168.1289 RENTAL MOTOR VEHICLE PLATES.

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given.

(b) "Auto rental company" means a corporation, partnership, individual, or other person that is engaged primarily in the renting of at least 50 rental motor vehicles at per diem rates.

(c) "Rental motor vehicle" means a passenger automobile, noncommercial one-ton pickup truck, motorcycle, motorized bicycle, or recreational vehicle made available for rental by an auto rental company.

Subd. 2. **Issuance of plates.** (a) An auto rental company may, but is not required to, apply for rental motor vehicle plates under this section.

(b) Upon proper application, the commissioner must issue rental motor vehicle plates or a single motorcycle plate to an auto rental company that:

(1) is a registered owner of a rental motor vehicle;

(2) pays license plate fees under section 168.12, subdivision 5, for each set of plates for each rental motor vehicle, along with any other fees required by this chapter;

(3) pays the registration tax for each rental motor vehicle as required under section 168.013;

(4) pays the fees required under this chapter; and

(5) complies with section 168.017 and rules governing registration of rental motor vehicles.

(c) Rental motor vehicle plates issued under this section are issued for a seven-year period and must be replaced as required under section 168.12, subdivision 1, paragraph (f), clause (2), except that rental motor vehicle plates issued for a motorcycle or motorized bicycle are for the life of the vehicle.

(d) Each set of rental motor vehicle plates issued under this section is only valid if the plates are registered to a single rental motor vehicle.

Subd. 3. **Design.** The commissioner must adopt a suitable plate design that includes the phrase "RENTAL MOTOR VEHICLE."

Subd. 4. **Plates transfer.** (a) On application to the commissioner and payment of a transfer fee of $5 for each set of plates, rental motor vehicle plates may be transferred to another qualified rental motor vehicle that is registered to the same auto rental company to which the rental motor vehicle plates were originally issued.

(b) A deputy registrar who collects the $5 transfer fee under paragraph (a) must retain the fee.

(c) Rental motor vehicle plates issued under this section must be removed from the rental motor vehicle if the vehicle is held for resale under section 168A.11.

Subd. 5. **Exemptions.** (a) Rental motor vehicle plates issued under this section are not subject to section 168.1293, subdivision 2.

(b) Notwithstanding sections 168.09, subdivision 4, and 169.79, subdivision 8, rental motor vehicle plates issued under this section are not required to display validation stickers issued pursuant to section 168.12, subdivision 1.

Subd. 6. **Application.** This section applies on the earlier of July 1, 2026, or the date the commissioner makes rental motor vehicle plates available.

History: *1Sp2025 c 8 art 2 s 19*