

CHAPTER 168

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION, TAXATION, SALE

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168.011 DEFINITIONS.

[For text of subds 1 to 34, see M.S.1990]

Subd. 35. **Limousine.** For purposes of motor vehicle registration only, "limousine" means an unmarked luxury passenger automobile that is not a van or station wagon and has a seating capacity of not more than 12 persons, excluding the driver.

History: 1991 c 284 s 2

168.017 MONTHLY SERIES REGISTRATION SYSTEM.

[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1990]

Subd. 3. **Exceptions.** 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) if the applicant is a licensed motor vehicle lessor under section 168.27, in which case the applicant may apply for original registration of a group of ten or more vehicles for a period of four or more months, the month of expiration to be designated by the applicant at the time of registration. However, to qualify for this exemption, the applicant must present the application to the registrar at St. Paul, or at deputy registrar offices as the registrar may designate.

In any instance except that of a licensed motor vehicle lessor, 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 to do so will help to equalize the registration and renewal work load of the department.

[For text of subds 4 and 5, see M.S.1990]

History: 1991 c 284 s 1

168.021 LICENSE PLATES FOR PHYSICALLY DISABLED PERSONS.

Subdivision 1. **Special plates; application.** (a) When a motor vehicle registered under section 168.017, a motorcycle, or a self-propelled recreational vehicle is owned or primarily operated by a permanently physically disabled person or a custodial parent or guardian of a permanently physically disabled minor, the owner may apply for and secure from the registrar of motor vehicles two license plates with attached emblems, one plate to be attached to the front, and one to the rear of the vehicle. Application for the plates must be made at the time of renewal or first application for registration. When the owner first applies for the plates, the owner must submit a physician's statement on a form developed by the commissioner under section 169.345, or proof of physical disability provided for in that section.

(b) The owner of a motor vehicle may apply for and secure a set of special plates for a motor vehicle if:

(1) the owner employs a permanently physically disabled person who would qualify for special plates under this section; and

(2) the owner furnishes the motor vehicle to the physically disabled person for the exclusive use of that person in the course of employment.

[For text of subds 1a to 6, see M.S.1990]

History: 1991 c 301 s 1

168.041 IMPOUNDING REGISTRATION PLATES.

Subdivision 1. Driving after license invalidated. When a person is convicted of driving a motor vehicle after the suspension, revocation, or cancellation of the person's driver's license or driving privileges, the court shall require the registration plates of the motor vehicle involved in the violation owned by the person or registered in the person's name to be surrendered to the court. The court shall issue a receipt for the surrendered registration plates.

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

Subd. 1a. Failure to produce proof of insurance. When an owner is convicted under section 169.791, the court shall require the registration plates of the motor vehicle or motorcycle involved in the violation owned by the person to be surrendered to the court for the longer of the following:

(1) the remainder of the period of revocation to be served under section 169.792; or

(2) until the owner obtains proof of insurance referred to in section 169.792, subdivision 10, satisfactory to the commissioner of public safety.

Subd. 2. Moving violation following previous conviction. If a person is convicted of violating a law or municipal ordinance, except a parking law or ordinance, regulating the operation of motor vehicles on the streets or highways, and the record of the 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 the person for a period not exceeding one year. The court may also require the registration plates of any motor vehicle owned by the violator or registered in the violator's name to be surrendered to the court.

Subd. 3. Other convictions. Except as otherwise provided in section 168.042, if a person is convicted of an offense that makes mandatory the revocation of the person's driver's license, or is convicted of driving a motor vehicle without having a valid driver's license in force, the court may require the registration plates of any motor vehicle owned by the person or any motor vehicle registered in the person's name to be surrendered to the court.

Subd. 4. Impoundment order; plates surrendered. If the court issues an impoundment order, the registration plates must be surrendered to the court either three days after the order is issued or on the date specified by the court, whichever date is later. The court may destroy the surrendered registration plates. Except as provided in subdivision 1a, 6, or 7, no new registration plates may be issued to the violator or owner until the driver's license of the violator has been reissued or reinstated. The court shall notify the commissioner of public safety within ten days after issuing an impoundment order.

Subd. 5. Revocation rescinded. If the driver's license revocation that is the basis for an impoundment order is rescinded, the registrar of motor vehicles shall issue new registration plates for the vehicle at no cost, when the registrar receives an application that includes a copy of the order rescinding the driver's license revocation.

Subd. 6. Special series plates. (a) A violator or owner may apply to the commissioner for new registration plates, which must bear a special series of numbers or letters so as to be readily identified by traffic law enforcement officers. The commissioner may authorize the issuance of special plates if a member of the violator's household has a valid driver's license, the violator or owner has a limited license issued under section 171.30, or the owner is not the violator and the owner has a valid or limited license or a member of the owner's household has a valid driver's license. The commissioner may issue the special plates on payment of a \$25 fee for each vehicle for which special plates are requested. The commissioner may not authorize the issuance of special plates unless the court that impounded the vehicle's plates gives written approval for the issuance of the special plates.

(b) Until the driver's license of the violator is reinstated or reissued, the violator shall inform the commissioner that an impoundment order is in effect when requesting any new registration plates.

Subd. 7. Transferring vehicle when plates impounded. A registered owner may not sell a motor vehicle during the time its registration plates have been ordered surrendered or during the time its registration plates bear a special series number, unless the registered owner applies to the court that impounded the plates, 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 registered owner will 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. The registrar shall then transfer the certificate of title to the new owner upon proper application and issue new registration plates. After the registration plates have been ordered surrendered to the court under this section, if the title to the 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 registrar of motor vehicles shall then transfer the certificate of title and issue new registration plates to the new registered owner.

Subd. 8. Application to registration tax. Nothing contained in this section or section 168.042 is intended to change or modify any provision of this chapter, with respect to the taxation of motor vehicles or the time within which motor vehicle taxes must be paid.

Subd. 9. Penalty. A person who fails to surrender any registration plates to the court upon demand under this section, who operates a motor vehicle on a street or highway at a time when a court has ordered the surrender of its registration plates, or who fails to comply with subdivision 6, paragraph (b), is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Subd. 10. Definition of rental motor vehicle. "Rental motor vehicle" means a passenger vehicle, truck, motorcycle, or motorized bicycle:

(1) that is leased in the name of the violator, or leased jointly in the name of the violator and the violator's spouse; and

(2) that is one of a fleet of two or more vehicles rented for periods of 30 days or less.

History: 1991 c 301 s 2

168.10 CLASSIC CAR REGISTRATIONS.

[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1990]

Subd. 1a. Collector's vehicle, 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 or other combination of characters authorized under section 168.12, subdivision 2a, 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 or other combination of characters authorized under section 168.12, subdivision 2a, 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	

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 or other combination of characters authorized under section 168.12, subdivision 2a, 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. Collector's vehicle, 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 or other combination of characters authorized under section 168.12, subdivision 2a, 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.

[For text of subds 1e to 4, see M.S.1990]

History: 1991 c 333 s 1-4

168.105 CLASSIC MOTORCYCLE REGISTRATION.

[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1990]

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 or other combination of characters authorized under section 168.12, subdivision 2a, 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.

[For text of subds 5 and 6, see M.S.1990]

History: 1991 c 333 s 5

168.12 LICENSE PLATES.

Subdivision 1. **Design, 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) 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.

(2) Plates issued for passenger automobiles as defined in section 168.011, subdivision 7, shall be issued for a seven-year period. All plates issued under this paragraph must be replaced if they are seven years old or older at the time of annual registration or will become so during the registration period.

(3) Number plates issued under sections 168.053 and 168.27, subdivisions 16 and 17, shall be for a seven-year period.

(4) Plates for any vehicle not specified in clauses (1) to (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.

[For text of subd 2, see M.S.1990]

Subd. 2a. Personalized plates. Personalized license plates must be issued to an applicant for registration of a passenger automobile including a passenger automobile registered as a classic car, pioneer car, collector car, or street rod; van; pickup truck; motorcycle including a classic 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 one-time fee of \$100 in addition to the registration tax required by law for the vehicle. The registrar shall designate a replacement fee for personalized license plates that is calculated to cover the cost of replacement. This fee must be paid by the applicant whenever the personalized license plates are required to be replaced by law. 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 seven 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. A personalized license plate issued for a classic car, pioneer car, collector car, street rod, or classic motorcycle may not be transferred to a vehicle not eligible for such a license plate.

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 the fee required by section 168.29.

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.

[For text of subd 2b, see M.S.1990]

Subd. 2c. National guard; special plates. The registrar shall issue special license plates to any applicant who is a regularly enlisted, commissioned, or retired member of the Minnesota national guard, other than an inactive member who is not a retired member, and is an owner or joint owner of a passenger automobile, 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 or retired 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 or retired 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 or retired 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.

For purposes of this subdivision, "retired member" means a person placed on the roll of retired officers or roll of retired enlisted members in the office of the adjutant general under section 192.18 and who is not deceased.

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. 2d. Ready reserve; special plates. The registrar shall issue special license plates to an applicant who is not eligible for special license plates under subdivision 2c, who is a member of the United States armed forces ready reserve as described in United States Code, title 10, section 268, and is an owner or joint owner of a passenger automobile, van, or pickup truck, on paying a fee of \$10, paying the registration tax required by law, and complying with other laws of this state relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and drivers. The commissioner of veterans affairs shall design these special plates subject to the approval of the registrar. No applicant may be issued more than two sets of plates for vehicles owned or jointly owned by the applicant. The commissioner of veterans affairs 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 a member of the ready reserve. When the person is no longer a member, the special plates must be removed from the vehicle and returned to the registrar. On returning the special plates, the owner or purchaser of the vehicle is entitled to receive regular plates for the vehicle without cost for the rest of the registration period for which the special plates were issued. While the person is a member of the ready reserve, plates issued under this subdivision may be transferred to another motor vehicle owned or jointly owned by that person on paying a fee of \$5.

The fees collected under this subdivision must 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.

[For text of subd 5; see M.S.1990]

History: 1991 c 274 s 2,3; 1991 c 333 s 6,7

168.123 VETERANS; SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES.

[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1990]

Subd. 2. **Design.** The commissioner of veterans affairs shall design the special plates, subject to the approval of the registrar, that satisfy the following requirements:

(a) For a Vietnam veteran who served after July 1, 1961, and before July 1, 1978, the special plates must bear the inscription "VIETNAM VET" and the letters "V" and "V" with the first letter directly above the second letter and both letters just preceding the first numeral of the special license plate number.

(b) For a veteran stationed on the island of Oahu, Hawaii, or offshore, during the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the special plates must bear the inscription "PEARL HARBOR SURVIVOR" and the letters "P" and "H" with the first letter directly above the second letter and both letters just preceding the first numeral of the special license plate number.

(c) For a veteran who served during World War I or World War II, the special plates must bear the inscription "WORLD WAR VET" and:

(1) for a World War I veteran, the characters "W" and "I" with the first character directly above the second character and both characters just preceding the first numeral of the special license plate number; or

(2) for a World War II veteran, the characters "W" and "II" with the first character directly above the second character and both characters just preceding the first numeral of the special license plate number.

(d) For a veteran who served during the Korean Conflict, the special plates must bear the inscription "KOREAN VET" and the letters "K" and "V" with the first letter directly above the second letter and both letters just preceding the first numeral of the special license plate number.

(e) For a combat wounded veteran who is a recipient of the purple heart medal, the special plates must bear the inscription "COMBAT WOUNDED VET" and inscribed with a facsimile of the official purple heart medal and the letters "c" over "w" with the first letter directly over the second letter just preceding the first numeral of the special license plate number.

(f) For a Persian Gulf war veteran, the special plates must bear the inscription "GULF WAR VET" and the letters "G" and "W" with the first letter directly above the second letter and both letters just preceding the first numeral of the special license plate number. For the purposes of this section, "Persian Gulf war veteran" means a person who served on active duty after August 1, 1990, in a branch of the armed forces of the United States or United Nations during Operation Desert Shield, Operation Desert Storm, or other military operation in the Persian Gulf area combat zone as designated in United States Presidential Executive Order No. 12744, dated January 21, 1991.

[For text of subds 3 to 6, see M.S.1990]

History: 1991 c 274 s 4

168.128 LIMOUSINE REGISTRATION, LICENSE PLATES.

[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1990]

Subd. 2. **License plates.** A person who operates a limousine for other than personal use shall apply to register the vehicle as provided in this section. A person who operates a limousine for personal use may apply. The registrar shall issue limousine license plates upon the applicant's compliance with laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and drivers and certification by the owner that an insurance policy in an aggregate amount of \$300,000 per accident is in effect for the entire period of the registration under section 65B.135. The applicant must provide the registrar with proof that the passenger automobile license tax and a \$10 fee have been paid for each limousine receiving limousine license plates. The limousine license plates must be designed to specifically identify the vehicle as a limousine and must be clearly marked with the letters "LM." Limousine license plates may not be transferred upon sale of the limousine, but may be transferred to another limousine owned by the same person upon notifying the registrar and paying a \$5 transfer fee.

Subd. 3. **Insurance.** The application must include a certificate of insurance verifying that a valid commercial insurance policy is in effect and giving the name of the insurance company and the number of the insurance policy. The policy must provide stated limits of liability, exclusive of interest and costs, with respect to each vehicle for which coverage is granted, of not less than \$100,000 because of bodily injury to one person in any one accident and, subject to said limit for one person, of not less than \$300,000 because of injury to two or more persons in any one accident and of not less than \$100,000 because of injury to or destruction of property. The insurance company must notify the commissioner if the policy is canceled or if the policy no longer provides the coverage required by this subdivision.

The commissioner shall immediately notify the commissioner of transportation if the policy of a person required to have a permit under section 221.84 is canceled or no longer provides the coverage required by this subdivision.

History: 1991 c 284 s 3,4

168.129 SPECIAL COLLEGIATE LICENSE PLATES.

Subdivision 1. **General requirements and procedures.** The commissioner of public safety shall issue special collegiate license plates to an applicant who:

- (1) is an owner or joint owner of a passenger automobile, pickup truck, or van;
- (2) pays a fee determined by the commissioner to cover the costs of handling and manufacturing the plates;
- (3) pays the registration tax required under section 168.12;
- (4) pays the fees required under this chapter;
- (5) contributes at least \$100 to the scholarship account established in subdivision 6; and
- (6) complies with laws and rules governing registration and licensing of vehicles and drivers.

Subd. 2. **Design.** After consultation with each participating college, university or post-secondary system, the commissioner shall design the special collegiate plates.

In consultation with the commissioner, a participating college or university annually shall indicate the anticipated number of plates needed. Plates will be produced when the commissioner has received at least 200 applications.

Subd. 3. **No refund.** Contributions under this section must not be refunded.

Subd. 4. **Plate transfers.** Notwithstanding section 168.12, subdivision 1, on payment of a transfer fee of \$5, plates issued under this section may be transferred to another passenger vehicle, pickup, or van owned or jointly owned by the person to whom the special plates were issued.

Subd. 5. **Fees credited.** The fees collected under this section must be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the highway user tax distribution fund. Fees collected under this section do not include the contributions collected for the scholarship account.

Subd. 6. **Scholarship account.** A scholarship account is created in the state treasury. Except for one percent that may be retained by the commissioner of public safety for administrative costs, all contributions received under this section must be deposited by the commissioner in the scholarship account. Money in the scholarship account is appropriated to the governing board of the institution to which it is attributable, as provided in subdivision 7.

Subd. 7. **Record.** The commissioner shall maintain a record of the number of license plates issued for each post-secondary institution or system in order to determine the amount of scholarship funds available to that institution or system.

History: 1991 c 356 art 7 s 2

168.27 MOTOR VEHICLE DEALERS; VIOLATIONS, PENALTIES.

[For text of subds 1 to 15, see M.S.1990]

Subd. 16. Plates: distinguishing numbers, fees, taxes, uses. (a) The registrar shall issue to every motor vehicle dealer, upon a request from the motor vehicle dealer licensed as provided in subdivision 2 or 3, one or more plates displaying a general distinguishing number. This subdivision does not apply to a scrap metal processor, a used vehicle parts dealer, or a vehicle salvage pool. The fee for each of the first four plates is \$75 per calendar year, of which \$60 must be paid to the registrar and the remaining \$15 is payable as motor vehicle excise tax under section 297B.035. For each additional plate, the dealer shall pay the registrar a fee of \$25 and a motor vehicle excise tax of \$15 per calendar year. 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:

- (1) by the motor vehicle dealer or dealer's spouse, or any full-time employee of the motor vehicle dealer for either private or business purposes;
- (2) by a part-time employee when the use is directly related to a particular business transaction of the dealer;
- (3) 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; or
- (4) in a promotional event that lasts no longer than four days in which at least three motor vehicles are involved.

(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 for in transit plates. 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 \$5 per plate per calendar year. The plates shall be known as "in transit" plates. The registrar may issue "in transit" plates, upon the payment of the sum of \$5 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.

[For text of subds 18 to 26, see M.S.1990]

History: 1991 c 333 s 8,9

168.2702 MOTOR VEHICLE LEASES: INDEMNITY AGREEMENTS.

Notwithstanding other law to the contrary, a provision in a motor vehicle lease agreement that indemnifies the lessor against any claims or liabilities arising out of the

use, operation, or maintenance of the vehicle by the lessee includes the right to indemnity for traffic violations, penalties, and punitive damages caused by the lessee and is enforceable in accordance with its terms. This section does not relieve the lessor of any liability, penalty, or damages arising out of its own acts or omissions.

History: 1991 c 280 s 1

168.325 DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES.

[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1990]

Subd. 3. [Repealed, 1991 c 199 art 1 s 56]

[For text of subd 4, see M.S.1990]

168.33 COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY IS REGISTRAR.

[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1990]

Subd. 2. **Powers regarding deputy registrars.** The registrar may 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 this chapter. The registrar may appoint, and for cause discontinue, a deputy registrar for any statutory or home rule charter 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.

The registrar may appoint, and for cause discontinue, a deputy registrar for any statutory or home rule charter 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 licenses as provided in section 373.32. A person appointed by the registrar as a deputy registrar for any statutory or home rule charter city must 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 statutory or home rule charter city or any other person as a deputy registrar as public interest and convenience may require, regardless of the appointee's county of residence. At the request of the governing body of a statutory or home rule charter city, the auditor shall appoint, and may for cause discontinue, the clerk or equivalent officer of a city, or another officer or employee of the city designated by the governing body, as a deputy registrar:

- (1) if the city is a county seat or, if not, is larger than the seat of the county in which it is situated; and
- (2) no office of a deputy registrar is situated within the city or within 15 miles of the city by the most direct public route.

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 statutory or home rule charter 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 is responsible for the acts of deputy registrars appointed by the auditor. Each 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 under this subdivision is not an officer or employee of a county or statutory or home rule charter city, the dep-

uty shall in addition give bond to the state in the sum of \$10,000, or a 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 this subdivision, 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 under this subdivision shall keep and maintain, in a convenient public place within or in close proximity to 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 taxes on motor vehicles. The deputy registrar shall keep records and make reports to the registrar as the registrar, from time to time, may require. The records must be maintained at the facility of the deputy registrar. The records and facilities of the deputy registrar must 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 under subdivision 7 must be deposited in the treasury of the place for which appointed or, if not a public official, a 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 must provide the deputy registrar with facilities and personnel to carry out the duties imposed by this subdivision if the deputy is a public official. In all other cases, the deputy shall maintain a suitable facility for serving the public.

[For text of subds 2a to 7, see M.S.1990]

History: 1991 c 56 s 1