

HOUSE BILL 167

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019

INTRODUCED BY

Patricio Ruiloba and William "Bill" R. Rehm

AN ACT

RELATING TO LICENSE PLATES; REQUIRING THE PERIODIC REPLACEMENT OF LICENSE PLATES; INCREASING LICENSE PLATE FEES; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 66-3-17 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978, Chapter 35, Section 37, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-3-17. REGISTRATION PLATE--REPLACEMENT OF PLATE.--

A. Succeeding registration renewals of the registration plate issued under Section 66-3-14 NMSA 1978 shall cause the division to issue a validating sticker only, except as provided in Subsections ~~[B and]~~ C through E of this section.

B. The person to whom the registration plate is issued pursuant to Section 66-3-16 NMSA 1978 may, at any time, apply for the issuance of a duplicate or replacement plate, and

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underscoring material = new
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1 upon the surrender of the plate the person then has, the
2 applicant shall be issued a duplicate or replacement plate.

3 ~~[B-]~~ C. Except as provided in Subsection B of this
4 section, the person to whom the plate is issued may, at any
5 time, apply for the issuance of a duplicate or replacement
6 plate, and upon the surrender of the registration plate ~~[he]~~
7 the person then has, along with the payment of a reasonable fee
8 set by the director that will cover the cost of the production
9 and distribution of the plate, the applicant shall be issued a
10 duplicate or replacement plate.

11 ~~[G-]~~ D. Any peace officer may, upon discovering
12 that the registration plate of any vehicle is illegible because
13 of wear or damage or other cause, issue a citation to the owner
14 or operator of the vehicle. The citation shall provide that
15 the owner shall, within thirty days from the date of the
16 citation, apply for and obtain a duplicate or replacement plate
17 from the division.

18 E. Except for registration plates issued pursuant
19 to Section 66-3-27 or 66-3-423 NMSA 1978, a registration plate
20 shall not be valid for more than eight years. Prior to issuing
21 a validating sticker to the owner of the vehicle that has a
22 registration plate that has been in use for more than seven
23 years, the department shall issue a replacement registration
24 plate for that vehicle."

25 SECTION 2. A new section of Chapter 66, Article 6 NMSA

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underscoring = new
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1 1978 is enacted to read:

2 "[NEW MATERIAL] REGISTRATION PLATE FEE.--Except for
3 registration plates issued pursuant to Section 66-3-27,
4 66-3-415 or 66-3-423 NMSA 1978 or issued at no charge pursuant
5 to Section 66-3-16, 66-3-409, 66-3-411, 66-3-412, 66-3-413,
6 66-3-414, 66-3-421 or 66-3-424.24 NMSA 1978, in addition to all
7 other fees collected by registration of vehicles pursuant to
8 Section 66-3-1 NMSA 1978 or by registration of vehicles
9 pursuant to the Motor Transportation Act, there is imposed on
10 each registration, for each year covered by the registration, a
11 registration plate fee of two dollars (\$2.00) to be retained by
12 the department and appropriated to the department to defray the
13 cost of making and issuing registration plates."

14 SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
15 provisions of this act is July 1, 2019.