

CHAPTER 2014-6

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 156

An act relating to motor vehicle and mobile home taxes, fees, and surcharges; amending s. 320.03, F.S.; reducing the amount of the additional registration fee used to fund the Florida Real Time Vehicle Information System; amending s. 320.04, F.S.; reducing the service charge imposed on an application for an original or duplicate license plate, or specified registration stickers or certificates; amending s. 320.06, F.S.; providing a cross-reference to changes made by the act; reducing the fee for treating license plates and validation stickers with retroreflection material; amending s. 320.072, F.S.; redistributing the additional fee collected on certain motor vehicle registration transactions; amending s. 320.08, F.S.; reducing license taxes for motorcycles and mopeds, automobiles or tri-vehicles for private use, and trucks; amending ss. 320.0804 and 320.08046, F.S.; reducing surcharges imposed on a license tax; reenacting and amending s. 320.0807(4), F.S., relating to special vehicle license plates for the Governor and federal and state legislators, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 320.06, F.S., in a reference thereto; providing for the disposition of certain taxes, fees and surcharges collected; prohibiting a refund of any taxes, fees, or surcharges collected before the effective date of the act; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 320.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.03 Registration; duties of tax collectors; International Registration Plan.—

(5) ~~A fee of \$1.25 shall be charged,~~ In addition to the fees required under s. 320.08, ~~a fee of 50 cents shall be charged~~ on every license registration sold to cover the costs of the Florida Real Time Vehicle Information System. The fees collected shall be deposited ~~distributed as follows: 75 cents into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund, which shall be used to fund the Florida Real Time Vehicle Information system and may be used to fund the general operations of the department, and 50 cents into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund to be used exclusively to fund the system. The only use of this latter portion of the fee~~ may only be used is to fund the system equipment, software, personnel associated with the maintenance and programming of the system, and networks used in the offices of the county tax collectors as agents of the department and the ancillary technology necessary to integrate the system with other tax collection systems. The department shall administer this program upon consultation with the Florida Tax Collectors, Inc., to ensure that each county tax collector's office is technologically equipped and functional for the operation of the Florida Real Time Vehicle Information System. Any ~~of the designated revenue~~

collected to support functions of the county tax collectors and not used in a given year must remain exclusively in the trust fund as a carryover to the following year.

Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 320.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.04 Registration service charge.—

(1)(a) ~~There shall be~~ A service charge of \$2.50 shall be imposed on \$5 for each application ~~that which~~ is handled in connection with original issuance, duplicate issuance, or transfer of ~~a any~~ license plate, mobile home sticker, or validation sticker or with transfer or duplicate issuance of ~~a any~~ registration certificate. This service charge ~~Of that amount, \$2.50 shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund, and the remainder shall be retained by the department or by the tax collector, as the case may be, as other fees accruing to those offices.~~

(b) ~~There shall also be~~ A service charge of \$1 shall also be imposed \$3 for the issuance of each license plate validation sticker, vessel decal, and mobile home sticker issued from an automated vending facility or printer dispenser machine. This service charge, ~~which is payable to the department and~~ ~~Of that amount, \$1 shall be used to provide for automated vending facilities or printer dispenser machines that are used to dispense such stickers and decals by each tax collector's or license tag agent's employee. The remaining \$2 shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.~~

(c) The tax collector may impose an additional service charge of up to not more than 50 cents on any transaction specified in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b), or on any transaction specified in s. 319.32(2)(a) or s. 328.48 if such transaction occurs at a any tax collector's branch office.

Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 320.06, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.06 Registration certificates, license plates, and validation stickers generally.—

(1)

(b)1. Registration license plates bearing a graphic symbol and the alphanumeric system of identification shall be issued for a 10-year period. At the end of the that 10-year period, upon renewal, the plate shall be replaced. The department shall extend the scheduled license plate replacement date from a 6-year period to a 10-year period. The fee for such replacement is \$28, \$2.80 of which shall be paid each year before the plate is replaced, to be credited toward towards the next \$28 replacement fee. The fees shall be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund. A credit or refund may not be given for any prior years' payments of the such prorated replacement fee if the plate is replaced or surrendered before the end of the 10-year period, except that a credit may be given if a registrant is

required by the department to replace a license plate under s. 320.08056(8)(a). With each license plate, a validation sticker shall be issued showing the owner's birth month, license plate number, and the year of expiration or the appropriate renewal period if the owner is not a natural person. The validation sticker shall be placed on the upper right corner of the license plate. ~~The Such~~ license plate and validation sticker shall be issued based on the applicant's appropriate renewal period. The registration period is 12 months, the extended registration period is 24 months, and all expirations occur based on the applicant's appropriate registration period. A vehicle ~~that has~~ with an apportioned registration shall be issued an annual license plate and a cab card that denote the declared gross vehicle weight for each apportioned jurisdiction in which the vehicle is authorized to operate.

2. In order to retain the efficient administration of the taxes and fees imposed by this chapter, the 80 cent fee increase in the replacement fee imposed by chapter 2009-71, Laws of Florida, is negated as provided in s. 320.0804.

(3)

(b) An additional fee of ~~50 cents~~ \$1.50 shall be collected on each motor vehicle registration or motor vehicle renewal registration issued in this state in order for all license plates and validation stickers to be fully treated with retroreflection material. ~~The fee Of that amount, \$1 shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund and 50 cents shall be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund.~~

Section 4. Subsection (4) of section 320.072, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.072 Additional fee imposed on certain motor vehicle registration transactions.—

(4) A tax collector or other authorized agent of the department shall promptly remit ~~44.5 percent~~ of all moneys collected pursuant to this section, less any refunds granted pursuant to subsection (3), to the department. ~~The department shall deposit 44.5 percent of such moneys to be deposited into the State Transportation Trust Fund, 14.3 percent, the remaining 55.5 percent shall be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund, and 41.2 percent into the General Revenue Fund.~~

Section 5. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section 320.08, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.08 License taxes.—Except as otherwise provided herein, there are hereby levied and imposed annual license taxes for the operation of motor vehicles, mopeds, motorized bicycles as defined in s. 316.003(2), tri-vehicles as defined in s. 316.003, and mobile homes, as defined in s. 320.01, which shall be paid to and collected by the department or its agent upon the registration or renewal of registration of the following:

(1) MOTORCYCLES AND MOPEDS.—

(a) Any motorcycle: ~~\$10~~ \$13.50 flat, of which ~~\$3.50~~ shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.

(b) Any moped: ~~\$5~~ \$6.75 flat, of which ~~\$1.75~~ shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.

(c) Upon registration of ~~a any~~ motorcycle, motor-driven cycle, or moped, ~~there shall be paid~~ in addition to the license taxes specified in this subsection, a nonrefundable motorcycle safety education fee in the amount of \$2.50 ~~shall be paid~~. The proceeds of such additional fee shall be deposited in the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund to fund a motorcycle driver improvement program implemented pursuant to s. 322.025, the Florida Motorcycle Safety Education Program established in s. 322.0255, or the general operations of the department.

(d) An ancient or antique motorcycle: ~~\$7.50~~ \$8.50 flat, of which ~~\$2.50~~ \$3.50 shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.

(2) AUTOMOBILES OR TRI-VEHICLES FOR PRIVATE USE.—

(a) An ancient or antique automobile, as defined in s. 320.086, or a street rod, as defined in s. 320.0863: ~~\$7.50~~ \$10.25 flat, of which ~~\$2.75~~ shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.

(b) Net weight of less than 2,500 pounds: ~~\$14.50~~ \$19.50 flat, of which ~~\$5~~ shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.

(c) Net weight of 2,500 pounds or more, but less than 3,500 pounds: ~~\$22.50~~ \$30.50 flat, of which ~~\$8~~ shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.

(d) Net weight of 3,500 pounds or more: ~~\$32.50~~ \$44 flat, of which ~~\$11.50~~ shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.

(3) TRUCKS.—

(a) Net weight of less than 2,000 pounds: ~~\$14.50~~ \$19.50 flat, of which ~~\$5~~ shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.

(b) Net weight of 2,000 pounds or more, but not more than 3,000 pounds: ~~\$22.50~~ \$30.50 flat, of which ~~\$8~~ shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.

(c) Net weight more than 3,000 pounds, but not more than 5,000 pounds: ~~\$32.50~~ \$44 flat, of which ~~\$11.50~~ shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.

(d) A truck defined as a “goat,” or ~~any~~ other vehicle if used in the field by a farmer or in the woods for the purpose of harvesting a crop, including naval stores, during such harvesting operations, and which is not principally

operated upon the roads of the state: ~~\$7.50~~ \$10.25 flat, ~~of which \$2.75 shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.~~ The term A “goat” means is a motor vehicle designed, constructed, and used principally for the transportation of citrus fruit within citrus groves or for the transportation of crops on farms, and which can also be used for the hauling of associated equipment or supplies, including required sanitary equipment, and the towing of farm trailers.

(e) An ancient or antique truck, as defined in s. 320.086: ~~\$7.50~~ \$10.25 flat, ~~of which \$2.75 shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.~~

Section 6. Section 320.0804, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.0804 Surcharge on license tax; trust funds.—A surcharge of \$2, shall be ~~There is hereby levied and imposed on each license tax imposed under s. 320.08, except those set forth in s. 320.08(11), a surcharge in the amount of \$4, which shall be collected in the same manner as the license tax. This surcharge shall be further reduced to \$1.20 on September 1, 2014, in order to negate the license plate increase of 80 cents imposed by chapter 2009-71, Laws of Florida. Of this amount, \$1 shall be deposited into the State Transportation Trust Fund, and 20 cents~~ \$1 shall be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund, and \$2 shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.

Section 7. Section 320.08046, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.08046 Juvenile programs surcharge on license tax.—A surcharge of \$1 shall be imposed ~~There is levied on each license tax imposed under s. 320.08, except those set forth in s. 320.08(11), a surcharge in the amount of \$5.50, which shall be collected in the same manner as the license tax and. Of the proceeds of each license tax surcharge, \$4.50 shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund and \$1 shall be deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund in the Department of Juvenile Justice to fund the juvenile crime prevention programs and the community juvenile justice partnership grants program.~~

Section 8. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 320.06, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (4) of section 320.0807, Florida Statutes, is reenacted and amended to read:

320.0807 Special license plates for Governor and federal and state legislators.—

(4) License plates purchased under subsection (1), subsection (2), or subsection (3) shall be replaced by the department at no cost, other than the fees required under ~~by~~ ss. 320.04 and 320.06(3)(b), when the person to whom the plates have been issued leaves the elective office with respect to which the license plates were issued. Within 30 days after leaving office, the person to whom the license plates have been issued must apply ~~shall make application~~ to the department for a replacement license plate. The person

may return the prestige license plates to the department or ~~may~~ retain the plates as souvenirs. Upon receipt of the replacement license plate, the person may not ~~continue~~ to display on any vehicle the prestige license plate or plates issued with respect to his or her former office.

Section 9. (1) The disposition of the biennial license taxes, fees, and surcharges collected pursuant to s. 320.07, Florida Statutes, shall occur in accordance with the provisions of chapter 320, Florida Statutes, in effect at the time the taxes, fees, and surcharges are collected.

(2) The amendments made by this act do not create a right to a refund of any taxes, fees, or surcharges collected before September 1, 2014, for a biennial registration pursuant to s. 320.07, Florida Statutes.

Section 10. This act shall take effect September 1, 2014.

Approved by the Governor April 2, 2014.

Filed in Office Secretary of State April 2, 2014.