

AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; AMENDING THE MOTOR VEHICLE CODE TO PROVIDE THAT NEW MEXICO RESIDENCY IS NOT A REQUIREMENT FOR CERTAIN PERSONS TO REGISTER VEHICLES OR OBTAIN A LICENSE.

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

Section 1. Section 66-3-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978, Chapter 35, Section 24, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-3-4. APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AND CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.--

A. Every owner of a vehicle of a type required to be registered in this state shall make application to the division for the registration and issuance of a certificate of title for the vehicle. Applications shall be upon the appropriate forms furnished by the division and shall bear the signature of the owner written with pen and ink. All applications presented to the division shall contain:

(1) the name, bona fide residence address and mail address of the owner or, if the owner is a firm, association or corporation, the name, bona fide New Mexico business address and mail address of the firm, association or corporation;

(2) a description of the vehicle, including, insofar as the hereinafter specified data may exist with respect to a given vehicle, the make, model, type of body, the number of cylinders, type of fuel used, the serial number of the vehicle, the odometer reading, the

engine or other identification number provided by the manufacturer of the vehicle, whether new or used and, if a vehicle not previously registered, the date of sale by the manufacturer or dealer to the person intending to operate the vehicle. In the event a vehicle is designed, constructed, converted or rebuilt for the transportation of property, the application shall include a statement of its rated capacity as established by the manufacturer of the chassis or the complete vehicle;

(3) a statement of the applicant's title and of all liens or encumbrances upon the vehicle and the names and addresses of all persons having any interest therein and the nature of every such interest and the name and address of the person to whom the certificate of title shall be delivered by the division;

(4) if the vehicle required to be registered is a house trailer, as defined in the Motor Vehicle Code, a certificate from the treasurer or assessor of the county in which the house trailer is located showing that either:

(a) all property taxes due or to become due on the house trailer for the current tax year or any past tax years have been paid; or

(b) no liability for property taxes on the house trailer exists for the current year or any past tax years; and

(5) further information as may reasonably be required by the division to enable it to determine

whether the vehicle is lawfully entitled to registration and the owner entitled to a certificate of title.

B. Any owner of a vehicle subject to registration that has never been registered in this state and that has been registered in another state shall have such vehicle examined and inspected for its identification number or engine number by the division or an officer or designated agent thereof incident to securing registration, reregistration or a certificate of title from the division.

C. When such application refers to a vehicle not previously registered and the vehicle is purchased from a dealer licensed in this state or a dealer licensed or recognized as such in any other state, territory or possession of the United States, the application shall be accompanied by a manufacturer's certificate of origin duly assigned by the dealer to the purchaser. In the event that a vehicle not previously registered is sold by the manufacturer to a dealer in a state not requiring a manufacturer's certificate of origin and in the event that the vehicle is subsequently purchased by a dealer or any person in this state, the application for title shall be accompanied by the evidence of title accepted by the state in which the vehicle was sold by the manufacturer to a dealer in that state together with evidence of subsequent transfers."

Section 2. Section 66-5-9 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978, Chapter 35, Section 231, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-5-9. APPLICATION FOR LICENSE, TEMPORARY LICENSE,

PROVISIONAL LICENSE OR INSTRUCTION PERMIT.--

A. Every application for an instruction permit, provisional license or driver's license shall be made upon a form furnished by the department. Every application shall be accompanied by the proper fee. For permits, provisional licenses or driver's licenses other than those issued pursuant to the New Mexico Commercial Driver's License Act, submission of a complete application with payment of the fee entitles the applicant to not more than three attempts to pass the examination within a period of six months from the date of application.

B. Every application shall contain the full name, social security number, date of birth, sex and residence address of the applicant and briefly describe the applicant and indicate whether the applicant has previously been licensed as a driver and, if so, when and by what state or country and whether any such license has ever been suspended or revoked or whether an application has ever been refused and, if so, the date of and reason for the suspension, revocation or refusal.

C. Every applicant shall indicate whether he has been convicted of driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs in this state or in any other jurisdiction. Failure to disclose any such conviction prevents the issuance of a driver's license, provisional license, temporary license or instruction permit for a period of one year if the failure to disclose is discovered by the department prior to issuance. If the nondisclosure

is discovered by the department subsequent to issuance, the department shall revoke the driver's license, provisional license, temporary license or instruction permit for a period of one year. Intentional and willful failure to disclose, as required in this subsection, is a misdemeanor.

D. Every applicant less than eighteen years of age who is making an application to be granted his first New Mexico driver's license shall submit evidence that he has:

(1) successfully completed a driver education course that included a DWI prevention and education program approved by the bureau or offered by a public school. The bureau may accept verification of driver education course completion from another state if the driver education course substantially meets the requirements of the bureau for a course offered in New Mexico;

(2) had a provisional license for the twelve-month period immediately preceding the date of the application for the driver's license;

(3) complied with restrictions on that license;

(4) not been convicted of a traffic violation committed during the ninety days prior to applying for a driver's license;

(5) not been cited for a traffic violation that is pending at the time of his application; and

(6) not been adjudicated for an offense involving the use of alcohol or drugs during that period and that there are no pending adjudications alleging an offense

involving the use of alcohol or drugs at the time of his application.

E. Every applicant eighteen years of age and over, but less than twenty-five years of age, who is making an application to be granted his first New Mexico driver's license shall submit evidence with his application that he has successfully completed a bureau-approved DWI prevention and education program.

F. Every applicant twenty-five years of age and over who has been convicted of driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs, and who is making an application to be granted his first New Mexico driver's license, shall submit evidence with his application that he has successfully completed a bureau-approved DWI prevention and education program.

G. Whenever application is received from a person previously licensed in another jurisdiction, the department may request a copy of the driver's record from the other jurisdiction. When received, the driver's record may become a part of the driver's record in this state with the same effect as though entered on the driver's record in this state in the original instance.

H. Whenever the department receives a request for a driver's record from another licensing jurisdiction, the record shall be forwarded without charge.

I. This section does not apply to driver's licenses issued pursuant to the New Mexico Commercial Driver's License Act."

Section 3. Section 66-5-15 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978, Chapter 35, Section 237, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-5-15. LICENSES ISSUED TO APPLICANTS.--The department shall, upon payment of the required fee, issue to every qualified applicant a driver's license as applied for, which license shall bear the full name, date of birth, residence address and a brief description of the licensee and the signature of the licensee. No license shall be valid unless it bears the signature of the licensee."

Section 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the provisions of this act is July 1, 2000. _____