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SENATE BILL 727

44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999

INTRODUCED BY

Leonard Tsosie

AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION; RECOGNIZING LICENSE
PLATES AND VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS ISSUED BY THE TRIBAL
GOVERNMENT OF A TRIBE LOCATED IN NEW MEXICO; AMENDING AND
ENACTING SECTIONS OF THE NMSA 1978; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Section 1. [NEW MATERIAL] MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE PLATES--
CAR REGISTRATION--TRIBAL GOVERNMENT ISSUE--INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AGREEMENT AUTHORIZED-- DEFINITION. --

A. A valid license plate and vehicle registration
issued by the tribal government of a tribe located in New
Mexico is recognized as valid evidence of registration of the
vehicle for which it was issued. A vehicle bearing a license
plate issued by a tribe with a vehicle registration issued by
the same tribe requires no additional registration by the

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1 state of New Mexico.

2 B. The governor of the state is authorized to
3 enter into an intergovernmental agreement with a tribe when
4 notified by that tribe that it will be issuing license plates
5 and vehicle registrations to its members. The
6 intergovernmental agreement should address issues that may
7 arise between the tribe and the state regarding the
8 enforcement of motor vehicle laws, including the exchange of
9 information about who has been issued a valid license plate
10 and registration by the tribe and the liability insurance
11 requirements that the tribe will implement.

12 C. As used in this section, "tribe" means an
13 Indian nation, tribe or pueblo located in whole or in part in
14 New Mexico.

15 Section 2. Section 66-3-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978,
16 Chapter 35, Section 21) is amended to read:

17 "66-3-1. VEHICLES SUBJECT TO REGISTRATION--EXCEPTIONS. --
18 Every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer and pole trailer
19 when driven or moved upon a highway [~~shall be~~] is subject to
20 the registration and certificate of title provisions of the
21 Motor Vehicle Code except:

22 A. any such vehicle driven or moved upon a highway
23 in conformance with the provisions of the Motor Vehicle Code
24 relating to manufacturers, dealers, lien-holders or
25 nonresidents;

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B. any such vehicle which is driven or moved upon a highway only for the purpose of crossing ~~[such]~~ the highway from one property to another;

C. any implement of husbandry ~~[which]~~ that is only incidentally operated or moved upon a highway;

D. any special mobile equipment as herein defined;

E. any vehicle ~~[which]~~ that is propelled exclusively by electric power obtained from overhead trolley wires though not operated upon rails;

F. no certificate of title need be obtained for any vehicle of a type subject to registration owned by the government of the United States; ~~[and]~~

G. every house trailer shall be subject to the registration and certificate of title provisions of the Motor Vehicle Code, and each house trailer shall at all times bear a current registration plate; and

H. a vehicle bearing a valid license plate issued by a tribe located in whole or in part in New Mexico for which the driver can produce a valid registration document . "

Section 3. EMERGENCY.--It is necessary for the public peace, health and safety that this act take effect immediately.

1 FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

2 FIRST SESSION, 1999

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5 March 3, 1999

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7 Mr. President:

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9 Your CORPORATIONS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE, to
10 whom has been referred
11

12
13 SENATE BILL 727

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15 has had it under consideration and reports same with
16 recommendation that it DO PASS, and thence referred to the
17 PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

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19 Respectfully submitted,
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Roman M. Maes, Chairman

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Adopted _____ Not

Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 5 For 1 Against

Yes: 5

No: Macias

Excused: Aragon, Fidel, Kysar, McKibben

Absent: None

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