit is true and correct and the owner pays a \$25 tax, the registrar shall list the vehicle for taxation and registration and shall issue number plates. The number plates shall bear the inscriptions "Collector" and "Minnesota" and the registration number, but no date. The number plates are valid without

renewal as long as the vehicle is in existence and may not be transferred to another vehicle. The registrar may revoke the plates for failure to comply with this subdivision.

(c) Notwithstanding section 168.09, 168.12, or other law to the contrary, the owner of a registered collector military vehicle is not required to display registration plates on the exterior of the vehicle if the vehicle has an exterior number identification that conforms to the identifying system for military vehicles in effect when the vehicle was last owned by the branch of the armed forces of the United States or in effect in the year to which the collector military vehicle has been restored. However, the state registration plates must be carried in or on the collector military vehicle at all times.

(d) The owner of a registered collector military vehicle that is not required to display registration plates under paragraph (c) may tow a registered trailer behind it. The trailer is not required to display registration plates if the trailer:

- (1) does not exceed a gross weight of 15,000 pounds;
- (2) otherwise conforms to registration, licensing, and safety laws and specifications;
- (3) conforms to military specifications for appearance and identification;
- (4) is intended to represent and does represent a military trailer; and
- (5) carries registration plates on or in the trailer or the collector military vehicle towing the trailer.

**Subd. 2. New body; application.** Upon the installation of a new body or the addition to or change of type of any body in or upon any registered motor vehicle, the owner shall file with the registrar a new application setting forth such change, together with the payment of any additional tax to which the motor vehicle by such change has become subject, and shall apply for a revision of the registration made.

**Subd. 3. Offenses.** It shall be unlawful for any person:

- (1) To display or cause to be displayed or to possess any canceled, revoked, suspended or fraudulently obtained or stolen registration plates;
- (2) To lend the person's registration plates to another or knowingly to permit the use thereof by another;
- (3) To display or represent as the person's own any registration plates not issued to that person; provided, however, this shall not apply to any legal change of ownership of the motor vehicle to which the plates are attached;
- (4) To fail or refuse to surrender to the department upon its lawful demand any registration plates which have been revoked, canceled, or suspended by proper authority;
- (5) To use a false or fictitious name or address or description of the motor vehicle, identification number, or serial number in any application for registration of a motor vehicle or to knowingly make a false statement or to knowingly conceal a material fact or otherwise commit a fraud in any such application;
- (6) To destroy, alter, remove, cover or deface the identification or serial number of any motor vehicle or to knowingly operate any motor vehicle the identification or serial number of which has been destroyed, altered, removed, covered or defaced without first making application for assignment of a special identification number as provided by law. .

**Subd. 4. Violations.** It shall be a misdemeanor for any person to violate any of the provisions of this chapter unless such violation is by this chapter or other laws of this state declared to be a felony or gross misdemeanor.

**History:** (2676) 1921 c 461 s 5; 1923 c 418 s 5; 1937 c 436 s 1; 1941 c 515 s 2; 1951 c 211 s 1,2; 1953 c 88 s 1; 1955 c 59 s 1; 1957 c 714 s 2; 1959 c 74 s 1; 1959 c 315 s 1; 1963 c 579 s 1; 1965 c 107 s 1; 1975 c 55 s 1,2; 1976 c 73 s 1; 1977 c 370 s 1; 1979 c 329 s 1; 1981 c 199 s 1; 3Sp1981 c 1 art 2 s 8; 1984 c 549 s 10-14; 1986 c 336 s 2-5; 1986 c 444

**168.101 OWNERSHIP AND REGISTRATION OF PASSENGER AUTOMOBILES OR TRUCKS BY PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF 18; PROHIBITIONS.**

Subdivision 1. Except as provided in this subdivision it is unlawful for a person under the age of 18 to own a passenger automobile or truck. A person who is under the age of 18 may own a passenger automobile or truck only if any of the following conditions exist:

(1) The person has completed a driver training course approved by the commissioner of public safety and has attained the age of 17;

(2) The person is a high school graduate and has attained the age of 17;

(3) The person is an employed, emancipated minor who holds a Minnesota drivers license;

(4) The person, before January 1, 1964, owns a passenger automobile or truck which is registered in the person's name with the registrar of motor vehicles;

(5) The person became the owner of the passenger automobile or truck which the person seeks to register in Minnesota while a resident of a foreign state, district, territory, or country, and which passenger automobile or truck is duly registered in the person's name in such foreign state, district, territory, or country.

Subd. 2. Any person who knowingly sells or in any manner knowingly transfers title of a passenger automobile or truck to a person who is prohibited from owning a passenger automobile or truck under the provisions of subdivision 1 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Any person who knowingly fails to mail in the application for registration or transfer to the registrar of motor vehicles or otherwise fails to submit said forms to the registrar within 14 days following date of sale shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Subd. 3. The registrar of motor vehicles shall refuse to register a passenger automobile or truck unless the owner submits to the registrar, at the time the owner files the first application for registration or transfer of a passenger automobile or truck, a written and verified statement that the owner is 18 years of age or over or, if under the age 18, is permitted by the provisions of subdivision 1 to own a passenger automobile or truck. The statement of an applicant under the age of 18 also shall set forth the number of the applicant's drivers license, or if the applicant has no drivers license the applicant shall so state. The applicant shall make an oath or affirmation before an officer authorized by law to administer oaths and affirmations that the statements made are correct and true. The registrar may prescribe a form for the statement required by this subdivision, which form the registrar may make a part of the application for registration or transfer.

Subd. 4. A person who violates the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor. The commissioner of public safety shall suspend, for not less than one year, the drivers license of a person who, while under the age of 18, misrepresents the person's age on the statement required by subdivision 3.

Subd. 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 168.011, subdivision 7, the term "passenger automobile" includes "station wagon" for the purposes of this section.

**History:** 1963 c 580 s 1; 1965 c 178 s 1; 1967 c 55 s 1; 1969 c 1129 art 1 s 18; 1984 c 549 s 15; 1986 c 444

**168.102 SCHOOL BUSES; PREREGISTRATION INSPECTION.**

No school bus, as defined in section 169.01, subdivision 6, shall be registered for the first time in this state unless the application for registration is accompanied by a certificate from either the Minnesota state patrol or the dealer showing that the school bus conforms with all rules promulgated by the department of education and with all other applicable provisions of law.

**History:** 1975 c 283 s 1; 1981 c 37 s 2; 1985 c 248 s 70

**168.105 CLASSIC MOTORCYCLES.**

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** A "classic motorcycle" is a motorcycle that is at least 20 years old, original in appearance, and owned solely as a collector's item and used in a classic motorcycle club activity, exhibition, tour, parade, or similar use. A classic motorcycle may not be used for general transportation purposes.

Subd. 2. **Affidavit for registration and taxation.** A classic motorcycle must be listed for taxation and registration by executed affidavit stating (1) the name and address of the owner, (2) the name and address of the person from whom purchased, (3) the make of the classic motorcycle, (4) the year and number of the model, (5) the manufacturer's identification number, (6) that the motorcycle is owned and operated solely as a collector's item and not used for general transportation purposes, and (7) that the owner has one or more motor vehicles with regular license plates.

When the registrar is satisfied that the affidavit is true, correct, and complete and that the owner has paid a \$10 tax, the registrar shall list the vehicle for taxation and registration and shall issue special number plates.

Subd. 3. **License plates.** The registrar shall issue number plates of the same size as standard motorcycle license plates and inscribed "collector" and "Minnesota" with the registration number but without a date. The plates are valid without renewal as long as the classic motorcycle exists and may be issued for the applicant's use only for the classic motorcycle. The registrar may revoke the plates for noncompliance with this subdivision.

Subd. 4. [Repealed, 1985 c 291 s 27]

Subd. 5. **Original plates.** Instead of being issued special classic motorcycle plates, a classic motorcycle registered under this section may display original Minnesota number plates issued in the same year as the model year of the motorcycle on which they are displayed. The number of the original plates must be provided to the registrar.

Original Minnesota number plates may not be used if the number on the original plate is identical to the number on a current collector's plate issued by the registrar.

A person currently using classic motorcycle plates issued under this section, shall return those plates to the registrar before substituting original plates.

The registrar may charge a fee for registering the number on original plates.

Subd. 6. **Issuance.** The registrar shall begin issuing classic motorcycle plates on January 1, 1984, and thereafter.

**History:** 1983 c 173 s 1

**168.11 REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE.**

Subdivision 1. The registrar shall file such application and, upon approval thereof and upon payment of the motor vehicle tax, as herein provided, together with all arrears and penalties, if any, and upon the delivery to the registrar of the duly endorsed registration certificate of the former owner, as hereinafter provided, or proof of loss provided in lieu thereof, shall assign to it a distinctive number and issue to the owner a registration certificate, which shall contain the name, place of residence, with street and number, if in a city, and post office address of the owner, a specific description of the vehicle, and the number assigned, together with a place on the face of the certificate in which the owner shall, immediately upon receipt thereof, place the owner's signature and, on the reverse side thereof, an assignment and notice of sale or termination of ownership, with places for the signatures of both seller and purchaser, and a place for assignment of the credit for the tax. The registration certificate shall be retained by the owner until expiration or surrender, as herein provided. When in administering this chapter convenience or necessity requires, the registration certificate may also be called or referred to as the registration card.

Subd. 2. In the case of motor vehicles taxed under the provisions of section 168.013, subdivision 1e, a nonnegotiable copy of the registration card shall be issued. The owner or driver shall carry said copy in immediate possession at all times when

operating the vehicle and shall display the same upon demand of a peace officer, and authorized representative of the department or an officer authorized by law to enforce the laws relating to the operation of motor vehicles upon the public streets and highways. Nothing herein shall be construed to vary the terms or conditions of section 168.013, subdivision 3.

Subd. 3. If the registrar fails to mail to the registered owner of a motor vehicle a notification of renewal for the motor vehicle at least 30 days before the expiration of the vehicle's registration, and all past due taxes and fees have been paid, the registrar must provide at no charge a written statement to that effect to the registered owner at the owner's request. The registrar must retain in the registrar's files a record sufficient to demonstrate whether any owner of a registered motor vehicle has been notified by mail of the renewal of the registration.

**History:** (2677) 1921 c 461 s 6; 1923 c 418 s 6; 1959 c 81 s 1; 1974 c 406 s 33; 1985 c 64 s 2; 1986 c 444

### 168.12 LICENSE PLATES.

Subdivision 1. **Number plates; visibility, periods of issuance.** The registrar, upon the approval and payment, shall issue to the applicant the number plates required by law, bearing the state name and the number assigned. The number assigned may be a combination of a letter or sign with figures. The color of the plates and the color of the abbreviation of the state name and the number assigned shall be in marked contrast. The plates shall be lettered, spaced, or distinguished to suitably indicate the registration of the vehicle according to the rules of the registrar, and when a vehicle is registered on the basis of total gross weight, the plates issued shall clearly indicate by letters or other suitable insignia the maximum gross weight for which the tax has been paid. These number plates shall be so treated as to be at least 100 times brighter than the conventional painted number plates. When properly mounted on an unlighted vehicle, these number plates, when viewed from a vehicle equipped with standard headlights, shall be visible for a distance of not less than 1,500 feet and readable for a distance of not less than 110 feet. The registrar shall issue these number plates for the following periods:

(1) number plates issued pursuant to sections 168.27, subdivisions 16 and 17, and 168.053 shall be for a one-year period;

(2) new number plates issued pursuant to section 168.012, subdivision 1, shall be issued to a vehicle for as long as it is owned by the exempt agency and shall not be transferable from one vehicle to another but may be transferred with the vehicle from one tax exempt agency to another;

(3) plates issued for passenger automobiles as defined in section 168.011, subdivision 7, motorcycles, motorized bicycles, and motor scooters shall be issued for a six-year period starting not later than October 1986, or until the next general reissuance of plates every six years thereafter, whichever is less; and

(4) plates for any vehicle not specified in clauses (1), (2) and (3), except for trailers as hereafter provided, shall be issued for the life of the vehicle. Beginning with number plates issued for the year 1981, plates issued for trailers with a total gross weight of 3,000 pounds or less shall be issued for the life of the trailer and shall be not more than seven inches in length and four inches in width.

In a year in which plates are not issued, the registrar shall issue for each registration a tab or sticker to designate the year of registration. This tab or sticker shall show the calendar year or years for which issued, and is valid only for that period. The number plates, number tabs, or stickers issued for a motor vehicle may not be transferred to another motor vehicle during the period for which it is issued.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this subdivision, number plates issued to a vehicle which is used for behind-the-wheel instruction in a driver education course in a public school may be transferred to another vehicle used for the same purpose without payment of any additional fee. The registrar shall be notified of each transfer of number plates under this paragraph, and may prescribe a form for notification.

Subd. 2. **Amateur radio station licensee; special license plates.** Any applicant who is an owner or joint owner of a passenger automobile, van or pickup truck, or a self-propelled recreational vehicle, and a resident of this state, and who holds an official amateur radio station license, or a citizens radio service class D license, in good standing, issued by the Federal Communications Commission shall upon compliance with all laws of this state relating to registration and the licensing of motor vehicles and drivers, be furnished with license plates for the motor vehicle, as prescribed by law, upon which, in lieu of the numbers required for identification under subdivision 1, shall be inscribed the official amateur call letters of the applicant, as assigned by the Federal Communications Commission. The applicant shall pay in addition to the registration tax required by law, the sum of \$10 for the special license plates, and at the time of delivery of the special license plates the applicant shall surrender to the registrar the current license plates issued for the motor vehicle. This provision for the issue of special license plates shall apply only if the applicant's vehicle is already registered in Minnesota so that the applicant has valid regular Minnesota plates issued for that vehicle under which to operate it during the time that it will take to have the necessary special license plates made. If owning or jointly owning more than one motor vehicle of the type specified in this subdivision, the applicant may apply for special plates for each of not more than two vehicles, and, if each application complies with this subdivision, the registrar shall furnish the applicant with the special plates, inscribed with the official amateur call letters and other distinguishing information as the registrar considers necessary, for each of the two vehicles. And the registrar may make reasonable rules governing the use of the special license plates as will assure the full compliance by the owner and holder of the special plates, with all existing laws governing the registration of motor vehicles, the transfer and the use thereof.

Despite any contrary provision of subdivision 1, the special license plates issued under this subdivision may be transferred to another motor vehicle upon the payment of a fee of \$5. The fee must be paid into the state treasury and credited to the highway user tax distribution fund. The registrar must be notified of the transfer and may prescribe a form for the notification.

Subd. 2a. **Personalized license plates.** Personalized license plates must be issued to an applicant for registration of a passenger automobile, van, or pickup truck, motorcycle, or self-propelled recreational vehicle, upon compliance with the laws of this state relating to registration of the vehicle and upon payment of a fee of \$100 in addition to the registration tax required by law for the vehicle. In lieu of the numbers assigned as provided in subdivision 1, personalized license plates must have imprinted on them a series of not more than six numbers and letters in any combination. When an applicant has once obtained personalized plates, the applicant shall have a prior claim for similar personalized plates in the next succeeding year that plates are issued if application is made for them at least 30 days before the first date that registration can be renewed. The commissioner of public safety shall adopt rules in the manner provided by chapter 14, regulating the issuance and transfer of personalized license plates. No words or combination of letters placed on personalized license plates may be used for commercial advertising, be of an obscene, indecent, or immoral nature, or be of a nature that would offend public morals or decency. The call signals or letters of a radio or television station are not commercial advertising for the purposes of this subdivision.

Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision 1, personalized license plates issued under this subdivision may be transferred to another motor vehicle owned or jointly owned by the applicant, upon the payment of a fee of \$5, which must be paid into the state treasury and credited to the highway user tax distribution fund. The registrar may by rule provide a form for notification.

Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, if the personalized license plates are lost, stolen, or destroyed, the applicant may apply and shall receive duplicate license plates bearing the same combination of letters and numbers as the former personalized plates upon the payment of a \$5 fee.

The fee prescribed for personalized license plates must be paid only in those years in which the number plate itself is issued, and must not be payable in a year in which a year plate, tab, or sticker is issued in lieu of a number plate.

Fees from the sale of permanent and duplicate personalized license plates must be paid into the state treasury and credited to the highway user tax distribution fund.

**Subd. 2b. Firefighters; special license plate.** The registrar shall issue special license plates to any applicant who is both a member of a fire department receiving state aid under chapter 69 and an owner or joint owner of a passenger automobile, station wagon, van, or pickup truck, upon payment of a fee of \$10 and upon payment of the registration tax required by law for the vehicle and compliance with other laws of this state relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and drivers. In lieu of the identification required under subdivision 1, the special license plates shall be inscribed with a symbol of a Maltese Cross together with five numbers. No applicant shall receive more than two sets of plates for vehicles owned or jointly owned by the applicant.

Special plates issued under this subdivision may only be used during the period that the owner or joint owner of the vehicle is a member of a fire department as specified in this subdivision. When the person to whom the special plates were issued is no longer a member of a fire department or when the vehicle ownership is transferred, the special license plates shall be removed from the vehicle and returned to the registrar. Upon return of the special plates, the owner or purchaser of the vehicle is entitled to receive regular plates for the vehicle without cost for the remainder of the registration period for which the special plates were issued. Firefighter license plates issued pursuant to this subdivision may be transferred to another motor vehicle upon payment of \$5, which fee shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the highway user tax distribution fund.

The commissioner of public safety may adopt rules under the administrative procedure act, sections 14.01 to 14.70, to govern the issuance and use of the special plates authorized in this subdivision. All fees from the sale of special license plates for firefighters shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the highway user tax distribution fund.

**Subd. 2c. National guard; special license plate.** The registrar shall issue special license plates to any applicant who is a regularly enlisted or commissioned member of the Minnesota national guard, other than an inactive or retired member, and is an owner or joint owner of a passenger automobile, station wagon, or van or pickup truck included within the definition of a passenger automobile upon payment of a fee of \$10, payment of the registration tax required by law, and compliance with other laws of this state relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and drivers. The adjutant general shall design these special plates subject to the approval of the registrar. No applicant shall be issued more than two sets of plates for vehicles owned or jointly owned by the applicant. The adjutant general shall estimate the number of special plates that will be required and submit the estimate to the registrar.

Special plates issued under this subdivision may only be used during the period that the owner or joint owner of the vehicle is an active member of the Minnesota national guard as specified in this subdivision. When the person to whom the special plates were issued is no longer an active member of the Minnesota national guard, the special plates must be removed from the vehicle and returned to the registrar. Upon return of the special plates, the owner or purchaser of the vehicle is entitled to receive regular plates for the vehicle without cost for the remainder of the registration period for which the special plates were issued. While the person is an active member of the Minnesota national guard, plates issued pursuant to this subdivision may be transferred to another motor vehicle owned or jointly owned by that person upon payment of a fee of \$5.

All fees collected under the provisions of this subdivision shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the highway user tax distribution fund.

The registrar may adopt rules under the administrative procedure act to govern the issuance and use of the special plates authorized by this subdivision.

**Subd. 3. Increase of fees and taxes.** All fees and taxes imposed upon any motor vehicle, any licensed dealer of motor vehicles, or any licensed drive-away contractors by sections 168.011 to 168.65, the payment of which is required as a condition to the issuance of any pair of number plates are hereby increased in the sum of 50 cents. If a single number plate is issued, the tax or fee imposed is hereby increased in the sum of 25 cents.

**Subd. 4. Fee increase; tax exempt plates.** All fees imposed by sections 168.011 to 168.65 for the issuance of tax-exempt number plates or duplicate number plates are hereby increased in the sum of 50 cents. If a single number plate or a single duplicate number plate is issued the tax or fee is increased in the sum of 25 cents.

**Subd. 5. Additional fee.** In addition to any fee otherwise authorized or any tax otherwise imposed upon any motor vehicle, the payment of which is required as a condition to the issuance of any number license plate or plates, the commissioner of public safety may impose a fee of \$2 for a license plate for a motorcycle, motorized bicycle, or motorized sidecar, and \$3 for license plates, other than license plates issued pursuant to section 168.27, subdivisions 16 and 17, for passenger automobiles; provided that no fee is required for plates issued within one calendar year before a general reissuance of plates under subdivision 1. Graphic design license plates shall only be issued for vehicles registered pursuant to section 168.017 and recreational vehicles registered pursuant to section 168.013, subdivision 1g.

**History:** (2678) 1921 c 461 s 7; 1923 c 418 s 7; 1951 c 628 s 1; 1955 c 396 s 1-3; Ex1961 c 5 s 1; 1963 c 125 s 1,2; 1965 c 149 s 1; 1967 c 46 s 1; 1971 c 716 s 1; 1973 c 218 s 7; 1975 c 245 s 1; 1975 c 248 s 1; 1976 c 343 s 5; 1977 c 108 s 2; 1977 c 347 s 27; 1978 c 636 s 1; 1980 c 372 s 1; 1981 c 357 s 55,56; 1981 c 363 s 21,22; 1982 c 424 s 130; 1982 c 467 s 1; 1983 c 19 s 1,2; 1983 c 195 s 1; 1983 c 318 s 1; 1984 c 549 s 16-18; 1985 c 248 s 70; 1Sp1985 c 10 s 76,77; 1986 c 444

#### 168.124 SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES FOR CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS.

**Subdivision 1. Issuance and design.** The registrar of motor vehicles shall issue special license plates bearing the inscription "MEDAL OF HONOR" to an applicant who is a recipient of the congressional medal of honor and upon the applicant's compliance with the laws of this state relating to the registration and licensing of motor vehicles and drivers. The special license plates must be of a design and size determined by the registrar. Only one set of plates bearing the inscription "MEDAL OF HONOR" may be issued for each qualified applicant.

**Subd. 2. Application.** Application for issuance of these plates may be made only at the time of renewal or first application for registration.

**Subd. 3. No fee.** The registrar shall issue a set of medal of honor plates to qualified applicants free of charge and the plates must be replaced by the department without charge if they become damaged. In addition, no fee may be charged for a subsequent year when tabs or stickers are issued for that motor vehicle on which the special medal of honor plates are placed.

**Subd. 4. Transfer.** Despite the provisions of section 168.12, subdivision 1, medal of honor plates issued under this section may be transferred to another personal motor vehicle owned or jointly owned by the medal of honor recipient upon notification to the registrar of motor vehicles.

**Subd. 5. Motor vehicle; special definition.** For purposes of this section, "motor vehicle" means a vehicle for personal use, not used for commercial purposes, and may include a passenger automobile, station wagon, pickup truck, motorcycle, or recreational vehicle.

**Subd. 6. When issued.** The registrar of motor vehicles shall begin issuing medal of honor plates for the calendar year 1984 and thereafter.

**History:** 1983 c 267 s 1

**168.125 SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES FOR FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR.**

Subdivision 1. **Special plates; application; fee; transfer.** The registrar shall issue special license plates bearing the inscription "EX-POW" to any applicant who is both a former prisoner of war and an owner or joint owner of a motor vehicle upon the applicant's compliance with all the laws of this state relating to the registration and licensing of motor vehicles and drivers. The special license plates shall be of a design and size to be determined by the commissioner. Plates bearing the "EX-POW" inscription may be issued for only one motor vehicle per applicant.

Application for issuance of these plates shall be made at the time of renewal or first application for registration. The application shall include a certification by the commissioner of veterans affairs that the applicant was a member of the military forces of the United States who was captured, separated, and incarcerated by an enemy of the United States during a period of armed conflict.

The applicant shall pay, in addition to the registration tax required by law, a fee of \$10 for the special license plates issued under this section. The additional fee is payable only when the plates are issued and no additional fee is payable in any year in which tabs or stickers are issued in lieu of number plates. All fees from the sale of the special license plates shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the highway user tax distribution fund.

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 168.12, subdivision 1, the special license plates issued under this section may be transferred to another motor vehicle owned or jointly owned by the former prisoner of war upon the payment of a fee of \$5. This fee shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the highway user tax distribution fund.

For purposes of this section, "motor vehicle" means a passenger automobile, station wagon, pickup truck, motorcycle, or recreational vehicle.

Subd. 2. **Special plate; EX-POW and handicapped insignia.** The registrar shall issue special license plates bearing both the "EX-POW" and handicapped insignia to any applicant who is entitled to the special license plates provided under this section and who is also entitled to special license plates for the physically handicapped under section 168.021 upon compliance with the provisions of both sections. The special license plates shall be of a design and size to be determined by the commissioner.

Subd. 3. **Rules; commissioner of public safety.** The commissioner of public safety may promulgate by rule, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 15, the procedures for issuance or transfer of the special license plates authorized under this section.

Subd. 4. **Rules; commissioner of veterans affairs.** The commissioner of veterans affairs shall promulgate by rule, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 14, the procedure for obtaining the certification of former prisoner of war status.

Subd. 5. **Savings provision.** Nothing in this section shall alter the exemption for disabled war veterans provided for in section 168.031.

**History:** 1982 c 424 s 130; 1982 c 593 s 1

**168.126 COMMUTER VANS; REGISTRATION, LICENSE PLATES.**

Subdivision 1. **Unique registration category.** A unique vehicle registration category is established for vehicles known as commuter vans, as defined in section 221.011, subdivision 27.

Subd. 2. **License plates.** The registrar shall issue special license plates for a commuter van as defined in section 221.011, subdivision 22, paragraph (l), upon the applicant's compliance with the laws of Minnesota relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and drivers.

Subd. 3. **Eligibility criteria; commissioner of public safety.** The commissioner of public safety, in cooperation with the commissioner of transportation, shall establish criteria and procedures governing applications for and issuance of plates permitted by this section. The criteria and procedures may include:

- (1) certification of vehicle use as a commuter van;
- (2) provision for transfer of special license plates; and
- (3) deposit of fees for the registration, sale, and transfer of commuter vans.

The special plate must be designed to specifically identify the vehicle as a commuter van.

**History:** 1983 c 311 s 2; 1984 c 655 art 1 s 32

#### 168.127 FLEET VEHICLES; REGISTRATION, FEES.

**Subdivision 1. Registration category.** A unique registration category is established for vehicles and trailers of a fleet. Vehicles registered in the fleet must be issued a distinctive license plate. The design and size of the fleet license plate must be determined by the commissioner.

**Subd. 2. Annual registration period.** Instead of the registration period assigned for vehicles registered under sections 168.014, 168.017, and 168.12, subdivisions 1 and 2a, a person may register a fleet on an annual basis. The annual registration period for vehicles in the fleet will be determined by the commissioner. By January 1, the applicant must provide all information necessary to qualify as a fleet registrant including a list of all vehicles in the fleet. On initial registration, all taxes and fees for vehicles in the fleet must be reassessed based on the expiration date. Gross weights for fleet vehicles may not be changed during the registration period.

**Subd. 3. Registration cards issued.** On approval of the application for fleet registration the commissioner must issue a registration card for each qualified vehicle in the fleet. The registration card must be carried in the vehicle at all times and be made available to a peace officer on demand. Validation stickers must be issued to vehicles registered by gross weight.

**Subd. 4. Filing registration applications.** Initial fleet applications for registration and renewals must be filed with the registrar or authorized representative at the main headquarters offices of the department of public safety in St. Paul.

**Subd. 5. Renewal of fleet registration.** On the renewal of a fleet registration the registrant shall pay full licensing fees for every vehicle registered in the preceding year unless the vehicle has been properly deleted from the fleet. In order to delete a vehicle from a fleet, the fleet registrant must surrender to the commissioner the registration card, validation stickers, and license plates. If the card, stickers, or license plates are lost or stolen, the fleet registrant shall submit a sworn statement stating the circumstances for the inability to surrender the card, stickers, and license plates. The commissioner shall assess a penalty of 20 percent of the total tax due on the fleet against the fleet registrant who fails to renew the licenses issued under this section or fails to report the removal of vehicles from the fleet within 30 days. The penalty must be paid within 30 days after it is assessed.

**Subd. 6. Fees.** Instead of the \$3.25 filing fee for each vehicle, the applicant shall pay a \$3.25 administrative fee for each vehicle in the fleet. The administrative fee must be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the highway user tax distribution fund. A filing fee of \$3.25 must be collected by the processing office for an application regardless of the number of vehicles listed.

**History:** 1986 c 453 s 2

#### 168.13 PROOF OF OWNERSHIP.

The registrar shall approve no application and issue no number plates for any motor vehicle, except such as may have come direct from the manufacturer, or from another state, unless and until the registration certificate theretofore issued or proof of loss thereof by sworn statement shall be delivered to the registrar, who shall be satisfied from the records that all taxes and fees due hereunder shall have been paid, and endorsements upon the certificate or sworn proof of loss, in writing, signed by the seller and purchaser, shall furnish proof that the applicant for registration is paying or receiving credit for the tax upon the vehicle of which the applicant is the rightful

# MINNESOTA STATUTES 1986

3767

MOTOR VEHICLES; REGISTRATION; TAXATION; SALES; DEALERS 168.16

possessor; or, in case such certificate or proof is not available, the registrar, or the registrar's deputy, shall be satisfied of such fact by personal view of the motor vehicle serial and motor numbers and by proof of the claim of ownership thereof.

Motor vehicles brought into Minnesota from other states shall not be registered or have number plates issued therefor until such registration certificate or other evidence of title as may reasonably be required from the registrant within that state be surrendered to the registrar in the same manner as certificates of this state, or in lieu thereof, such view and evidence of the chain of ownership be had as will assure the payment of the proper tax so long as the motor vehicle shall be in the state.

**History:** (2679) 1921 c 461 s 8; 1923 c 418 s 8; 1986 c 444

**168.14** [Repealed, 1949 c 694 s 5]

## **168.15 RIGHTS AS TO REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES AND NUMBER PLATES.**

Upon the transfer of ownership, destruction, theft, dismantling as such, or the permanent removal by the owner thereof from this state of any motor vehicle registered in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, the right of the owner of such vehicle to use the registration certificate and number plates assigned such vehicle shall expire, and such certificate and any existing plates shall be, by such owner, forthwith returned, with transportation prepaid, to the registrar with a signed notice of the date and manner of termination of ownership, giving the name and post office address, with street and number, if in a city, of the person to whom transferred. No fee may be charged for a return of plates under this section. When the ownership of a motor vehicle shall be transferred to another who shall forthwith register the same in the other's name, the registrar may permit the manual delivery of such plates to the new owner of such vehicle. When seeking to become the owner by gift, trade, or purchase of any vehicle for which a registration certificate has been theretofore issued under the provisions of this chapter, a person shall join with the registered owner in transmitting with the application the registration certificate, with the assignment and notice of sale duly executed upon the reverse side thereof, or, in case of loss of such certificate, with such proof of loss by sworn statement, in writing, as shall be satisfactory to the registrar. Upon the transfer of any motor vehicle by a manufacturer or dealer, for use within the state, whether by sale, lease, or otherwise, such manufacturer or dealer shall, within seven days after such transfer, file with the registrar a notice or report containing the date of such transfer, a description of such motor vehicles, and the name, street and number of residence, if in a city, and the post office address of the transferee, and shall transmit therewith the transferee's application for registration thereof.

Upon the transfer of any automobile engine or motor, except a new engine or motor, transferred with intent that the same be installed in a new automobile, and whether such transfer be made by a manufacturer or dealer, or otherwise, and whether by sale, lease or otherwise, the transferor shall, within two days after such transfer, file with the registrar a notice or report containing the date of such transfer and a description, together with the maker's number of the engine or motor, and the name and post office address of the purchaser, lessee, or other transferee.

**History:** (2681) 1921 c 461 s 10; 1923 c 418 s 10; 1927 c 89; 1984 c 489 s 1; 1986 c 444

## **168.16 REFUNDS; APPROPRIATION.**

After the tax upon any motor vehicle shall have been paid for any year, refund shall be made for errors made in computing the tax or fees and for the error on the part of an owner who may in error have registered a motor vehicle that was not before, nor at the time of registration, nor at any time thereafter during the current past year, subject to tax in this state, provided that after more than two years after the tax was paid no refund shall be made for any tax paid on any vehicle exempted from taxation by reasons of nonuse as provided by section 168.012. The refundment shall be made from any fund in possession of the registrar and shall be deducted from the registrar's

monthly report to the commissioner of finance. A detailed report of the refundment shall accompany the report. The former owner of a transferred vehicle by an assignment in writing endorsed upon the registration certificate and delivered to the registrar within the time provided herein may sell and assign to the new owner thereof the right to have the tax paid by the former owner accredited to the owner who duly registers the vehicle. Any owner at the time of such occurrence, whose vehicle shall be permanently destroyed, or sold to the federal government, the state, or political subdivision thereof, shall upon filing a verified claim be entitled to a refund of the unused portion of the tax paid upon the vehicle, computed as follows:

(1) If the vehicle is registered under the calendar year system of registration, the refund is computed pro rata by the month, 1/12 of the annual tax paid for each month of the year remaining after the month in which the plates and certificate were returned to the registrar;

(2) In the case of a vehicle registered under the monthly series system of registration, the amount of the refund is equal to the sum of the amounts of the license fee attributable to those months remaining in the licensing period after the month in which the plates and certificate were returned to the registrar.

There is hereby appropriated to the persons entitled to a refund, from the fund or account in the state treasury to which the money was credited, an amount sufficient to make the refund and payment.

**History:** (2682) 1921 c 461 s 11; 1923 c 418 s 11; 1931 c 174 s 1; 1935 c 142 s 1; 1945 c 600 s 1; 1953 c 42 s 1; 1957 c 895 s 1; 1959 c 157 s 6; 1963 c 147 s 1; 1965 c 148 s 1; 1973 c 6 s 3; 1973 c 492 s 14; 1981 c 363 s 23; 1986 c 444

**168.163** [Repealed, 1949 c 694 s 5]

**168.165** [Repealed, 1973 c 218 s 9]

## **168.17 SUSPENSION OF REGISTRATION.**

All registrations and issue of number plates shall be subject to amendment, suspension, modification or revocation by the registrar summarily for any violation of or neglect to comply with the provisions of this chapter. In any case where the proper registration of a motor vehicle is dependent upon procuring information entailing such delay as to unreasonably deprive the owner of the use of the motor vehicle, the registrar may issue a tax receipt and plates conditionally. In any case when revoking a registration for cause, the registrar shall have authority to demand the return of the number plates and registration certificates, and, if necessary, to seize the number plates issued for such registration.

**History:** (2683) 1921 c 461 s 12; 1923 c 418 s 12; 1986 c 444

**168.18** [Repealed, 1953 c 698 s 7]

## **168.181 NONRESIDENT OWNERS, RECIPROCITY AGREEMENTS OR ARRANGEMENTS; CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS.**

Subdivision 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary or inconsistent herewith the registrar of motor vehicles with the approval of the attorney general is hereby empowered to make agreements with the duly authorized representatives of the other states, District of Columbia, territories and possessions of the United States or arrangements with foreign countries or provinces exempting the residents of such other states, districts, territories and possessions and foreign countries or provinces using the public streets and highways of this state from the payment of any or all motor vehicle taxes or fees imposed by this chapter, subject to the following conditions and limitations:

(1) Upon condition that the exemption provided herein shall be operative as to a motor vehicle owned by a nonresident only to the extent that under the laws of the state, district, territory or possession or foreign country or province of residence like

exemptions are granted to motor vehicles registered under the laws and owned by residents of Minnesota.

(2) Upon condition that any such motor vehicle so operated in this state by any such nonresident shall at all times carry and display all license number plates or like insignia required by the laws of the state, district, territory or possession or foreign country or province of residence.

(3) Upon condition that the exemptions provided herein shall not apply to a passenger automobile or house trailer owned by a resident of any state, district, territory or possession or foreign country or province temporarily residing in this state while gainfully employed on the same job for a period of six months or more.

(4) Upon condition that the exemptions provided herein shall not apply to motor vehicles owned by nonresidents including any foreign corporation and used for carrying on intrastate commerce within this state. Such nonresident or foreign corporation shall be required to register each such vehicle and pay the same tax and penalties if any therefor as is required with reference to like vehicles owned by residents of Minnesota.

(5) Upon condition that the exemption provided herein shall not apply to a truck, tractor, truck-tractor, or semitrailer, except two-wheeled trailers of less than 3,000 pounds carrying capacity; if

(a) The class of its registration does not permit to it a statewide operation in the state of its registration, or if

(b) The registration fee or tax for which it is registered is computed on a mileage basis, or if

(c) Its gross weight exceeds the gross weight for which it is registered in the state, district, territory or possession, or foreign country or province of its registration.

(6) Upon condition that nonresident owners of commercial vehicles, including trucks, truck-tractors, trailers, semitrailers and buses domiciled in a foreign state, district, territory or possession or foreign country or province, and bringing such vehicles into the state of Minnesota for the purpose of doing interstate business shall be required to comply with all the laws and regulations as to payment of taxes applicable to like vehicles owned by Minnesota residents unless the state, district, territory or possession or foreign country or province grants full reciprocity privileges comparable to that extended by sections 168.181 to 168.231. In the event a state, district, territory or possession or foreign country or province is not fully reciprocal as to taxes or fees on commercial vehicles or buses operated in interstate commerce, then in that event such owners of foreign commercial vehicles or buses shall be required to pay a tax in an amount similar to the tax of whatever character assessed by such other state, district, territory or possession or foreign country or province against vehicles registered in Minnesota and operated in interstate commerce in that state, district, territory or possession or foreign country or province. It is further provided that such owners of foreign commercial vehicles and buses subject to registration under the provisions of this paragraph shall make application for a permit in which shall be set forth the conditions for operation of such vehicles in this state.

Subd. 2. Agreements made pursuant to this section may also include exemption from taxes or fees on a vehicle owned by a person, firm, or corporation licensed as a motor vehicle dealer or motor vehicle manufacturer in another state or country when such vehicle is operated displaying the dealer plates or manufacturer plates issued to such dealer or manufacturer by the jurisdiction of residence; provided, however, that such operation is not for the purpose of soliciting the sale of vehicles within this state other than at an auction conducted by a motor vehicle auctioneer licensed under section 168.27. Greater privileges shall not be granted to such dealer or manufacturer than permitted by the laws of the jurisdiction of residence. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to apply to or vary the terms and conditions of sections 168.053 to 168.057.

**History:** 1953 c 698 s 1; 1963 c 63 s 1; 1980 c 478 s 1; 1986 c 444

**168.183 MOTOR VEHICLES OF CERTAIN NONRESIDENTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Payment of taxes.** All trucks, truck-tractors, trailers and semi-trailers, which comply with all of the provisions of section 168.181 but are excluded from the exemptions provided therein solely because of the intrastate nature of their movement in this state, owned by nonresidents owning or operating circuses, carnivals or similar amusement attractions or concessions shall be required to comply with all laws and rules as to the payment of taxes applicable to like vehicles owned by Minnesota residents but such nonresidents may make application to pay such tax for each vehicle proportionate to the number of months or fraction thereof such vehicles are in this state.

Subd. 2. **Contents of application.** The application shall contain such information and shall be executed in such manner as the registrar may require and shall include a complete itinerary of the applicant and shall be accompanied by such evidence of ownership as the registrar shall deem necessary.

Subd. 3. **Permit.** Upon payment of the required tax the registrar shall issue, in lieu of registration plates, a permit for each vehicle so taxed. The permit shall contain the name and address of the owner, the make, type, serial number and year model of the vehicle, the expiration date and any other information deemed necessary by the registrar. The permit must be carried in the vehicle at all times while being operated in this state.

**History:** 1957 c 88 s 1-3; 1985 c 248 s 70

**168.187 INTERSTATE REGISTRATION AND RECIPROCITY.**

Subdivision 1. **Declaration of policy.** It is the policy of this state to promote and encourage the fullest possible use of its highway system by authorizing the making of agreements, arrangements, and declarations with other jurisdictions, for reciprocal recognition of vehicle registrations and/or for proportional registration, with respect to vehicles registered in this state and such other jurisdictions, thus contributing to the economic and social development and growth of this state. It is the policy of this state to agree with other states that no vehicle shall pay more than the equivalent of one full registration fee per annum.

Subd. 2. **Definitions.** (1) The words, terms and phrases defined in section 168.011, when used in this section, shall have the same meanings herein as is ascribed to them in section 168.011, unless the context otherwise requires, or unless a different definition is given in this section.

(2) The words and phrases hereafter defined in this section shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them when used in this section, except when the context otherwise requires.

Subd. 3. **State.** "State" means a state, territory or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, a foreign country and a state or province of a foreign country.

Subd. 4. **Proratable vehicle.** "Proratable vehicle" means any vehicle which is operated in more than one state and used for the transportation of persons for hire, or designed, used or maintained primarily for the transportation of property.

Subd. 5. **Fleet.** "Fleet" means three or more proratable vehicles, at least two of which are motor powered vehicles. The motor vehicle reciprocity commission may by agreement with another state provide that a fleet of this state and another state may consist of a lesser number of vehicles.

Subd. 6. [Repealed, 1976 c 149 s 63]

Subd. 7. **Authority to make vehicle registration agreements, arrangements or declarations.** The commissioner of public safety may enter into any agreement or arrangement with the duly authorized representatives of other states or make any independent declaration, granting to vehicles or to owners of vehicles which are properly registered or licensed in another state, benefits, privileges, and exemptions from the payment, wholly, or partially, of any registration taxes, fees, or other charges

imposed upon such vehicles or owners with respect to the operation or ownership of such vehicles under the laws of this state, upon such conditions as are specified therein, provided the terms or conditions of such agreement, arrangement, or declaration are not inconsistent with any law of this state.

Any such agreement or arrangement shall be made in writing and shall provide that vehicles properly registered or licensed in this state, when operated upon highways of the other state, shall receive exemptions, benefits, and privileges of a similar kind or to a similar degree as are extended to vehicles properly registered or licensed in such state when operated in this state. Any such declaration shall contemplate and provide for mutual benefits, reciprocal privileges or equitable treatment of the owners of vehicles registered in this and the other state. Each such agreement, arrangement, or declaration shall, in the judgment of the commissioner of public safety, be in the best interest of this state and the citizens thereof and shall be fair and equitable with respect to the benefits which the agreement brings to the economy of this state.

**Subd. 8. Base state reciprocity.** (1) Any agreement, arrangement, or declaration made under the authority of this section may contain provisions authorizing the registration or licensing in another state of vehicles based in such other state, which vehicles otherwise would be required to be registered or licensed in this state, except that such provisions shall not apply to passenger cars.

(2) For the purpose of this section, a vehicle shall be deemed to be based in the state where it is most frequently dispatched, garaged, serviced, maintained, operated or otherwise controlled.

(3) For the purpose of this section, the owner of a vehicle shall declare the state in which it is based, but the final determination of the state in which a vehicle is based shall be made by the commissioner of public safety of this state for the purpose of determining liability for registration and other fees and penalties due this state. To the extent possible, the commissioner of public safety shall be governed by the criteria specified in this section, and agreement with the administrator of any other interested state.

(4) Any agreement, arrangement, or declaration made under this section may grant exemptions, benefits, and privileges for vehicles in accordance with the terms thereof.

**Subd. 9. Provisions to be in every agreement, arrangement and declaration.** (1) Every agreement, arrangement, and declaration, and amendment thereto and cancellation thereof, shall be in writing and shall be filed in the office of the commissioner of public safety. A copy of each agreement, arrangement or declaration, and of each amendment thereto and cancellation thereof, shall be filed in the office of the commissioner of public safety within ten days after execution or the effective date of the instrument, whichever is later. The commissioner of public safety shall provide copies for public distribution upon request and the payment of a reasonable charge.

(2) Every agreement, arrangement and declaration made under authority of this section shall contain a provision authorizing the commissioner of public safety to cancel and revoke the agreement with respect to this state upon 30 days notice to the other party or parties thereto.

(3) All agreements, arrangements, and declarations made under authority of this section shall contain a provision specifying that no registration, permit privilege or exemption issued or accruing thereunder, shall excuse the operator or owner of any vehicle from compliance with the laws of this state, except those requiring registration.

**Subd. 10. Fees for proportional registration.** (1) "Total fleet miles" means the total number of miles operated in all states during the preceding year by the motor vehicles in a fleet during such year.

(2) "In-state miles" means the total number of miles operated in this state during the preceding year by the motor vehicles in a fleet during such year.

(3) The registration fees for proratable vehicles of a fleet based in another state shall be determined as follows:

- (A) Divide in-state miles by total fleet miles.
- (B) Determine the total amount which would be required under the laws of this state for full registration of each and every vehicle in the fleet, at the regular annual or applicable fees, for the unexpired portion of the registration year.
- (C) Multiply the sum obtained under clause (3)(B) by the quotient obtained under clause (3)(A).
- (4) The registration fees for proratable vehicles of a fleet based in this state shall be determined as follows:
  - (A) Divide in-state miles plus all other fleet miles not subjected to charges in other states nor declared for other prorate agreement states by total fleet miles.
  - (B) Determine the total amount which would be required under the laws of this state for full registration of each and every vehicle in the fleet, at the regular annual or applicable fees for the unexpired portion of the registration year.
  - (C) Multiply the sum obtained under clause (4)(B) by the quotient under clause (4)(A).
- (5) The provisions of this section shall constitute complete authority for the registration of the proratable vehicles of a fleet upon a proportional registration basis without reference to or application of any other statutes of this state except as in this section expressly provided.

**Subd. 11. Application for proportional registration.** (1) Any owner of one or more fleets may file an application for proportional registration of the vehicles of one or more of such fleets with the commissioner of public safety, in lieu of registration of such vehicles under other sections of this chapter. The application shall be in such form and shall contain such information as the commissioner shall require.

(2) Applications for proratable registration shall be filed annually at such time or times as the commissioner establishes by rule. Every application for proportional registration shall at the time and in the manner required by the commissioner be supported by the payment of the registration fees in the amount determined in the manner provided in subdivision 10.

**Subd. 12. Registration of proratable vehicles.** (1) The commissioner of public safety shall register proratable vehicles of a fleet upon application and payment of registration fees as provided in subdivision 11. Payment of an additional fee for each vehicle so registered may be required by the commissioner in an amount not to exceed \$5 per motor powered vehicle, for issuance of a plate, sticker, or other suitable identification for each vehicle. A registration card shall be issued for each vehicle registered, which shall appropriately identify the vehicle for which it is issued. Such registration card shall be carried in or upon the vehicle for which it has been issued, at all times, except that the registration cards for all vehicles in a combination of vehicles may be carried in or upon the vehicle supplying the motive power.

(2) Fleet vehicles registered as provided in (1) shall be deemed fully registered in this state for any type of movement or operation, except that when a state grant of authority is required for any movement or operation, no such vehicle shall be operated in this state unless the owner or operator thereof has been granted authority or rights therefor by the public utilities commission and unless said vehicle is being operated in conformity with such authority or rights. No registration under this section shall excuse the owner or operator of any vehicle from compliance with the laws of this state, except those requiring registration and licensing.

**Subd. 13. No proportional registration in only one state.** The right of proportional registration of fleet vehicles authorized by this section, or by any agreement, arrangement, or declaration made under the authority of this section, shall be subject to the condition that each vehicle proportionally registered shall be proportionally or otherwise properly registered in at least one other state during the period for which it is proportionally registered in this state.

**Subd. 14. Registration of additional fleet vehicles.** Vehicles acquired by the owner after the commencement of the registration year and added to a proportionally regis-

tered fleet shall be proportionally registered by applying the mileage percentage used in the original application for such fleet for such registration period to the regular registration fees due with respect to such vehicles for the remainder of the registration year.

**Subd. 15. Withdrawal of fleet, credits, and accounting.** If any vehicle is withdrawn from a proportionally registered fleet during the period for which it is registered, the owner of such fleet shall so notify the commissioner of public safety. The commissioner of public safety may require the owner to surrender cab cards and such other identification devices with respect to such vehicle. If a vehicle is permanently withdrawn from a proportionally registered fleet because it has been destroyed, sold or otherwise completely removed from the service of the owner, the unused portion of the fees paid with respect to such vehicle shall be applied against liability of such owner for subsequent additions to such fleet during such registration year or for additional fees upon audit. If at the end of such registration year there remains an unused portion of fees paid with respect to such permanently withdrawn vehicles, such unused fees shall be applied against registration fees for the registration year immediately following the year during which such vehicles were permanently withdrawn. The unused portion of fees of a vehicle permanently withdrawn from a fleet shall be a sum equal to the amount paid with respect to such vehicle when it was first proportionally registered in such registration year, reduced by 1/12 of the total annual proportional registration fee applicable to such vehicle for each calendar month of the registration year including the month the notice of withdrawal is received by the commissioner of public safety, except that no unused portion of fees of less than \$5 shall be considered or applied. If an unused portion of fees cannot be applied against registration fees for the registration year immediately following, an application for refund of the unused portion may be made to the commissioner, who shall make such rules as may be required for payment of such refund.

**Subd. 16. New fleets.** The initial application for proportional registration of a fleet shall state the mileage data with respect to such fleet for the preceding year in this and other states. If no operations were conducted with such fleet during the preceding year, the application shall contain a full statement of the proposed method of operation and estimates of annual mileage in this and other states. The commissioner of public safety shall determine the in-state and total fleet miles to be used in computing the proportional registration fee for the fleet. The commissioner of public safety may adjust the estimate in the application if the commissioner is not satisfied with its correctness.

**Subd. 17. Trip permits.** The commission may, subject to agreements or arrangements made or entered into pursuant to subdivision 7 issue trip permits for use of Minnesota highways by individual vehicles, on an occasional basis, for periods not to exceed 96 hours in compliance with rules promulgated pursuant to subdivision 23 and upon payment of a fee of \$10.

**Subd. 18. Refusal of proportional registration.** The commissioner of public safety may refuse proportional registration of vehicles based in another state on finding that such other state does not grant similar registration privileges to fleet vehicles based in this state and that such refusal is in the best interest of this state.

**Subd. 19. Preservation of records and audit.** Any owner whose application for proportional registration has been accepted shall preserve the records on which it is based for a period of four years following the date of its filing. Each acceptance shall be conditioned upon agreement of the owner to make such records available to the commissioner of public safety, at the commissioner's request, for audit as to accuracy of computations and payments and assessments of deficiencies or allowances for credit. If any owner fails to make records available to the commissioner of public safety upon request or fails to maintain records from which the owner's true liability may be determined, the commissioner may, 30 days after a written demand for availability of records or notification of insufficient records, impose an arbitrary assessment of liability based on the commissioner's estimate of the true liability of such owner as deter-

mined from information furnished by the owner, information gathered by the commissioner at the commissioner's own instance, information available to the commissioner concerning operations by similar owners and such other pertinent information as may be available to the commissioner.

**Subd. 20. Joint or reciprocal audits.** The commissioner of public safety may make arrangements with agencies of other states administering motor vehicle registration laws for joint or reciprocal audits of any owner.

**Subd. 21. Assessments and claims upon audit.** Upon audit, the commissioner of public safety shall assess for any deficiencies found to be due. No assessment for deficiency or claim for credit may be made for any period for which records are not longer required. Any sums found to be due and owing upon audit shall bear annual interest of six percent from the date when they should have been paid until the date of actual payment. If in the judgment of the commissioner of public safety the deficiencies are the result of bad faith or an attempt to evade payment under this section, a penalty of 25 percent shall be added to the deficiency.

**Subd. 22. Relation to other state laws.** The provisions of this section shall constitute complete authority for the registration of fleet vehicles upon a proportional registration basis without reference to or application of any other statutes of this state except as in this section expressly provided.

**Subd. 23. Proportional registration not exclusive.** Nothing contained in this section relating to proportional registration of fleet vehicles shall be construed as requiring any vehicle to be proportionally registered; if it is otherwise registered in this state for the operation in which it is engaged including, but not by way of limitation, regular registration, temporary registration, or trip permit or registration.

**Subd. 24. Administrative agreements and rules.** The commissioner of public safety may enter into agreements or arrangements with other states on behalf of this state for proportional registration of proratable vehicles in the manner provided in this section for the purpose of facilitating the administration thereof. In addition, the commissioner may make arrangements or agreements with other states for the exchange of information for audit and enforcement activities in connection with such proportional registration. The registration of fleet vehicles under this section shall be subject to the rights, terms and conditions granted or contained in any applicable agreement or arrangement made by the commissioner under the authority of this section.

**Subd. 25. Appeal procedure.** Any fleet owner operating under license and fee procedures of this section, upon disagreement with the commissioner of public safety in the commissioner's administration of this section, may petition in writing to the commissioner stating clearly the rationale for disagreement with any procedure or decision. The commissioner shall rule on the reconsideration petition after a hearing held as a contested case pursuant to chapter 14.

**History:** 1971 c 457 s 1; 1973 c 582 s 3; 1974 c 522 s 1; 1976 c 149 s 35-43; 1980 c 614 s 123; 1982 c 424 s 130; 1985 c 248 s 70; 1986 c 444

**168.19** [Repealed, 1953 c 698 s 7]

### **168.191 VEHICLES DOMICILED IN FOREIGN STATE AND OWNED BY MINNESOTA RESIDENT.**

The provisions of section 168.181 shall be operative as to motor vehicles actually domiciled in a foreign state, district, territory or possession or foreign country or province and legally licensed in that state, district, territory or possession or foreign country or province and owned by a Minnesota resident.

**History:** 1953 c 698 s 2

**168.20** [Repealed, 1953 c 698 s 7]

**168.201 DENIAL OR WITHDRAWAL OF BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES.**

Such agreements or arrangements as limited by sections 168.181 and 168.191 may also provide for the denial or withdrawal of the benefits and privileges granted under such agreement or arrangement as to any person, corporation, or association of any kind if in the opinion of the registrar such person, corporation, or association should not be granted such benefits or privileges.

*History: 1953 c 698 s 3*

**168.21** [Repealed, 1953 c 698 s 7]

**168.211 SUBJECTION TO STATE LAWS GENERALLY.**

All vehicles operated in Minnesota pursuant to sections 168.181 to 168.231 shall be subject to all provisions of law applicable to vehicles owned or operated by Minnesota residents except to the extent that exemption is provided from said laws by such sections.

*History: 1953 c 698 s 4*

**168.22** [Repealed, 1953 c 698 s 7]

**168.221 COMMERCIAL VEHICLES; TAXES OR FEES.**

The registrar may promulgate such rules as may be necessary to accomplish the purpose of section 168.181, paragraph 6, as to the payment of partial taxes collectible under sections 168.181 to 168.231 and may waive any reciprocal agreement required thereunder with any state, district, territory, or possession or arrangements with foreign countries or provinces if under the laws of such state, district, territory, or possession or foreign country or province residents of Minnesota are privileged to operate motor vehicles upon the streets and highways of such state, district, territory, or possession or foreign country or province without the payment of taxes or fees of any character whatsoever.

*History: 1953 c 698 s 5; 1985 c 248 s 70*

**168.23** [Repealed, 1953 c 698 s 7]

**168.231 TAX PROCEEDS CREDITED TO HIGHWAY USER TAX DISTRIBUTION FUND.**

The proceeds of the tax imposed under the provisions of sections 168.181 to 168.231 shall be collected by the registrar of motor vehicles and paid into the state treasury and credited to the highway user tax distribution fund.

*History: 1953 c 698 s 6; 1957 c 60 s 3*

**168.26 CERTAIN MANUFACTURERS NEED NOT REGISTER.**

Manufacturers within the state of motor vehicles which shall not use the public highways, and manufacturers or dealers distributing motor vehicles which shall not have used the public highways in the state and are not for sale in the state from points in this state to other states, shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter requiring the listing and registration thereof.

*History: (2685) 1921 c 461 s 14; 1923 c 418 s 14*

**168.27 MOTOR VEHICLE DEALERS; VIOLATIONS, PENALTIES.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given them:

(1) "Leasing motor vehicles" means furnishing a motor vehicle for a fee under a bailor-baillee relationship where no incidences of ownership are intended to be transferred other than the right to use the vehicle for a stated period of time.

(2) "Brokering motor vehicles" means arranging sales between willing buyers and sellers of motor vehicles and receiving a fee for said service.

(3) "Wholesaling motor vehicles" means selling new or used motor vehicles to dealers for resale to the public.

(4) "Auctioning motor vehicles" means arranging for and handling the sale of motor vehicles, not the property of the auctioneer, to the highest bidder.

(5) "Dealer" includes new motor vehicle dealers, used motor vehicle dealers, brokers, wholesalers, auctioneers and lessors of new or used motor vehicles.

(6) "Commercial building" means a building adapted to commercial use and located in an area zoned for commercial or other less restrictive nonresidential use by the governmental unit in which it is located.

(7) "Horse trailer" is a trailer designed and used to carry horses and other livestock, which has not more than three axles and a maximum gross weight capacity of not more than 24,000 pounds.

**Subd. 2. New motor vehicle dealer.** (a) No person shall engage in the business of selling or arranging the sale of new motor vehicles or shall offer to sell, solicit, arrange or advertise the sale of new motor vehicles without first acquiring a new motor vehicle dealer license. A new motor vehicle dealer licensee shall be entitled thereunder to sell, broker, wholesale or auction and to solicit and advertise the sale, broker, wholesale or auction of new motor vehicles covered by the franchise and any used motor vehicles or to lease and to solicit and advertise the lease of new motor vehicles and any used motor vehicles and such sales or leases may be either for consumer use at retail or for resale to a dealer. Nothing herein shall be construed to require an applicant for a dealer license who proposes to deal in: (1) new and unused motor vehicle bodies; or (2) type A, B, or C motor homes as defined in section 168.011, subdivision 25, to have a bona fide contract or franchise in effect with either the first-stage manufacturer of the motor home or the manufacturer or distributor of any motor vehicle chassis upon which the new and unused motor vehicle body is mounted. The modification or conversion of a new van-type vehicle into a multipurpose passenger vehicle which is not a motor home does not constitute dealing in new or unused motor vehicle bodies, and a person engaged in the business of selling these van-type vehicles must have a bona fide contract or franchise with the appropriate manufacturer under subdivision 10. A van converter or modifier who owns these modified or converted van-type vehicles may sell them at wholesale to new motor vehicle dealers having a bona fide contract or franchise with the first-stage manufacturer of the vehicles.

(b) The requirements pertaining to franchises do not apply to persons who remodel or convert motor vehicles for medical purposes. For purposes of this subdivision, "medical purpose" means certification by a licensed physician that remodeling or conversion of a motor vehicle is necessary to enable a handicapped person to use the vehicle.

**Subd. 3. Used motor vehicle dealer.** No person shall engage in the business of selling or arranging the sale of used motor vehicles or shall offer to sell, solicit, arrange, or advertise the sale of used motor vehicles without first acquiring a used motor vehicle dealer license. A used motor vehicle dealer licensee shall be entitled thereunder to sell, lease, broker, wholesale or auction and to solicit and advertise the sale, lease, broker, wholesale or auction of any used motor vehicles for consumer use at retail or for resale to a dealer.

**Subd. 4. Motor vehicle lessor.** No person shall engage in the business of leasing motor vehicles or shall offer to lease, solicit or advertise to lease motor vehicles without first acquiring a motor vehicle lessor license. A motor vehicle lessor licensee shall be entitled thereunder to lease or rent either by the hour, day or longer period for a fee and to solicit and advertise the lease or rental of motor vehicles. A motor vehicle lessor having leased motor vehicles, may sell the vehicles upon their return to the lessor after termination or expiration of the lease without obtaining a used motor vehicle dealer license.

Subd. 5. MS 1961 [Repealed, 1965 c 681 s 4]

Subd. 5. MS 1982 [Repealed, 1984 c 549 s 34; 1984 c 654 art 3 s 153]

Subd. 6. **Motor vehicle wholesaler.** No person shall engage in the business of wholesaling motor vehicles to dealers for resale or shall offer to sell, solicit or advertise the sale of motor vehicles to dealers for resale without first acquiring a motor vehicle wholesaler license. A motor vehicle wholesaler licensee shall be entitled thereunder to sell, solicit or advertise the sale of motor vehicles at wholesale for resale; provided that a wholesaler may sell, solicit, or advertise the sale of new motor vehicles only to dealers duly licensed to sell the same make of motor vehicles.

Subd. 7. **Motor vehicle auctioneer.** No person shall engage in the business of auctioning motor vehicles for more than one owner at an auction or shall offer to sell, solicit or advertise the sale of motor vehicles at auction without first acquiring a motor vehicle auctioneer license. A motor vehicle auctioneer licensee shall be entitled thereunder to sell, solicit and advertise the sale of used motor vehicles belonging to others at auction.

Subd. 8. **Exemptions.** (1) Salespeople and other employees of licensed dealers under this section shall not be required to obtain individual licenses.

(2) Isolated or occasional sales or leases of new or used motor vehicles shall be exempt from the provisions of this section.

Subd. 9. **Application.** Application for such license and renewal thereof shall be made to the registrar of motor vehicles. shall be in writing, and duly verified by oath. The applicant shall submit such information as the registrar may require to administer this section, on blanks provided by the registrar for such purpose.

Subd. 10. **Place of doing business.** All licensees under this section shall have an established place of business which shall include as a minimum,

(1) For a new motor vehicle dealer, the following:

(a) a permanent enclosed commercial building on a permanent foundation, owned or under lease by the licensee. The lease shall be for a minimum term of one year. The building shall contain office space where the books, records and files necessary to conduct the business are kept and maintained with personnel available during normal business hours;

(b) a bona fide contract or franchise (1) in effect with a manufacturer or distributor of the new motor vehicles the dealer proposes to sell, broker, wholesale or auction, or (2) in effect with the first-stage manufacturer or distributor of new motor vehicles purchased from a van converter or modifier which the dealer proposes to sell, broker, wholesale, or auction, or (3) in effect with the final stage manufacturer of the new type A, B or C motor homes which the dealer proposes to sell, broker, wholesale, or auction;

(c) a facility for the repair and servicing of motor vehicles and the storage of parts and accessories, not to exceed ten miles distance from the principal place of business. Such service may be provided through contract with bona fide operators actually engaged in such services.

(2) For a used motor vehicle dealer the following: a permanent enclosed commercial building on a permanent foundation, owned or under lease by the licensee. The lease shall be for a minimum term of one year. The building shall contain office space for the books, records and files necessary to conduct the business and maintained with personnel available during normal business hours or automatic telephone answering service during normal working hours.

(3) For a motor vehicle lessor, the following: a commercial office space where the books, records and files necessary to conduct the business are kept and maintained with personnel available during normal business hours or an automatic telephone answering service during normal business hours.

(4) For a motor vehicle broker, the following: a commercial office space where the books, records and files necessary to conduct the business are kept and maintained with personnel available during normal business hours or an automatic telephone answering service during normal business hours.

(5) For a motor vehicle wholesaler, the following: a commercial office space where the books, records and files necessary to conduct the business are kept and maintained with personnel available during normal business hours or an automatic telephone answering service during normal business hours.

(6) For a motor vehicle auctioneer, the following: a permanent enclosed commercial building, within or without the state, on a permanent foundation, owned or under lease by the licensee. The lease shall be for a minimum term of one year. The building shall contain office space where the books, records and files necessary to conduct the business are kept and maintained with personnel available during normal business hours or an automatic telephone answering service during normal business hours.

(7) If a new or used motor vehicle dealer maintains more than one place of doing business in a county, the separate places shall be listed on the application. If additional places of business are maintained outside of one county, separate licenses shall be obtained for each county.

(8) If a motor vehicle lessor, broker or auctioneer maintains more than one permanent place of doing business, either in one or more counties, the separate places shall be listed in the application, but only one license shall be required.

**Subd. 11. Licenses.** Upon the filing of an application for a license and the proper fee, the registrar is authorized, unless the application on its face appears to be invalid, to grant a 90-day temporary license and during said 90-day period shall investigate the fitness of the applicant, inspect the site and make such other investigation as is necessary to insure compliance with the licensing law. The registrar may extend the temporary license 30 days. At the end of the period of investigation the license shall either be granted or denied. The license must be denied if within the previous five years the applicant was enjoined due to a violation of section 325F.69 or convicted of violating section 325E.14, 325E.15, 325E.16, or 325F.69, or convicted under section 609.53 of receiving or selling stolen vehicles, or convicted of violating United States Code, title 15, sections 1981 to 1991, as amended through December 31, 1984. If the application is approved, the registrar shall license the applicant as a motor vehicle dealer for the remainder of the calendar year, and issue a certificate of license therefor as the registrar may provide upon which shall be placed a distinguishing number of identification of such dealer. Each initial application for a license shall be accompanied by a fee of \$50 in addition to the annual fee. The annual fee shall be \$100. All initial fees and annual fees shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the general fund. If the initial application is received by the registrar after July 1 of any year, the first annual fee shall be reduced by one-half.

**Subd. 12. Grounds for suspension and revocation.** A license may be suspended or revoked by the registrar of motor vehicles upon proof satisfactory to the registrar of any of the following:

- (1) violations of any of the provisions of this chapter;
- (2) violation of or refusal to comply with the requests and order of the registrar;
- (3) failure to make or provide to the registrar all listings, notices, and reports required by the registrar;
- (4) failure to pay to the registrar all taxes, fees, and arrears due from and by such dealer;
- (5) failure to duly apply for renewal of license provided for herein;
- (6) revocation of previous license, of which the records of the registrar relating thereto shall be prima facie evidence of such previous revocation;
- (7) failure of continued occupancy of an established place of business;
- (8) sale of a new and unused current model motor vehicle other than the make of motor vehicle described in the franchise or contract filed with the original application or renewal thereof, without permission from the registrar;
- (9) sale of a new and unused current model motor vehicle to anyone except for consumer use, or to a dealer duly licensed to sell the same make of motor vehicle;

(10) material misstatement or misrepresentation in application for license or renewal thereof;

(11) having advertised, printed, displayed, published, distributed, broadcast or televised or caused or permitted to be advertised, printed, displayed, published, distributed, broadcast or televised in any manner whatsoever, or having made orally any statement or representation with regard to the sale, lease or financing of motor vehicles which is false, deceptive or misleading;

(12) having been convicted of violating section 325F.69, or having been enjoined due to a violation of section 325F.69;

(13) having been convicted of violating the Minnesota odometer law, section 325E.14, 325E.15, or 325E.16, or the federal odometer law, United States Code, title 15, sections 1981 to 1991, as amended through December 31, 1984;

(14) having been convicted of violating the sale of motor vehicles on Sunday law, section 168.275; or

(15) having been convicted under section 609.53 of receiving or selling stolen vehicles.

With respect to clauses (12), (13), and (15), the registrar may suspend or revoke a license immediately upon receiving certification of conviction or permanent injunction. A hearing is required under subdivision 13 within 30 days following a summary suspension or revocation under this paragraph, if a hearing is requested by the licensee.

**Subd. 13. Suspension and revocation; hearing.** The registrar of motor vehicles, upon the registrar's own motion or upon the complaint of another, shall prepare and cause to be served upon the licensee complained of, a written notice or complaint setting forth, in substance, the violations charged, a statement of the deficiencies which exist and any corrective action deemed appropriate. Said notice shall include a statement that in the event corrective action is deemed appropriate and corrective action is not taken, the dealer's license may be suspended or revoked. The notice shall require the licensee to appear at the time and place fixed therein before the registrar or inspector, and show cause why the license should not be suspended or revoked.

The registrar shall, at the time and place fixed in the notice, proceed to hear and determine the matter on its merits. All hearings shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 14, except that the provisions of section 14.50, shall not apply. The registrar is authorized to subpoena witnesses and administer oaths. If the registrar shall find the existence of any of the causes for suspension or revocation as set forth in subdivision 12 and determine that corrective action has not been taken or that corrective action will not prevent repetition of the violations charged or that the public interest will not be served by corrective action and the licensee's license should be suspended or revoked, the registrar shall issue a written order setting out the decision, and a copy of such order shall be served upon such licensee in the manner provided by law for the service of summons in a civil action. On finding that the dealer has violated any of the provisions of this section but that the nature of said violation or the circumstances thereof are such that a suspension of the license would be adequate, the registrar may, instead of revoking the license suspend it for a period not exceeding 90 days. On finding that the violation does not justify a suspension only, the registrar shall revoke the license. Upon a suspension or revocation, if it be a new or used motor vehicle dealer, said licensee shall immediately return to the registrar all number plates, including any "in transit" plates, in its possession and its dealer's license certificate.

**Subd. 14. Appeal.** Any party or person aggrieved by such order of suspension, revocation or imposition of a penalty may seek judicial review pursuant to the provisions of chapter 14.

**Subd. 15. Enforcement.** The registrar is hereby authorized to enforce this section and is directed to appoint under the registrar's hand not less than seven persons amongst the registrar's several employees, as inspectors and investigators and who when so appointed, shall have full authority to enforce this section throughout the state. Before entering upon their official duties, the oath of appointment of each of the

additional employees shall be filed in the office of the secretary of state. The registrar, the registrar's inspectors or investigators, when traveling or otherwise pursuing their duties outside the office of the registrar, shall be paid for their actual expenses incurred out of the same funds as other employees of the registrar of motor vehicles. The inspectors shall assist licensees in compliance with laws governing licensees and administered hereunder.

**Subd. 16. Plates, distinguishing numbers.** (a) The registrar shall issue to every motor vehicle dealer, upon a request from the motor vehicle dealer licensed as provided in subdivisions 2 or 3, one or more plates displaying a general distinguishing number upon the payment of \$10 to the registrar. In addition the dealer shall pay a motor vehicle excise tax of \$15 annually for each dealer plate purchased as required by section 297B.035. The registrar shall deposit the tax in the state treasury and it shall be credited as provided in section 297B.09. Motor vehicles, new or used, owned by the motor vehicle dealer and bearing the number plate, except vehicles leased to the user who is not an employee of the dealer during the term of the lease, held for hire, or customarily used by the dealer as a tow truck, service truck, or parts pickup truck, may be driven upon the streets and highways of this state by the motor vehicle dealer, or any employee of the motor vehicle dealer or by any member of the immediate family of the dealer or employee for either private or business purposes; or may be driven upon the streets and highways for demonstration purposes by any prospective buyer thereof for a period of 48 hours or in the case of a truck, truck-tractor, or semitrailer, for a period of seven days.

(b) A new or used motor vehicle sold by the motor vehicle dealer and bearing the motor vehicle dealer's number plate may be driven upon the public streets and highways for a period of 72 hours by the buyer for either of the following purposes: (1) Removing the vehicle from this state for registration in another state, or (2) permitting the buyer to use the motor vehicle before the buyer receives number plates pursuant to registration. Use of a motor vehicle by the buyer under the provisions of clause (2) of the preceding sentence before the buyer receives number plates pursuant to registration constitutes a use of the public streets or highways for the purpose of the time requirements for registration of motor vehicles.

**Subd. 17. Application.** Every licensed dealer in motor vehicles may make application upon a blank provided by the registrar for that purpose for a general distinguishing number for use upon all new or used motor vehicles being transported from the dealer's source of supply, or other place of storage, to the dealer's place of business, or to another place of storage, or from one dealer to another. A general distinguishing number shall be assigned by the registrar to the dealer for that purpose, and the registrar shall then issue to the dealer the number of plates as the dealer may request, upon the payment by the dealer to the registrar of the sum of \$2 per plate. The plates shall be known as "in transit" plates. The registrar may issue "in transit" plates, upon the payment of the sum of \$2 to the registrar, to dealers duly licensed in other states or provinces upon information furnished in the manner as the registrar may prescribe, and which satisfies the registrar that persons or companies applying therefor are duly licensed dealers under the laws of the states or provinces.

**Subd. 18. Testimonial powers.** The registrar shall have, and is hereby granted full authority to issue subpoenas requiring the attendance of witnesses before the registrar, production of books, papers, and other documents, articles, or instruments, and compel the disclosure by such witnesses of all facts known to them relative to the matter under investigation, and shall have full authority to administer oaths and to take testimony. All parties disobeying the orders of subpoenas of the registrar shall be guilty of contempt, as in proceedings in district courts of the state and may be punished in like manner.

**Subd. 19. Violations.** Any person, copartnership, or corporation, domestic or foreign, and any officer, or director, or employee of a corporation, domestic or foreign, who shall violate or neglect, fail or refuse to comply with any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Subd. 20. **Application.** This section shall not apply to any person, copartnership, or corporation engaged in the business of selling vehicles designed to operate exclusively over snow, motor scooters, motorized wheel chairs, utility trailers, farm wagons, farm trailers, farm tractors or other farm implements whether self-propelled or not, even though such wagons, trailers, tractors or implements may be equipped with a trailer hitch, or to any person licensed as a real estate broker or salesperson pursuant to chapter 82, who engages in the business of selling, or who offers to sell, solicits or advertises the sale of manufactured homes affixed to land, unless such person, copartnership or corporation shall also be engaged in the business of selling other motor vehicles or manufactured homes within the provisions of this section. As used in this subdivision the term "utility trailer" has the following meaning:

"Utility trailer" means a motorless vehicle, other than a boat trailer or snowmobile trailer, equipped with one or two wheels and having a carrying capacity of 2000 pounds or less and used for carrying property on its own structure while being drawn by a motor vehicle.

Subd. 21. [Repealed, 1981 c 59 s 20]

Subd. 22. **Motorized bicycles, boat and snowmobile trailers.** Any person, copartnership or corporation having a permanent enclosed commercial building or structure either owned in fee or leased and engaged in the business, either exclusively or in addition to any other occupation, of selling motorized bicycles, boat trailers, horse trailers or snowmobile trailers, may apply to the registrar for a dealer's license. Upon payment of a \$10 fee the registrar shall license the applicant as a dealer for the remainder of the calendar year in which the application was received. Thereafter the license may be renewed on or before the second day of January of each year by payment of a fee of \$10. The registrar shall issue to each dealer, upon request of the dealer, dealer plates as provided in subdivision 16 upon payment of \$3 for each plate, and the plates may be used in the same manner and for the same purposes as is provided in subdivision 16. Except for motorized bicycle dealers, the registrar shall also issue to the dealer, upon request of the dealer, "in transit" plates as provided in subdivision 17 upon payment of a fee of \$2 for each plate. This subdivision shall not be construed to abrogate any of the provisions of this section as the same relates to the duties, responsibilities and requirements of persons, copartnerships or corporations engaged in the business, either exclusively or in addition to other occupations, of selling motor vehicles or manufactured homes.

Subd. 23. **Registrar may file charges.** The registrar or the registrar's appointed inspectors may file charges with the county attorney against any licensee who violates any of the provisions of this section, including but not limited to, the grounds for suspension or revocation set out in subdivision 12. Any violation of this section is a misdemeanor.

Subd. 24. **Bonds.** All persons licensed hereunder shall keep in full force and effect a bond with a corporate surety to be approved by the registrar of motor vehicles in amounts as herein provided; in the case of boat, snowmobile trailer, horse trailer or motorized bicycle dealers in the amount of \$5,000; and as to all other persons in the amount of \$25,000. The bond shall be conditioned on the faithful performance by the licensee of the obligations imposed by the laws of this state, including the conduct required of a licensee by this section and other sections governing the sale or transfer of motor vehicles, and the payment of all taxes, license fees and penalties. The bond shall be for the benefit of the state of Minnesota and any transferor, seller, or purchaser of a motor vehicle for any monetary loss caused by failure of the licensee to meet the obligations enumerated above. Proceedings on the forfeiture of the bonds shall be commenced in the district court of the county wherein the business of the licensed person was carried on, or if in more than one county, the county in which the offense occurred.

Subd. 25. **Preemption of local ordinances.** It is the intent and purpose of this section to establish a uniform statewide system of bonding motor vehicle dealers and the provisions of this section shall supersede and preempt all bonding requirements imposed by any local government unit.

**History:** (2686) 1921 c 461 s 15; 1923 c 418 s 15; 1931 c 217 s 2; 1935 c 143 s 1; 1935

*c 271 s 1; 1939 c 209 s 1; 1941 c 176 s 1; 1943 c 265 s 1; 1947 c 58 s 1; 1949 c 476 s 1; 1953 c 43 s 2; 1955 c 331 s 1; 1955 c 626 s 1; 1955 c 820 s 16; 1961 c 75 s 1; 1961 c 650 s 1; 1963 c 52 s 1, 2; 1965 c 681 s 1; 1969 c 399 s 1; 1969 c 1148 s 27; 1971 c 444 s 1-2; 1973 c 123 art 5 s 7; 1974 c 54 s 1; 1974 c 273 s 10; 1976 c 342 s 3; 1977 c 27 s 1, 2; 1977 c 168 s 1-9; 1977 c 214 s 4; 1977 c 347 s 28; 1978 c 570 s 1; 1980 c 427 s 2-6; 1980 c 478 s 2, 3; 1981 c 196 s 1; 1981 c 357 s 57, 58; 1981 c 363 s 24; 1981 c 365 s 9; 1982 c 424 s 130; 1984 c 549 s 19, 20; 1984 c 654 art 3 s 59, 60; 1985 c 63 s 6, 7; 1985 c 186 s 1-4; 1985 c 291 s 14; 1986 c 444; 1986 c 454 s 14-16; 1Sp1986 c 3 art 1 s 24*

## 168.2701 LIABILITY OF LESSORS FOR UNPAID TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS.

When a motor vehicle lessor, licensed under section 168.27, subdivision 2, 3, or 4, is issued a traffic violation citation for a violation committed by a lessee while operating the leased or rented vehicle, the lessor shall convey to the issuing authority within 15 days of the lessor receiving knowledge of the traffic violation, information to the extent available, including the driver's full name, home address, local address, if any, license number, employer's name and address, post office box, and form of payment. Upon compliance with this section, the lessor is not liable for the amount of fine, penalty assessment, late payment penalty, or cost of warrants issued in connection with the violation. However, action on the part of the issuing authority relieving the lessor of liability does not absolve the person incurring the violation of responsibility for the infraction.

**History:** 1986 c 332 s 1

## 168.271 INFORMATIONAL LABELS ON PICKUP TRUCKS; PENALTY.

Subdivision 1. Every manufacturer of new trucks having a gross vehicle weight of 9,000 pounds or less which are sold or offered for sale for use upon the public streets or highways within this state shall, prior to the delivery of the new truck to a Minnesota dealer, or at or prior to the introduction date of new models delivered to a Minnesota dealer prior to introduction date, securely affix to the windshield or side window of the truck a label upon which the manufacturer shall endorse clearly, distinctly and legibly true and correct entries disclosing information identical to and in the same manner as required on new automobiles. The label shall remain affixed to the truck until delivery of the truck to the ultimate purchaser. Any manufacturer who shall willfully fail to affix a proper label required by this section or any person who shall willfully remove, alter or mutilate a label prior to delivery of the truck to the ultimate purchaser is guilty of a misdemeanor. This section shall not apply to trucks for which the annual sales in Minnesota of the previous model year were less than 200.

Subd. 2. This section shall apply to new trucks having a gross vehicle weight of 9,000 pounds or less built after December 31, 1978.

**History:** 1977 c 385 s 1, 2

## 168.274 DEFINITIONS.

The following definitions shall apply for the words or terms used in sections 168.274 to 168.276 unless other meaning is clearly apparent from the language or context.

"Motor vehicle" means and includes all vehicles propelled otherwise than by muscular power, excepting such vehicles as run only upon rails or tracks.

"New motor vehicle" means only newly manufactured motor vehicles and includes but is not limited to motorcycles, trailers, trucks, passenger cars and tractors.

"Used motor vehicle" means every motor vehicle, title to, or possession of, which has been transferred from the person who first acquired it from the manufacturer or dealer and has been so used as to become or is commonly known as secondhand within the ordinary meaning thereof, and includes every motor vehicle other than a new motor vehicle, including but not limited to motorcycles, trailers, tractors, trucks and passenger cars.

"Person" includes natural persons, firms, partnerships, corporations, associations or other artificial bodies, trustees, receiver and officers, employees, agents, and others acting for or on behalf of any person.

**History:** 1957 c 386 s 3

#### **168.275 SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES ON SUNDAY FORBIDDEN.**

Any person who shall carry on or engage in the business of buying, selling, exchanging, dealing in or trading in new or used motor vehicles; or who shall open any place of business or lot wherein the person attempts to or does engage in the business of buying, selling, exchanging, dealing or trading in new or used motor vehicles; or who does buy, sell, exchange, deal or trade in new or used motor vehicles as a business on the first day of the week, commonly known and designated as Sunday, is guilty of a misdemeanor for the first offense, and a gross misdemeanor for each succeeding offense. Such a person upon conviction for the first offense shall pay a fine not to exceed \$700 or be imprisoned for a period of not more than ten days; and for the second offense shall pay a fine not to exceed \$3,000 or be imprisoned for a period of not more than 30 days or both; and for the third or each subsequent offense shall pay a fine of not more than \$3,000 or be imprisoned for a period of not more than six months or both.

**History:** 1957 c 386 s 1; 1984 c 628 art 3 s 11; 1986 c 444

#### **168.276 SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSES.**

Every court having jurisdiction over offenses committed in violation of the provisions of section 168.275 hereof shall forward to the registrar of motor vehicles of this state within ten days following a conviction, a record thereof. If a person so convicted holds a license as a dealer for the sale of new or used motor vehicles under the provisions of section 168.27, upon the receipt by the registrar of motor vehicles of a second record of conviction of such dealer, the registrar of motor vehicles shall suspend such dealer's license for a period of 30 days, and upon receipt of a third record of conviction of any such dealer, the registrar of motor vehicles shall permanently revoke such dealer's license.

**History:** 1957 c 386 s 2

#### **168.28 VEHICLES SUBJECT TO TAX; EXCEPTIONS.**

Every motor vehicle (except those exempted in section 168.012, and except those which are being towed upon the streets and highways and which shall not be deemed to be using the streets and highways within the meaning of this section) shall be deemed to be one using the public streets and highways and hence as such subject to taxation under this act if such motor vehicle has since April 23, 1921, used such public streets or highways, or shall actually use them, or if it shall come into the possession of an owner other than as a manufacturer, dealer, warehouse operator, mortgagee or pledgee. New and unused motor vehicles in the possession of a dealer solely for the purpose of sale, and used or secondhand motor vehicles which have not theretofore used the public streets or highways of this state which are in the possession of a dealer solely for the purpose of sale and which are duly listed as herein provided, shall not be deemed to be vehicles using the public streets or highways. The driving or operating of a motor vehicle upon the public streets or highways of this state by a motor vehicle dealer or any employee of such motor vehicle dealer for demonstration purposes or for any purpose incident to the usual and customary conduct and operation of the business in which licensed under section 168.27 to engage, or solely for the purpose of moving it from points outside or within the state to the place of business or storage of a licensed dealer within the state or solely for the purpose of moving it from the place of business of a manufacturer, or licensed dealer within the state to the place of business or residence of a purchaser outside the state, shall not be deemed to be using the public streets or highways in the state within the meaning of this chapter or of the Constitution of the state of Minnesota, article XIV, and shall not be held to make the motor vehicle subject to taxation under this chapter as one using the public streets or highways, if

during such driving or moving the dealer's plates herein provided for shall be duly displayed upon such vehicle. Any dealer or distributor may register a motor vehicle prior to its assessment or taxation as personal property, and pay the license fee and tax thereon for the full calendar year as one using the public streets and highways, and thereafter such vehicle shall be deemed to be one using the public streets and highways and shall not be subject to assessment or taxation as personal property during the calendar year for which it is so registered, whether or not such vehicle shall actually have used the streets or highways.

**History:** (2687) 1921 c 461 s 16; 1923 c 418 s 16; 1941 c 176 s 2; 1953 c 315 s 1; 1961 c 611 s 1; 1976 c 2 s 172; 1986 c 444; 1986 c 454 s 17

## 168.29 DUPLICATE PLATES.

In the event of the defacement, loss or destruction of any number plates, the registrar, upon receiving and filing a sworn statement of the vehicle owner, setting forth the circumstances of the defacement, loss, destruction or theft of the number plates, together with any defaced plates and the payment of the fee of \$5 shall issue a new set of plates. The registrar shall then note on the registrar's records the issue of such new number plates and shall proceed in such manner as the registrar may deem advisable to cancel and call in the original plates so as to insure against their use on another motor vehicle. Duplicate registration certificates plainly marked as duplicates may be issued in like cases upon the payment of a \$1 fee.

**History:** (2688) 1921 c 461 s 17; 1923 c 418 s 17; 1943 c 56 s 1; 1973 c 218 s 8; 1977 c 327 s 1; 1984 c 549 s 21; 1985 c 291 s 15; 1986 c 444

## 168.30 TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP.

Every owner or transferor of a motor vehicle who fails or delays for more than 14 days to surrender the registration certificate and existing number plates as herein provided, before the owner or transferor having paid the tax required by this chapter shall be entitled to sell and assign the right to have the tax paid by the owner or transferor credited to the transferee as herein provided, shall pay to the registrar a fee of \$1 provided the added fee for such failure or delay in reporting such transfer of ownership as required by law shall not be more than one-half the annual tax. A filing with, or delivery to the registrar of any application, notice, certificate or plates as required by this section shall be construed to be within the requirements of this section if made to the registrar or a deputy registrar at an office maintained therefor, or if deposited in the mail or with a carrier by express with postage or carriage charge prepaid, and properly addressed to the registrar within 14 days after the transfer of ownership or other occurrence upon which this section provides for such filing or delivery.

**History:** (2689) 1921 c 461 s 18; 1923 c 418 s 18; 1929 c 330 s 2; 1931 c 17 s 1; 1933 c 245; 1941 c 515 s 6; 1943 c 153 s 2; 1961 c 121 s 1; 1986 c 444

## 168.31 TAX, WHEN DUE AND PAYABLE.

**Subdivision 1. Time payable.** The tax required under this chapter to be paid upon a motor vehicle for each calendar year becomes due when the vehicle first uses the public streets or highways in the state, and upon January 1 each year thereafter, except those vehicles which are taxed under section 168.017 and vehicles registered under 168.09, subdivision 3. Taxes due upon January 1 become payable upon November 15 preceding the calendar year for which they are assessed. The tax required to register vehicles for the registration year March 1 to the last day of February is due on March 1 and payable January 1 preceding. The tax required to register vehicles under the provisions of section 168.017 is due the first day of the month commencing the 12-month registration period and payable during the 45 days preceding the due date. Nothing in this section shall preclude prepayment.

**Subd. 2.** [Repealed, 1973 c 6 s 7]

Subd. 3. [Repealed, 1984 c 549 s 34]

Subd. 4. **Installments.** If the tax for a vehicle assessed under section 168.013 or 168.187 amounts to more than \$400, the owner may pay such tax by installments. The owner shall tender with the application for registration one-third of the annual tax due or \$400, whichever is greater, plus any penalties or arrears, plus a fee of \$10. Instead of this fee, the applicant may furnish a bond, bank letter of credit, or certificate of deposit approved by the registrar of motor vehicles, for the total of the tax still due. The amount of the bond, letter of credit, or certificate of deposit may include any penalties which are assessed. The bond, letter of credit, or certificate of deposit shall be for the benefit of the state for monetary loss caused by failure of the vehicle owner to pay delinquent license fees and penalties. The remainder of the tax due shall be paid in two equal installments; the due date of the first installment shall be the first day of the fifth month of the registration period for which the tax is assessed and the second installment shall be due on the first day of the ninth month of the registration period for which the tax is assessed. When the applicant elects to pay the administrative fee, the registrar shall issue to the applicant validation stickers for the installment paid. When the applicant elects to furnish a bond, bank letter, or letter of deposit, the registrar shall issue validation stickers for the registration year. If an owner of a vehicle fails to pay an installment on or before the due date thereof, the vehicle shall not use the public streets or highways in this state until the installment or installments of the tax remaining due on such vehicle shall have been paid in full for the licensed year together with a penalty at the rate of \$1 per day for the remainder of the month in which the balance of the tax becomes due and \$4 a month for each succeeding month or fraction thereof during which the balance of the tax remains unpaid. Upon the payment of the balance of the tax and the penalties, the registrar shall issue a registration certificate to the owner of the vehicle in the manner provided by law. The registrar shall deny installment payment privileges provided in this subdivision in the subsequent year to any owner on any or all vehicles of such owner who during the current year fails to pay any installment due within one month after the due date.

Subd. 5. **Refunds.** For the annual tax paid on any vehicle before the calendar year for which that tax was assessed, the owner of the vehicle who paid the tax shall be entitled to full refund if such vehicle is permanently destroyed or removed from the state before the calendar year for which the tax was paid or if it is not used at all during the calendar year for which the tax was paid, and the owner makes affidavit concerning the nonuse as provided by section 168.012.

Subd. 6. **Tax a personal obligation.** All taxes imposed under the provisions of this chapter shall be deemed the personal obligation of the registered owner and the amount of such tax, including added penalties for the nonpayment thereof, shall be a first lien upon the vehicle taxed, paramount and superior to all other liens thereon whether previously or subsequently accruing thereon; and, in addition to any other remedy herein prescribed, the state shall have a right of action against the owner for the recovery of the amount of any delinquent tax thereon, including the penalties accruing because of the nonpayment thereof, or for the enforcement of the tax lien thereon hereby declared, or both, in any court of competent jurisdiction. The county attorney of the county in which such motor vehicle is owned shall perform such service in the matter of the commencement and prosecution of such suit or in the prosecution of any other remedy for the enforcement of such tax as the attorney general may require.

**History:** (2690) 1921 c 461 s 19; 1923 c 418 s 19; 1933 c 344 s 3; 1941 c 515 s 4; 1943 c 153 s 1; 1951 c 401 s 1; 1953 c 123 s 1; 1957 c 714 s 3; 1961 c 170 s 1; 1973 c 6 s 4,5; 1976 c 39 s 6; 1976 c 225 s 2; 1978 c 613 s 3; 1980 c 498 s 1; 1981 c 167 s 4; 1984 c 549 s 22,23; 1985 c 291 s 16; 1986 c 444

**168.32** [Repealed, 1961 c 120 s 2]

**168.321 MANUFACTURERS TO FILE STATEMENT.**

The registrar may refuse to register any new vehicle unless the manufacturer thereof has filed the sworn statement herein provided for the model of the motor vehicle offered for registration. The registrar shall have authority to determine the weight of any vehicle on which the record of the manufacturer's shipping weight is not available in the office.

Every manufacturer of a motor vehicle sold or offered for sale within this state shall each year file with the registrar a sworn statement showing the various models manufactured, the manufacturer's shipping weights including the weight of automatic transmissions where such equipment is offered as optional equipment and not included in the shipping weight, the beginning serial or identification number of each model or series if manufactured on a yearly model basis, or if not manufactured on a yearly model basis, the formula or method used to determine the year of model, and such other information as the registrar deems necessary. Upon the introduction of any new models during the year, the manufacturer shall in like manner file a new statement setting forth the required information for each new model.

The information furnished in the manufacturer's statement may be considered by the registrar as prima facie evidence of the facts contained therein.

**History:** 1961 c 120 s 1; 1986 c 444

**168.325 DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES.**

Subdivision 1. A division in the department of public safety to be known as the division of motor vehicles is hereby created, under the supervision and control of the director. The commissioner may place the director's position in the unclassified service if the position meets the criteria established in section 43A.08, subdivision 1a.

Subd. 2. All the functions, powers, and duties now vested in or imposed upon the secretary of state as registrar of motor vehicles as prescribed in Minnesota Statutes 1967, chapter 168, or any other law, relating to the registration of motor vehicles, the issuance of motor vehicle licenses, the licensing of motor vehicle dealers, and other matters therein contained not otherwise provided for in this section, are hereby transferred to, vested in, and imposed upon the commissioner of public safety. The duties of the secretary of state in relation thereto as heretofore constituted are abolished.

Subd. 3. Upon the effective date of this act the individual occupying the position of motor vehicle director shall retain such position for a period of at least 12 months, or until removed for cause.

Subd. 4. All the powers and duties now vested in or imposed upon the secretary of state in the issuance of chauffeurs' licenses and school bus drivers' licenses as prescribed in Minnesota Statutes 1967, chapter 168, are hereby transferred to, vested in, and imposed upon the commissioner of public safety. The duties of the secretary of state in connection with the issuance of such licenses are hereby abolished.

**History:** 1969 c 1129 art 1 s 15; 1974 c 15 s 1; 1982 c 560 s 49

**168.33 COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO BE REGISTRAR.**

Subdivision 1. **Duties.** The commissioner of public safety shall be the registrar of motor vehicles of the state of Minnesota, and shall exercise all the powers granted to and perform all the duties imposed by this chapter. The commissioner of public safety may employ not to exceed eight persons as inspectors, to obtain information and report to the registrar regarding motor vehicles subject to taxation under this chapter upon which the tax has not been paid, and to present suitable complaints to courts of competent jurisdiction.

Subd. 2. **Powers.** The registrar shall have the power to appoint, hire and discharge and fix the compensation of the necessary employees, in the manner provided by law, as may be required to enable the registrar to properly carry out the duties imposed by the provisions of this chapter. As of April 14, 1976, the registrar may

appoint, and for cause discontinue, a deputy registrar for any city as the public interest and convenience may require, without regard to whether the county auditor of the county in which the city is situated has been appointed as the deputy registrar for the county or has been discontinued as the deputy registrar for the county, and without regard to whether the county in which the city is situated has established a county license bureau which issues motor vehicle licenses as provided in section 373.32.

Effective August 1, 1976, the registrar may appoint, and for cause discontinue, a deputy registrar for any city as the public interest and convenience may require, if the auditor for the county in which the city is situated chooses not to accept appointment as the deputy registrar for the county or is discontinued as a deputy registrar, or if the county in which the city is situated has not established a county license bureau which issues motor vehicle license as provided in section 373.32. Any person appointed by the registrar as a deputy registrar for any city shall be a resident of the county in which the city is situated.

The registrar may appoint, and for cause discontinue, the county auditor of each county as a deputy registrar. Upon approval of the county board, the auditor, with the approval of the director of motor vehicles, may appoint, and for cause discontinue, the clerk or equivalent officer of each city or any other person as a deputy registrar as public interest and convenience may require, regardless of the appointee's county of residence. Notwithstanding any other provision, a person other than a county auditor or a director of a county license bureau, who was appointed by the registrar before August 1, 1976, as a deputy registrar for any city, may continue to serve as deputy registrar and may be discontinued for cause only by the registrar. The county auditor who appointed the deputy registrars shall be responsible for the acts of deputy registrars appointed by the auditor. Each such deputy, before entering upon the discharge of duties, shall take and subscribe an oath to faithfully discharge the duties and to uphold the laws of the state. If a deputy registrar appointed hereunder is not an officer or employee of a county or city, such deputy shall in addition give bond to the state in the sum of \$10,000, or such larger sum as may be required by the registrar, conditioned upon the faithful discharge of duties as deputy registrar. A corporation governed by chapter 302A may be appointed a deputy registrar. Upon application by an individual serving as a deputy registrar and the giving of the requisite bond as provided in subdivision 2, personally assured by the individual or another individual approved by the commissioner of public safety, a corporation named in an application shall become the duly appointed and qualified successor to the deputy registrar. Each deputy registrar appointed hereunder shall keep and maintain, in a convenient public place within the place for which appointed, a registration and motor vehicle tax collection bureau, to be approved by the registrar, for the registration of motor vehicles and the collection of motor vehicle taxes thereon. The deputy registrar shall keep such records and make such reports to the registrar as that officer, from time to time, may require. Such records shall be maintained at the facility of the deputy registrar. The records and facilities of the deputy registrar shall at all times be open to the inspection of the registrar or the registrar's agents. The deputy registrar shall report to the registrar by the next working day following receipt all registrations made and taxes and fees collected by the deputy registrar. The filing fee imposed pursuant to subdivision 7 shall be deposited in the treasury of the place for which appointed, or if not a public official, such deputy shall retain the filing fee, but the registration tax and any additional fees for delayed registration the deputy registrar has collected the deputy registrar shall deposit by the next working day following receipt in an approved state depository to the credit of the state through the state treasurer. The place for which the deputy registrar is appointed through its governing body shall provide the deputy registrar with facilities and personnel to carry out the duties imposed by this subdivision if such deputy is a public official. In all other cases, the deputy shall maintain a suitable facility for serving the public.

**Subd. 2a. Deputy registrars, continuation in office.** Persons serving as deputy registrars on the effective date of this act shall continue to hold such office until a successor is duly appointed and qualifies.

Subd. 2b. **Deputy registrars, employment status.** Deputy registrars, and their employees, who retain the filing fee in lieu of a salary, shall, after July 1, 1971, be considered as independent contractors for pension purposes, and ineligible because of such service for coverage under the Minnesota state retirement system or membership in the public employees retirement association.

Those deputy registrars as defined in this subdivision who are covered by the Minnesota state retirement system on June 30, 1971, shall have the option of terminating said coverage on July 1, 1971, or of continuing said coverage until termination of state service. The form of the option and the time for filing shall be as prescribed by the board of directors of the system. Those choosing to continue said coverage, shall provide from the filing fees retained the employee and employer contributions as required by chapter 352.

Subd. 3. **Record.** The registrar shall keep a suitable record of all motor vehicles registered in the registrar's office, indexed, according to registration number, according to name of owner, according to make of motor vehicle and the factory identification number for such makes as are so identified or according to the serial number of such makes as are so identified until the manufacturers thereof adopt and use an identification number, and according to such other information as the registrar shall deem advisable. Duplicates of the certificate of registration shall be used, until a more efficient system is evolved, to make the registration number and owner's indexes herein required, and such other copies as are desirable. The registrar may furnish to any one applying therefor transcripts of such records for not less than the cost of preparing the same; provided, that any sums in excess of such cost received by the registrar for furnishing such transcripts shall be paid by the registrar into the state treasury. The registrar shall also furnish copies thereof, without charge, to the chiefs of police of the cities of Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Duluth.

Subd. 4. **Record of cars not using highways.** The registrar shall keep a record of all motor vehicles listed for taxation or registered, other than those using public streets or highways, according to the name of the owner only.

Subd. 5. **Synopsis of laws; report.** The registrar shall prepare a brief synopsis of this chapter, and such other matter dealing with rules in the use of motor vehicles as the registrar may deem advisable, and furnish a copy of same to any person upon application. The registrar shall prepare, on or before November 15, preceding any regular legislative session, a report to the legislature containing such information and recommendations as the registrar may deem advisable.

Subd. 6. **Application forms furnished.** The registrar shall furnish, from time to time, to the county recorder of each county in the state forms for listing and for applications for registration, as provided herein, and shall, before January first in each year, furnish to the county recorder of each county, and to such others as the registrar shall deem advisable, charts or lists setting forth the tax to which each motor vehicle is subject. The registrar shall immediately destroy all number plates surrendered to the registrar which are unsuitable for further issue, and shall cancel all certificates so surrendered.

Subd. 7. **Fees.** In addition to all other statutory fees and taxes, a filing fee of \$3.25 is imposed on every application; except that a filing fee may not be charged for a document returned for a refund or for a correction of an error made by the department or a deputy registrar. The filing fee shall be shown as a separate item on all registration renewal notices sent out by the department of public safety.

**History:** (2693) 1921 c 461 s 22; 1923 c 418 s 22; 1927 c 340 s 1; 1939 c 259 s 1; 1949 c 131 s 1; 1949 c 132 s 1; 1951 c 384 s 1; 1957 c 82 s 1; 1965 c 45 s 9; 1969 c 540 s 9; 1969 c 1129 art 1 s 15-17; 1971 c 58 s 1; 1971 c 625 s 1,3; 1971 c 853 s 13; 1973 c 123 art 5 s 7; 1973 c 375 s 1; 1975 c 146 s 1; 1976 c 181 s 2; 1976 c 281 s 1.2; 1977 c 327 s 2,3; 1979 c 329 s 3; 1981 c 357 s 59; 1984 c 549 s 24; 1984 c 629 s 3; 1984 c 654 art 3 s 61; 1985 c 248 s 70; 1985 c 291 s 17; 1986 c 444

**168.34 INFORMATION TO BE FURNISHED.**

The registrar shall maintain in the registrar's office an information bureau to immediately answer such questions, through personal inquiry, telephone, or letter, as may be answered from the registrar's files, and, when authorized by an inquirer to telegraph collect, shall so answer. Sheriffs and police departments shall promptly report stolen motor vehicles and motor vehicles recovered, on forms provided by the registrar, and each month the registrar shall print and send a list of such motor vehicles to such officials and to the motor vehicle department in each of the several states. Initial applications for registration shall be checked against the list. Registrations shall be completed with the utmost dispatch, in such manner as to render the most efficient service to the public, on the same day that the application is received. The telephone and telegraph shall be immediately used in all cases where reverse or collect charges are authorized. The registrar, or any deputy or employee, shall not be liable to any person for mistake or negligence in the giving of information not willfully calculated to injure such person. The registration system shall be so conducted, and the requirements thereof so construed, as to furnish to the public immediate, accurate information as to any single car about which the inquiry may be made, and to furnish the registrar a means of checking back during any year to determine that all motor vehicles subject to taxation and licensing have had the proper tax or fee paid thereon. The mail or carriers by express may be used for any notice for delivery required of the registrar.

**History:** (2694) 1921 c 461 s 23; 1923 c 418 s 23; 1925 c 299 s 3; 1965 c 51 s 22; 1986 c 444

**168.345 MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS; INFORMATION.**

Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, information concerning motor vehicle registrations shall not be furnished on the telephone to any person except the personnel of law enforcement agencies, and the personnel of federal, state and local governmental units.

**History:** 1965 c 901 s 68

**168.35 INTENT TO ESCAPE TAX.**

Any person who shall, with intent to escape payment of any tax on a motor vehicle, as herein provided, delay or neglect to properly list and apply to register the same, or, with intent to prevent the payment or collection of the proper tax, fee, or lien thereon, violate or neglect to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

**History:** (2695) 1921 c 461 s 24; 1923 c 418 s 24

**168.36 UNREGISTERED VEHICLES, USE.**

**Subdivision 1. Misdemeanor.** Any person who shall use or cause any motor vehicle to be used or operated in violation of the provisions of this chapter or while a certificate of registration of a motor vehicle issued to the person is suspended or revoked, or who shall knowingly deliver a motor vehicle to another to be used or operated in violation of this chapter, or who shall violate any of the provisions thereof, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

**Subd. 2. Certain acts, misdemeanors.** Any person who shall loan or use any number plate or registration certificate upon or in connection with any motor vehicle except the one for which the same was duly issued, or upon any such motor vehicle after such certificate or plates, or the right to use the same, have expired, or any person who shall retain in possession or shall fail to surrender, as herein provided, any such number plate or registration certificate shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Any person who manufactures, buys, sells, uses or displays motor vehicle license number plates, motor vehicle registration certificates, or tax receipts issued by this state or any other state, territory or district in the United States, without proper authority from such state, territory or district of the United States, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon

conviction thereof, punished by a fine of not less than \$25 nor more than \$100 or by confinement of not less than 15 nor more than 90 days or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Subd. 3. **Alterations, misdemeanors.** Any person who shall deface or alter any registration certificate or number plate or retain the same in possession after it has been defaced or altered shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

**History:** (2696, 2697, 2698) 1921 c 461 s 25-27; 1923 c 418 s 25-27; 1925 c 299 s 4; 1951 c 211 s 3; 1986 c 444

**168.37 PLATE TABS OR STICKERS; MONTHLY REGISTRATION SYSTEM.**

Subdivision 1. [Repealed, 1973 c 6 s 7]

Subd. 2. [Repealed, 1973 c 6 s 7]

Subd. 3. The registrar may rearrange the words and figures on plates issued for vehicles under the monthly series system of registration to provide space on the plates for tabs or stickers which the registrar shall issue to indicate the period of registration.

**History:** (2703) 1911 c 365 s 10; 1921 c 472 s 2; 1927 c 326; 1939 c 213; 1947 c 405 s 1; 1949 c 410; 1967 c 464 s 1; 1973 c 6 s 6; 1974 c 121 s 5; 1986 c 444

**168.38** [Repealed, 1957 c 412 s 3]

**168.381 MANUFACTURE OF MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE NUMBER PLATES.**

License number plates required by law may be manufactured by the Minnesota correctional facility-St. Cloud, the Minnesota correctional facility-Stillwater or other facility established by law for the confinement of persons convicted of felony upon order from the registrar of motor vehicles, such order to state the quality of material desired in such plates, the specifications thereof, and the amount or number desired.

Should the commissioner of corrections decide not to supply the required quantity of license plates, or discontinue the manufacture of plates, the commissioner of public safety is authorized to seek other suppliers on a competitive basis. Materials purchased to be used in the manufacture of such motor vehicle number plates shall be tested as to conformance with specifications established by the commissioner of public safety in a privately operated laboratory service to be designated by the commissioner. The cost of such laboratory shall be included in the cost of materials purchased. The cost of delivery of such number plates to the commissioner of public safety at places which the commissioner may designate shall be included in the expenses incurred in their manufacture. The commissioner of public safety shall establish new or revised specifications for the material and equipment used in the manufacture of number plates ordered for manufacture after August 1, 1975, and may from time to time revise such specifications, provided that such specifications conform to the requirements of section 168.12. In establishing new or revised specifications the commissioner shall consult with and give consideration to the advice and recommendations of representatives of the Minnesota state patrol, local police officers' associations and the county sheriffs' association.

Moneys appropriated to the department of public safety to procure the plates for any fiscal year or years shall be available for allotment, encumbrance, and expenditure from and after the date of the enactment of such appropriation. Materials and equipment used in the manufacture of such number plates are subject only to the approval of the commissioner of public safety.

This section contemplates that moneys to be appropriated to the department of public safety in order to carry out the terms and provisions of this section will be appropriated by the legislature from the highway user tax distribution fund.

**History:** 1957 c 412 s 1,2; 1965 c 158 s 1; 1969 c 1129 art 1 s 15; 1973 c 140 s 1; 1975 c 10 s 1; 1979 c 102 s 13; 1981 c 37 s 2; 1986 c 444

**168.39** [Repealed, 1971 c 644 s 17]

- 168.40 [Repealed, 1971 c 644 s 17]
- 168.41 [Repealed, 1971 c 644 s 17]
- 168.413 [Repealed, 1971 c 644 s 17]
- 168.42 [Repealed, 1971 c 644 s 17]
- 168.423 [Repealed, 1971 c 644 s 17]
- 168.43 [Repealed, 1971 c 644 s 17]
- 168.44 [Repealed, 1971 c 644 s 17]
- 168.45 [Repealed, 1971 c 644 s 17]
- 168.46 [Repealed, 1984 c 549 s 34]
- 168.47 [Repealed, 1963 c 753 art 2 s 17]
- 168.48 [Repealed, 1963 c 753 art 2 s 17]
- 168.49 [Repealed, 1963 c 753 art 2 s 17]
- 168.50 [Held unconstitutional]
- 168.51 [Held unconstitutional]
- 168.52 [Held unconstitutional]
- 168.53 [Held unconstitutional]

**168.54 MOTOR VEHICLES, TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP.**

Subdivision 1. [Repealed, 1971 c 25 s 37]

Subd. 2. [Repealed, 1979 c 333 s 108]

Subd. 3. [Repealed, 1979 c 333 s 108]

Subd. 4. A fee of \$2 is imposed upon every transfer of ownership by the commissioner of public safety of any motor vehicle for which a registration certificate has heretofore been issued under this chapter, except vehicles sold for the purposes of salvage or dismantling or permanent removal from the state.

Subd. 5. The proceeds of the fee imposed under the provisions of this section shall be collected by the commissioner of public safety and paid into the general fund.

Subd. 6. The unobligated balances in excess of \$4,000 in said revolving fund as of June 30 of each fiscal year shall be canceled into the general fund.

**History:** *Ex 1955 c 5 s 1-6; 1957 c 159 s 1; 1969 c 399 s 1; 1969 c 1129 art 1 s 15; 1969 c 1148 s 29; 1971 c 25 s 38; 1973 c 147 s 1; 1979 c 333 s 86,87*

**168.61 INTERCITY BUSES.**

Subdivision 1. The term "intercity bus" as used in sections 168.61 to 168.65 means a motor bus as defined in section 168.011, subdivision 9, which is owned or operated by either a resident or nonresident of Minnesota in interstate commerce under authority of the Interstate Commerce Commission or in combined interstate and intrastate commerce under authority of the Interstate Commerce Commission and the department of public service of Minnesota, as a result of which operation such bus operates both within and without the territorial limits of the state of Minnesota.

Subd. 2. For the calendar year 1958 and during each year thereafter intercity buses shall be subject to registration and taxation as motor vehicles on an apportionment basis.

**History:** *1957 c 80 s 1; 1971 c 25 s 67*

**168.62 REGISTRATION.**

Subdivision 1. An owner or operator of more than one intercity bus shall register a percentage of those intercity buses of the owner or operator in Minnesota. The percentage of the intercity buses so registered shall be determined by dividing the total number of miles traveled by such intercity buses within the state of Minnesota by the total number of miles traveled by such intercity buses both within and without the state of Minnesota. Such percentage figure so arrived at is the percentage of intercity motor

buses which the owner or operator thereof shall register in Minnesota. A fractional intercity bus shall be registered as one intercity bus. The number of intercity buses so registered in the state of Minnesota are deemed to be domiciled in Minnesota and subject to motor vehicle taxation in this state.

Subd. 2. When the number of intercity buses to be registered in Minnesota is determined as herein provided, the owner or operator thereof shall select the particular intercity buses to be so registered. The motor vehicle tax to be paid thereon for each calendar year shall be determined by the registrar of motor vehicles, who shall compute the amount of motor vehicle tax on each intercity bus of the owner or operator thereof as though all of such intercity buses were required to be registered in Minnesota. The amount so arrived at shall then be divided by the total number of intercity buses of such owner or operator to obtain the average motor vehicle tax due on an intercity bus registered in Minnesota. Such average tax shall be paid on each intercity bus registered in Minnesota in the same manner and at the same time as other motor vehicles using the streets and highways of Minnesota are taxed and the taxes paid thereon. The registrar of motor vehicles shall issue number plates for the intercity buses registered in Minnesota.

Subd. 3. At the same time that an owner or operator of intercity buses registers them in Minnesota and obtains number plates therefor, the owner or operator shall apply for special identification plates or certificates for the remainder of that fleet of intercity buses. The registrar of motor vehicles shall design an appropriate plate or identification certificate for this purpose which shall be issued upon the payment of a fee of \$10 covering each intercity bus so identified. The proceeds of such fees shall be deposited to the credit of the highway user tax distribution fund. No intercity bus shall at any time be operated in the state of Minnesota without either Minnesota number plates or special identification plates or certificates issued as herein provided.

**History:** 1957 c 80 s 2; 1959 c 365 s 1; 1986 c 444

### **168.63 REGISTRAR OF MOTOR VEHICLES, DUTIES.**

Subdivision 1. It shall be the duty of the registrar of motor vehicles to administer and to enforce the terms and conditions of sections 168.61 to 168.65.

Subd. 2. The registrar of motor vehicles shall determine the percentage of intercity buses to be registered in Minnesota by an owner or operator thereof. The registrar shall determine the total number of miles traveled by each intercity bus within the state of Minnesota and the total number of miles such intercity bus traveled both within and without the state of Minnesota. In making such determinations the registrar may use mileage records of operation of each owner or operator of intercity buses for such period of time as the registrar deems appropriate and during which operation existed. If there are no operations in Minnesota for any period of time so as to determine the mileage records of operation the registrar shall use such estimates as will fairly determine the percentage of intercity buses which any owner or operator thereof shall register in Minnesota.

Subd. 3. When increasing the fleet of intercity buses after the beginning of a calendar year in which a percentage of the fleet has been registered in Minnesota, the owner or operator of those intercity buses shall notify the registrar of motor vehicles thereof.

Subd. 4. Whenever substituting an intercity bus in the fleet as a result of new purchase or otherwise, the owner or operator of intercity buses shall likewise notify the registrar of motor vehicles thereof.

Subd. 5. At the close of each calendar year and not later than February 15th of the next succeeding year, beginning with 1959, the registrar of motor vehicles shall recompute and redetermine the number of intercity buses required to have been registered in Minnesota for the prior year and the actual amount of tax liability for such previous year shall likewise be redetermined. Any additional tax which may be due by any owner or operator of intercity buses shall be paid forthwith. If it is determined as

# MINNESOTA STATUTES 1986

3793

MOTOR VEHICLES; REGISTRATION; TAXATION; SALES; DEALERS 168.66

a result of such recomputation that there has been an overpayment of tax, the amount of such overpayment shall be credited to the amount of tax which may be due by the owner or operator of intercity buses in any subsequent year. In the event any owner or operator of intercity buses discontinues operations in Minnesota and has a tax credit due as a result of overpayment of motor vehicle taxes for any year, the amount of such overpayment shall be refunded. Such sums as are necessary to make the refunds herein are hereby appropriated annually from the highway user tax distribution fund.

**History:** 1957 c 80 s 3; 1963 c 166 s 1; 1986 c 444

## 168.64 RULES, REQUIREMENTS.

The registrar of motor vehicles shall:

(a) Promulgate such rules as the registrar may deem necessary in order to fully administer and carry out the terms and provisions of sections 168.61 to 168.65;

(b) Require owners and operators of intercity buses to furnish such information and to make and file such reports as the registrar deems necessary in order to administer sections 168.61 to 168.65.

(c) Require recomputation of the percentage of intercity buses of any owner or operator at any time the registrar has reason to believe that an insufficient number of such intercity buses of such owner or operator are registered in Minnesota. If as a result of any such recomputation, the registrar of motor vehicles determines that additional intercity buses should be registered in Minnesota, the registrar shall require the owner or operator thereof to so register such additional buses and pay the taxes thereon in accordance with the standards required by this section. All intercity buses registered under the terms of this provision shall be registered for a full calendar year. All taxes computed on the percentage of intercity buses to be registered in the state of Minnesota shall likewise be computed on the basis of a full calendar year. If additional taxes are required to be paid by an owner or operator of intercity buses under this provision, such owner or operator shall also pay interest at the rate of six percent per annum on the amount so paid with interest computed from January 1st of the calendar year in which the taxes are due to the date of payment.

**History:** 1957 c 80 s 4; 1985 c 248 s 70; 1986 c 444

## 168.65 VIOLATIONS.

Subdivision 1. It shall be unlawful for any owner or operator of intercity buses to willfully violate any provision of sections 168.61 to 168.65 or to willfully furnish false information or reports to the registrar of motor vehicles which such registrar may require.

Subd. 2. **Appeal.** If after a public hearing, upon due notice, the registrar of motor vehicles determines that any owner or operator of intercity buses has violated any term or provisions of sections 168.61 to 168.65 or willfully furnished false information or reports, the registrar shall cancel all number plates and all special identification plates or certificates issued to the owner or operator of intercity buses. The intercity buses, during such calendar year, shall not operate upon the streets and highways of the state unless the owner's or operator's entire fleet of intercity buses is then registered in the state of Minnesota and the motor vehicle taxes paid on them for the full calendar year in which the offense occurs. Any determination by the registrar of motor vehicles is subject to appeal in accordance with chapter 14.

**History:** 1957 c 80 s 5; 1983 c 247 s 67

## 168.66 MOTOR VEHICLE RETAIL INSTALLMENT SALES; DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. For the purposes of sections 168.66 to 168.77 the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them.

Subd. 2. "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation, association, and other group however organized.

Subd. 3. "Retail installment sale" means any sale evidenced by a retail installment contract wherein retail buyer agrees to buy and retail seller agrees to sell a motor vehicle at a time sale price payable in one or more installments.

Subd. 4. "Retail installment contract" means any agreement, entered into in this state, evidencing a retail installment sale of a motor vehicle, other than for the purpose of resale, when purchased primarily for personal, family or household use, pursuant to which title to, or a lien upon the motor vehicle is retained by the retail seller as security for the retail buyer's obligation. This term includes a mortgage, conditional sale contract, or any contract for the bailment or leasing of a motor vehicle by which the bailee or lessee contracts to pay as compensation for its use a sum substantially equivalent to the time sale price of the motor vehicle and by which it is agreed that the bailee or lessee is bound to become, or has the option of becoming, the owner of such motor vehicle. "Retail installment contract" does not include any agreement, entered into in this state, evidencing an installment sale of a motor vehicle purchased primarily for use in business. For purposes of this subdivision, "business" means a commercial or industrial enterprise which is carried on for the purpose of active or passive investment or profit.

Subd. 5. "Motor vehicle" means any device propelled or drawn by any power other than muscular power, in, upon, or by which any person or property is, or may be transported or drawn upon a highway, excepting building and road construction equipment not subject to motor vehicle registration fees, snowmobiles, farm tractors, and agricultural machinery not designed primarily for highway transportation, but which may incidentally transport persons or property on a public highway.

Subd. 6. "Retail seller" or "seller" means a person who sells or agrees to sell a motor vehicle under a retail installment contract to a retail buyer.

Subd. 7. "Retail buyer" or "buyer" means a person who buys or agrees to buy a motor vehicle from a retail seller not for the purpose of resale and who executes a retail installment contract in connection therewith.

Subd. 8. "Sales finance company" means a person engaged, in whole or in part, in the business of purchasing retail installment contracts in this state from one or more retail sellers. The term includes a bank, trust company, or industrial loan and thrift company, if so engaged. The term also includes a retail seller engaged, in whole or in part, in the business of creating and holding retail installment contracts. The term does not include the pledges of an aggregate number of the contracts to secure a bona fide loan thereon.

Subd. 9. "Cash sale price" means the price at which the seller would in good faith sell to the buyer, and the buyer would in good faith buy from the seller, the motor vehicle which is the subject matter of the retail installment contract, if such sale were a sale for cash, instead of a retail installment sale. The cash sale price may include any taxes, charges for delivery, servicing, repairing or improving the motor vehicle, including accessories and their installation, and any other charges agreed upon between the parties.

Subd. 10. "Time sale price" means the amount which the buyer contracts to pay under a retail installment contract.

Subd. 11. "Time price differential" means the amount by which the seller's total time sale price exceeds the aggregate of the cash sale price, the cost of any insurance and other benefits included in the retail installment contract and any other permissible cost or expense incidental to the retail installment sale.

Subd. 12. "Administrator" means the commissioner of commerce of the state of Minnesota.

Subd. 13. Words in the singular include the plural and vice versa.

**History:** 1957 c 266 s 1; 1959 c 54 s 1; 1961 c 438 s 1; 1971 c 577 s 11; 1980 c 614 s 95; 1982 c 473 s 27; 1983 c 289 s 114 subd 1; 1984 c 655 art 1 s 92

## 168.67 SALES FINANCE COMPANIES; LICENSES, FEES, REFUNDS.

(a) No person shall engage in the business of a sales finance company in this state without a license therefor as provided in sections 168.66 to 168.77 provided, however, that no bank, trust company, savings bank, savings and loan association, or credit union, whether state or federally chartered, industrial loan and thrift company, or licensee under the Minnesota regulated loan act authorized to do business in this state shall be required to obtain a license under sections 168.66 to 168.77.

(b) The application for a license shall be in writing, under oath and in the form prescribed by the administrator. The application shall contain the name of the applicant; date of incorporation, if incorporated; the address where the business is or is to be conducted and similar information as to any branch office of the applicant; the name and resident address of the owner or partners, or, if a corporation or association, of the directors, trustees and principal officers, and other pertinent information the administrator requires.

(c) The licensee fee for the fiscal year beginning July 1 and ending June 30 of the following year, or any part thereof shall be the sum of \$150 for the principal place of business of the licensee, and the sum of \$75 for each branch of the licensee, maintained in this state. Any licensee who proves to the satisfaction of the administrator, by affidavit or other proof satisfactory to the administrator, that during the 12 calendar months of the immediately preceding fiscal year, for which the license has been paid that the licensee has not held retail installment contracts exceeding \$15,000 in amount, shall be entitled to a refund of that portion of each license fee paid in excess of \$25. The administrator shall certify to the commissioner of finance that the licensee is entitled to a refund, and payment thereof shall be made by the state treasurer. The amount necessary to pay for the refundment of the license fee is appropriated out of the general fund. All license fees received by the administrator under sections 168.66 to 168.77 shall be deposited with the state treasurer.

(d) Each license shall specify the location of the office or branch and must be conspicuously displayed there. In case the location be changed, the administrator shall endorse the change of location on the license.

(e) Upon the filing of such application, and the payment of the fee, the administrator shall issue a license to the applicant to engage in the business of a sales finance company under and in accordance with the provisions of sections 168.66 to 168.77 for a period which shall expire the last day of June next following the date of its issuance. The license shall not be transferable or assignable. No licensee shall transact any business provided for by sections 168.66 to 168.77 under any other name.

**History:** 1957 c 266 s 2; 1959 c 364 s 1; 1961 c 281 s 1; 1969 c 399 s 1; 1973 c 492 s 14; 1976 c 86 s 1; 1981 c 220 s 15; 1983 c 230 s 3; 1984 c 576 s 24; 1986 c 444

## 168.68 SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSE.

(a) A license may be suspended or revoked by the administrator on the following grounds:

- (1) material misstatement in application for license;
- (2) intentional failure to comply with any provision of sections 168.66 to 168.77 relating to retail installment contract;
- (3) defrauding any retail buyer to the buyer's damage;
- (4) fraudulent misrepresentation, circumvention or concealment by the licensee through whatever subterfuge or device of any of the material particulars or the nature thereof required to be stated or furnished to the retail buyer under sections 168.66 to 168.77.

(b) If a licensee is a firm, association or corporation, it shall be sufficient cause for the suspension or revocation of a license that any officer, director or trustee of a licensed firm, association or corporation, or any member of a licensed partnership, has so acted or failed to act as would be cause for suspending or revoking a license to such part as an individual. Each licensee shall be responsible for the acts of any or all of the

licensee's employees while acting as the licensee's agent, if the licensee after actual knowledge of that employee's act retained the benefits, proceeds, profits or advantages accruing from the acts or otherwise ratified the acts.

(c) No license shall be suspended or revoked except after hearing. The administrator shall give the licensee at least ten days' written notice, in the form of an order to show cause, of the time and place of the hearing by certified mail addressed to the principal place of business in this state of the licensee. The notice shall contain the grounds of complaint against the licensee. Any order suspending or revoking the license shall recite the grounds upon which it is based. The order shall be entered upon the records of the administrator and shall not be effective until after 30 days' written notice thereof given after such entry forwarded by certified mail to the licensee at such principal place of business. No revocation, suspension or surrender of any license shall impair or affect the obligation of any lawful retail installment contract acquired previously thereto by the licensee.

(d) Within 30 days after the service of notice of any order of suspension or revocation of a license, the licensee aggrieved may appeal from the order to the district court for the county in which the principal place of business of the licensee in this state is located, by service of a written notice of appeal upon the administrator, and filing it with proof of service with the court administrator of the court to which the appeal is taken, within five days. The district court has jurisdiction over the appeal. It shall be entered upon the records of the court and tried according to the rules of civil procedure in so far as they are applicable. Upon receiving service of a notice of appeal, the administrator shall file with the court administrator of the district court to which the appeal is taken a certified copy of the order appealed from and of the order to show cause upon which it was based. Unless otherwise ordered by the court, the documents filed shall frame the issues to be determined upon the appeal. The court shall determine, de novo, all questions, both of fact and of law, touching upon the legality and reasonableness of the determination of the administrator, and shall render such judgment as shall be lawful and just. Pending final judgment on the appeal, the order appealed from shall be stayed. Upon motion of the licensee or the administrator, the appeal shall be tried ahead of all other actions pending before the court except criminal cases. Appeals may be taken as in other civil cases.

**History:** 1957 c 266 s 3; 1978 c 674 s 60; 1983 c 247 s 68; 1986 c 444; 1Sp1986 c 3 art 1 s 82

#### **168.69 COMPLAINTS ALLEGING VIOLATION.**

Any retail buyer having reason to believe that sections 168.66 to 168.77 relating to the buyer's retail installment contract has been violated may file with the administrator a written complaint setting forth the details of such alleged violation and the administrator, upon receipt of such complaint, may inspect the pertinent books, records, letters and contracts of the licensee and of the retail seller involved, relating to such specific written complaint.

**History:** 1957 c 266 s 4; 1986 c 444

#### **168.70 TESTIMONIAL POWERS OF ADMINISTRATOR.**

The administrator shall have power to issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents, papers, books, records and other evidence before the administrator in any matter over which the administrator has jurisdiction, control or supervision pertaining to sections 168.66 to 168.77. The administrator shall have the power to administer oaths and affirmations to any person whose testimony is required.

If any person shall refuse to obey any such subpoena, or to give testimony, or to produce evidence as required thereby, any judge of any district court may, upon application and proof of such refusal, make an order for the issuance of a subpoena, or subpoena duces tecum, for the witness to appear before the administrator and to give

# MINNESOTA STATUTES 1986

3797

MOTOR VEHICLES; REGISTRATION; TAXATION; SALES; DEALERS 168.71

testimony, and to produce evidence as required thereby. Upon filing such order in the office of the court administrator of such court the administrator shall issue a subpoena, as directed, under the seal of said court, requiring the person to whom it is directed to appear at the time and place therein designated.

If any person served with any such subpoena shall refuse to obey the same, or to give testimony or to produce evidence as required thereby, the administrator may report such refusal to the court, and the court shall thereupon enforce obedience to the subpoena in the manner provided by law for enforcing obedience to subpoenas of the court.

**History:** 1957 c 266 s 5; 1986 c 444; 1Sp1986 c 3 art 1 s 82

## 168.705 EXAMINATIONS.

For the purpose of discovering violations of sections 168.66 to 168.77 or securing information lawfully required by the administrator hereunder, the administrator may, at any time, either personally or by a person or persons duly designated by the administrator, investigate the conditional sales contracts and business related to the conditional sales contracts and examine the books, accounts, records, and files used therein, of every licensee and of every person who shall be engaged in the business of a sales finance company, whether the person shall act as principal or agent, or under or without the authority of sections 168.66 to 168.77. For that purpose, the administrator and the administrator's duly designated representative shall have free access to the offices and places of business, books, accounts, papers, records, files, safes, and vaults of all these persons. The administrator and all persons duly designated by the administrator shall have authority to require the attendance of and to examine, under oath, all persons whomsoever whose testimony the administrator may require relative to the conditional sales contract or the business or to the subject matter of any examination, investigation, or hearing.

The administrator shall make an examination of the affairs, business, office, and records of each licensee at least once every two calendar years. Each licensee shall pay to the administrator an amount as may be required under section 46.131, and the administrator may maintain an action for the recovery of the costs in any court of competent jurisdiction.

**History:** 1971 c 398 s 1; 1981 c 220 s 16; 1986 c 444

## 168.706 BOOKS OF ACCOUNT; ANNUAL REPORT.

The licensee shall keep and use in the licensee's business such books, accounts, and records as will enable the administrator to determine whether the licensee is complying with the provisions of sections 168.66 to 168.77 and with the rules lawfully made by the administrator hereunder. Every licensee shall preserve such books, accounts, and records, including cards used in the card system, if any, for at least two years after making the final entry on any conditional sale contract recorded therein.

Each licensee shall annually on or before March 15 file a report to the administrator giving such relevant information as the administrator reasonably may require concerning the business and operations during the preceding calendar year of each licensed place of business, conducted by such licensee within the state. Such report shall be made under oath and shall be in the form prescribed by the administrator, who shall make and publish annually an analysis and recapitulation of such reports.

**History:** 1971 c 398 s 3; 1985 c 248 s 70; 1986 c 444

## 168.71 RETAIL INSTALLMENT CONTRACTS.

(a) (1) Every retail installment contract shall be in writing, shall contain all the agreements of the parties, shall be signed by the retail buyer and seller, and a copy thereof shall be furnished to such retail buyer at the time of the execution of the contract.

(2) No provisions for confession of judgment or power of attorney therefor con-

tained in any retail installment contract or contained in a separate agreement relating thereto, shall be valid or enforceable.

(3) The holder of a retail installment contract may, if the contract so provides, collect a delinquency and collection charge on each installment in arrears for a period not less than ten days in an amount not in excess of five percent of each installment or \$5, whichever is the less. In addition to such delinquency and collection charge, the retail installment contract may provide for the payment of attorneys' fees not exceeding 15 percent of the amount due and payable under such contract where such contract is referred to an attorney not a salaried employee of the holder of the contract for collection plus the court costs.

(4) Unless written notice has been given to the retail buyer of actual or intended assignment of a retail installment contract, payment thereunder or tender thereof made by the retail buyer to the last known holder of such contract shall be binding upon all subsequent holders or assignees.

(5) Upon written request from the retail buyer, the holder of the retail installment contract shall give or forward to the retail buyer a written statement of the dates and amounts of payments and the total amount unpaid under such contract. A retail buyer shall be given a written receipt for any payment when made in cash.

(b) The retail installment contract shall contain the following items:

(1) The cash sale price of the motor vehicle which is the subject matter of the retail installment contract;

(2) The amount of the retail buyer's down payment, whether made in money or goods, or partly in money or partly in goods;

(3) The difference between items one and two;

(4) The charge, if any, included in the transaction for any insurance and other benefits, specifying the types of coverage and benefits;

(5) Principal balance, which is the sum of item three and item four;

(6) The amount of the time price differential;

(7) The time balance payable by the retail buyer to the retail seller and the number of installment payments required and the amount of each installment expressed in dollars or percentages, and date of each payment necessary finally to pay the time balance which is the sum of item five and item six.

Provided, however, that said items one to seven inclusive need not be stated in the sequence or order set forth above and that additional items may be included which serve to explain the calculations involved in determining the stated time balance to be paid by the retail buyer.

(c) Every retail seller or sales finance company, if a charge for insurance on the motor vehicle is included in a retail installment contract shall within 30 days after execution of the retail installment contract send or cause to be sent to the retail buyer a policy or policies or certificate of insurance, which insurance shall be written by a company authorized to do business in this state, clearly setting forth the amount of the premium, the kind or kinds of insurance and the scope of the coverage and all the terms, exceptions, limitations, restrictions and conditions of the contract or contracts of the insurance. The buyer of a motor vehicle under a retail installment contract shall have the privilege of purchasing such insurance from an agent or broker of the buyer's own selection and selecting an insurance company mutually acceptable to the seller and the buyer; provided, however, that the inclusion of the cost of the insurance premium in the retail installment contract when the buyer selects the agent, broker or company, shall be optional with the seller.

(d) Any sales finance company hereunder may purchase or acquire from any retail seller any retail installment contract on such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon between them.

(e) An acknowledgment by the retail buyer of the delivery of any such copy or notice as required in subsection (a) of this section contained in the body of the

statement or contract shall be conclusive proof of delivery in any action or proceeding by or against any assignee of a retail installment contract.

**History:** 1957 c 266 s 6; 1965 c 812 s 26; 1986 c 444

**168.72 TIME PRICE DIFFERENTIALS.**

Subdivision 1. (a) The time price differential authorized by sections 168.66 to 168.77 in a retail installment sale may not exceed the following rates:

Class 1. Any motor vehicle designated by the manufacturer by a year model of the same or not more than one year prior to the year in which the sale is made - \$10 per \$100 per year.

Class 2. Any motor vehicle designated by the manufacturer by a year model of two or three years prior to the year in which the sale is made - \$11 per \$100 per year.

Class 3. Any motor vehicle not in Class 1 or Class 2 - \$13 per \$100 per year plus a flat charge of \$3 for each retail installment sale.

(b) The time price differential must be computed on the principal balance as determined under section 168.71, clause (b) and must be computed at the rate indicated on contracts payable in successive monthly installment payments substantially equal in amount extending for a period of one year. For purposes of this subdivision and section 168.73, contracts payable in successive monthly installment payments include those where the first installment is scheduled for not less than 15 days nor more than one month and 15 days from the date of the contract. On contracts providing for installment payments extending for a period less than or greater than one year, the time price differential must be computed proportionately.

(c) When a retail installment contract provides for unequal or irregular installment payments, the time price differential is at the effective rate provided in clause (a) hereof, having due regard for the irregular schedule of payment.

(d) The time price differential is inclusive of all charges incident to investigating and making the contract, and for the extension of the credit provided for in the contract and no fee, commission, expense or other charge whatsoever may be taken, received, reserved or contracted for except as provided in sections 168.66 to 168.77.

Subd. 2. [Repealed, 1980 c 451 s 2; 1984 c 655 art 1 s 81; 1985 c 107 s 3]

Subd. 3. [Repealed, 1980 c 599 s 10]

Subd. 4. A sale of a manufactured home made after July 31, 1983, is governed by the provisions of subdivision 1 for purposes of determining the lawful time price differential rate, except that the maximum time differential for a class I manufactured home may not exceed \$8 per \$100 per year. A retail installment sale of a manufactured home that imposes a time price differential rate that is greater than the rate permitted by this subdivision is lawful and enforceable in accordance with its terms until the indebtedness is fully satisfied if the rate was lawful when the sale was made.

**History:** 1957 c 266 s 7; 1980 c 451 s 1; 1980 c 599 s 5; 1981 c 365 s 9; 1983 c 250 s 29; 1983 c 350 s 1; 1985 c 107 s 1,2

**168.73 REFUND CREDITS, ALLOWANCE.**

Notwithstanding the provisions of any retail installment contract to the contrary, any retail buyer may pay in full at any time before maturity the debt of any retail installment contract and in so paying such debt shall receive a refund credit thereon for such anticipation of payments. The amount of such refund shall represent at least as great a proportion of the time price differential after first deducting from such time price differential an acquisition cost of \$15, as the sum of the periodic time balances after the month in which prepayment is made, bears to the sum of all the periodic time balances under the schedule of payments in the original contract.

Where the amount of the credit for anticipation of payment is less than \$1, no refund need be made.

**History:** 1957 c 266 s 8

**168.74 EXTENSION OF SCHEDULES, PAYMENTS.**

The holder of a retail installment contract, may, upon written agreement with the retail buyer, extend the schedules due date, or defer the schedules payment of all or part of any installment payment or payments, or renew the balance of such contract. In any such case the holder may restate the amount of the installments and the time schedule therefor, and collect as a refinance charge for such extension, deferment or renewal, a flat service fee not to exceed \$5 and a total additional charge not exceeding an amount equal to one percent per month simple interest on the respective descending balances computed from the date of such extension, deferment or renewal.

**History:** 1957 c 266 s 9; 1976 c 86 s 2

**168.75 VIOLATIONS.**

(a) Any person engaged in the business of a sales finance company in this state without a license therefor as provided in sections 168.66 to 168.77 shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor and punished by a fine not exceeding \$3,000, or by imprisonment for a period not to exceed one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court.

(b) In case of an intentional failure to comply with any provision of sections 168.66 to 168.77, the buyer shall have a right to recover from the person committing such violation, to set off or counterclaim in any action by such person to enforce such contract an amount as liquidated damages, the whole of the contract due and payable, plus reasonable attorneys' fees.

(c) In case of a failure to comply with any provision of sections 168.66 to 168.77, other than an intentional failure, the buyer shall have a right to recover from the person committing such violation, to set off or counterclaim in any action by such person to enforce such contract an amount as liquidated damages equal to three times the amount of any time price differential charged in excess of the amount authorized by sections 168.66 to 168.77 or \$50, whichever is greater, plus reasonable attorneys' fees.

**History:** 1957 c 266 s 10; 1971 c 398 s 2; 1984 c 628 art 3 s 11

**168.76 SEVERABILITY CLAUSE.**

If any provision of sections 168.66 to 168.77 or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held unconstitutional, the remainder of sections 168.66 to 168.77 and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

**History:** 1957 c 266 s 11

**168.77 CITATION OF ACT.**

Sections 168.66 to 168.77 may be cited as "the motor vehicle retail installment sales act."

**History:** 1957 c 266 s 12

**168.78 MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES; DISCLOSURE.**

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** For the purposes of this section: (a) The term "seller" means a person selling more than five motor vehicles in a calendar year and in the business of selling or leasing motor vehicles.

(b) The term "contract" means a written agreement between a seller and a purchaser for the sale of a motor vehicle, but not including a conditional sales contract entered into pursuant to a separate purchase agreement that contains the disclosures contained in this section.

Subd. 2. **Disclosure.** A seller of motor vehicles shall include in any contract with a purchaser or prospective purchaser of a motor vehicle a statement in ten point bold faced all capital type located by a blank for the purchaser's signature stating: "IMPORTANT: THIS MAY BE A BINDING CONTRACT AND YOU MAY LOSE ANY

# MINNESOTA STATUTES 1986

3801

MOTOR VEHICLES; REGISTRATION; TAXATION; SALES; DEALERS 168.831

DEPOSITS IF YOU DO NOT PERFORM ACCORDING TO ITS TERMS". If a forfeiture is not possible that part of the disclosure may be crossed out at the time of the purchaser's signature.

Subd. 3. **Effect of omission.** Any contract not meeting the requirements of subdivision 2 is voidable at the option of the purchaser prior to the purchaser taking possession of the motor vehicle.

**History:** 1981 c 176 s 1

## **168.81 REPORTS OF STORAGE OF MOTOR VEHICLE FOR 30 DAYS MADE TO BUREAU OF CRIMINAL APPREHENSION.**

Every operator of a structure or place where motor vehicles are stored shall report in writing to the bureau of criminal apprehension the fact that any motor vehicle has been continuously stored in such structure or place more than 30 days without having been removed therefrom when the owner thereof is not personally known to such operator and no contract exists between such operator and owner for such term storage. Such report shall be in form prescribed by such bureau, furnishing identification of such vehicle.

Any person violating this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

**History:** 1957 c 872 s 1

## **168.82 ONE-WAY TRIP PERMITS.**

Subdivision 1. Whenever a person seeks to operate a motor vehicle or tow a manufactured home owned by a nonresident upon the highways of this state solely for the purpose of transporting it from a point outside the state to another point outside the state, and such vehicle is not otherwise exempt from registration and taxation as provided by law, such owner shall not be required to register the vehicle and pay the tax but in lieu thereof shall apply in writing to the registrar for a one-way trip permit and pay a fee of \$10. Unless such act of transportation also requires approval by the commissioner of transportation as provided in section 169.86, such person may be permitted to proceed with such vehicle into the state, not to exceed 35 miles, to the nearest city wherein a deputy registrar is located before securing such permit. The application for permit shall be in such form and contain such information as the registrar may determine. Any motor vehicle operated under such permit shall carry no load. As used in this section, "person" includes a natural person, firm, copartnership, association, or corporation.

Subd. 2. Fees collected pursuant to subdivision 1 of this section shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the highway user tax distribution fund.

**History:** 1963 c 53 s 1.2; 1973 c 123 art 5 s 7; 1976 c 166 s 7; 1981 c 365 s 9

## **168.83 [Repealed, 1973 c 645 s 1]**

## **MOTOR BICYCLE RENTAL BUSINESSES**

### **168.831 MOTOR BICYCLE RENTAL BUSINESS; DEFINITIONS.**

Subdivision 1. For the purposes of sections 168.831 to 168.837 the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them.

Subd. 2. "Motor bicycle" means a self propelled vehicle used on the public highways having a saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground. The term includes motor scooters and motorcycles but does not include tractors.

Subd. 3. "Motor bicycle business" means furnishing, renting, or leasing motor bicycles for pay or hire.

**History:** 1965 c 258 s 1

**168.832 LICENSE.**

No person, firm or corporation shall engage in the motor bicycle business, either exclusively or in connection with any other occupation, without being licensed as provided in sections 168.831 to 168.837. An applicant for a license or renewal shall apply to the commissioner of public safety in writing. The application shall be duly verified. The applicant shall submit such information as the commissioner of public safety may require, upon blanks supplied by the commissioner, including but not limited to the following: The name and address of the owner, the address of the business, the approximate number of motor bicycles to be used in the business, and the number on the state number plate of each motor bicycle. A license, unless revoked, continues in force through December 31 of each year. The annual license fee is \$25, which shall be deposited in the general fund of the state treasury. A separate license shall be obtained for each place of business. The licensee shall display the license in a prominent place on the premises.

**History:** 1965 c 258 s 2; 1969 c 399 s 1; 1969 c 1129 art 1 s 15; 1986 c 444.

**168.833 INSURANCE REQUIRED.**

No license shall be issued until the applicant obtains and files with the commissioner of public safety a policy of liability insurance by an insurance company authorized to do business under the laws of the state of Minnesota, to be kept in force for the remainder of the licensing year. The policy shall insure the applicant, the applicant's renters, and lessees, and the persons operating such motor bicycles against liability for loss in the sum of \$25,000 for injury to or death of any one person in any one accident, \$50,000 for injury to or death of more than one person in any one accident, and \$5,000 because of damage to or destruction of property in any one accident resulting from the negligent operation, use or defective condition of any motor bicycle belonging to the applicant. The policy shall contain a provision for a continuing liability thereunder for the term of the license to the full amount thereof, notwithstanding any recovery thereon. The policy also shall contain an endorsement to the effect that the liability under the policy is not affected by reason of any motor bicycle having been furnished to, or rented or leased by a minor, and further, that the commissioner of public safety shall be notified by letter at least ten days before the cancellation of the insurance policy. The policy shall also contain a provision providing for at least \$200 medical payments to cover the operator or passenger of such vehicle if personal injury results to the operator or passenger from its use.

**History:** 1965 c 258 s 3; 1969 c 1129 art 1 s 15; 1986 c 444

**168.834 LICENSEE'S DUTIES.**

**Subdivision 1. Rental to licensed operators only; parental consent.** A licensee shall not rent, lease, or furnish a motor bicycle to any person who is not licensed by the state of Minnesota to operate such a vehicle, or, in the case of a nonresident who is not duly licensed to operate such a vehicle under the law of the state or country of residence. It is unlawful to rent, lease, or furnish a motor bicycle to a person under the age of 18 years unless the person furnishes and leaves with the licensee a statement in writing showing the consent of the person's parent or guardian to the rental, lease, or furnishing of a motor bicycle to such person. Before renting, leasing, or furnishing a motor bicycle to a person the licensee shall make a permanent and legible record containing the name, address, and age of the person to whom the motor bicycle is leased, rented, or furnished, and shall record on this record the number and date of issue and expiration of the driver's license, together with any limitations noted thereon and the description of the person as set forth on the driver's license. The record so kept also shall identify the vehicle rented, leased, or furnished to the person by the number on the vehicle's state number plate.

**Subd. 2. Maintenance; operating instructions; safety helmets.** The licensee shall maintain in safe operating condition all motor bicycles rented, leased, or furnished by the licensee. The licensee, the licensee's agent, or employee shall explain the operation,

including but not limited to the controls, pedals, gears, and brakes, of the particular motor bicycle to be used by the person before the person uses it, unless the licensee, the licensee's agent, or employee is aware that the person knows how to operate the particular motor bicycle.

The licensee, the licensee's agent or employee shall call to the attention of the user of such vehicle the precautionary measures that must be followed for the safety of the driver and the public and make available for each motor bicycle at least one sanitized safety helmet, or similar headgear, which shall be offered for use to the driver.

**History:** 1965 c 258 s 4; 1986 c 444

**168.835 USE OF MOTOR BICYCLE BY UNLICENSED PERSON PROHIBITED.**

It is unlawful for a person to whom a motor bicycle is rented, leased, or furnished, to rent, sublease, or otherwise authorize the use of the vehicle to a person who is not licensed by the state of Minnesota to operate such a vehicle.

**History:** 1965 c 258 s 5

**168.836 MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES.**

A city may enact ordinances regulating the motor bicycle business which are not in conflict with the provisions of sections 168.831 to 168.837.

**History:** 1965 c 258 s 6; 1973 c 123 art 5 s 7

**168.837 PENALTIES; REVOCATION OF LICENSE.**

A person who violates the provisions of sections 168.831 to 168.837 is guilty of a misdemeanor. The commissioner of public safety, after notice and a hearing, may revoke the license of a licensee who is convicted of violating any of the provisions of sections 168.831 to 168.837.

**History:** 1965 c 258 s 7; 1969 c 1129 art 1 s 15

**RENTAL TRUCKS AND TRAILERS**

**168.841 DEFINITIONS.**

As used in sections 168.841 to 168.846, "rental truck" means a truck or truck-tractor and "rental trailer" means a trailer or semitrailer as these terms are defined in section 168.011, which is one of a fleet of two or more such vehicles owned and operated for hire for periods of 30 days or less both within and without the state of Minnesota, which are clearly identified as belonging to a particular owner, and which are not otherwise required to be registered in the state.

**History:** 1971 c 49 s 1

**168.842 REGISTRATION AND TAXATION OF RENTAL TRUCKS.**

An owner of rental trucks shall annually register a percentage of the owner's rental trucks in Minnesota. The number of rental trucks required to be registered in the state shall be determined by dividing the total number of miles traveled within the state during the next preceding calendar year by all rental trucks owned by an owner by the total number of miles traveled both within and without the state during the next preceding calendar year by all rental trucks owned by that owner and applying the percentage figure thus arrived at to the total number of rental trucks owned by that owner. The number of rental trucks thus determined shall be the number of rental trucks deemed to be domiciled within the state and subject to registration and taxation in a calendar year.

**History:** 1971 c 49 s 2; 1986 c 444

**168.843 REGISTRATION AND TAXATION OF RENTAL TRAILERS.**

An owner or operator of rental trailers shall annually register a percentage of the

rental trailers of that owner or operator in Minnesota. The number of rental trailers required to be registered in Minnesota shall be a number equal to the average number of rental trailers operated in and through the state during the preceding calendar year. The number of rental trailers thus determined shall be the number of rental trailers deemed to be domiciled within the state and subject to registration and taxation in a calendar year.

**History:** 1971 c 49 s 3; 1986 c 444

**168.844 OTHER VEHICLES.**

Upon registration of the number of rental trucks or rental trailers required by sections 168.841 to 168.846 to be registered in this state and upon payment of all registration fees, all rental trucks or rental trailers owned by an owner and identified as being a part of the owner's fleet and currently licensed in any state, territory, province, country or the District of Columbia shall be permitted to operate in this state in both interstate and intrastate commerce.

**History:** 1971 c 49 s 4; 1986 c 444

**168.845 RULES.**

The registrar of motor vehicles shall administer sections 168.841 to 168.846 and may promulgate such rules pursuant to chapter 14 as may be required, including forms for the submission of required data as to rental trucks or rental trailers owned, miles traveled within and without the state, average number of rental trailers operated in and through the state and such other information as may be required for the enforcement of sections 168.841 to 168.846. The registrar may establish dates for the submission of required forms and reports and may, for good cause shown, waive any deadline established.

**History:** 1971 c 49 s 5; 1982 c 424 s 130; 1985 c 248 s 70

**168.846 PENALTY.**

Any person who shall knowingly submit any false or incomplete information or report required by sections 168.841 to 168.846 or rule promulgated pursuant to sections 168.841 to 168.846 or who shall in any manner violate any provision of sections 168.841 to 168.846 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. In addition the registrar may exercise the powers provided by section 168.17.

**History:** 1971 c 49 s 6; 1985 c 248 s 70