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# HOUSE BILL No. 1165

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 9-18.

**Synopsis:** Year of manufacture antique license plates. Allows a person who registers a motor vehicle as an antique motor vehicle to furnish and display on the vehicle an authentic license plate or a reproduction of an authentic license plate from the model year. Makes conforming changes.

**Effective:** January 1, 2003.

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January 9, 2002, read first time and referred to Committee on Roads and Transportation.

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Second Regular Session 112th General Assembly (2002)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2001 General Assembly.

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# HOUSE BILL No. 1165



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning motor vehicles.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 9-18-2-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
- 2 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2003]: Sec. 7. (a) A person who owns a
- 3 vehicle subject to registration shall register each vehicle owned by the
- 4 person as follows:
- 5 (1) A vehicle subject to section 8 of this chapter shall be
- 6 registered under section 8.
- 7 (2) A vehicle not subject to section 8 of this chapter or to the
- 8 International Registration Plan shall be registered before:
- 9 (A) March 1 of each year; or
- 10 (B) an earlier date subsequent to January 1 of each year as set
- 11 by the bureau.
- 12 (3) School buses owned by a school corporation are exempt from
- 13 annual registration but are subject to registration under
- 14 IC 20-9.1-4.
- 15 (4) Subject to subsection (f), a vehicle subject to the International
- 16 Registration Plan shall be registered before April 1 of each year.
- 17 (b) Registrations and re-registrations under this section are for the



1 calendar year. Registration and re-registration for school buses owned  
2 by a school corporation may be for more than a calendar year.

3 (c) License plates for a vehicle subject to this section may be  
4 displayed during:

5 (1) the calendar year for which the vehicle is registered; and

6 (2) the period of time:

7 (A) subsequent to the calendar year; and

8 (B) before the date that the vehicle must be re-registered.

9 (d) **Except as provided in IC 9-18-12-2.5**, a person who owns or  
10 operates a vehicle may not operate or permit the operation of a vehicle  
11 that:

12 (1) is required to be registered under this chapter; and

13 (2) has expired license plates.

14 (e) If a vehicle that is required to be registered under this chapter  
15 has:

16 (1) been operated on the highways; and

17 (2) not been properly registered under this chapter;

18 the bureau shall, before the vehicle is re-registered, collect the  
19 registration fee that the owner of the vehicle would have paid if the  
20 vehicle had been properly registered.

21 (f) The department of state revenue may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2  
22 to issue staggered registration to motor vehicles subject to the  
23 International Registration Plan.

24 SECTION 2. IC 9-18-2-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.176-2001,  
25 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
26 JANUARY 1, 2003]: Sec. 8. (a) The bureau shall register vehicles  
27 under the schedule in this section.

28 (b) **Except as provided in IC 9-18-12-2.5**, a person who owns a  
29 vehicle shall receive a license plate, renewal tag, or other indicia upon  
30 registration of the vehicle. The bureau may determine the device  
31 required to be displayed.

32 (c) A corporation shall register, before February 1 of each year, the  
33 following vehicles that are owned by the corporation:

34 (1) A passenger motor vehicle that is not regularly rented to  
35 others for not more than twenty-nine (29) days in the regular  
36 course of the corporation's business.

37 (2) A recreational vehicle.

38 (3) A motorcycle.

39 (4) A truck that:

40 (A) is not regularly rented to others for not more than  
41 twenty-nine (29) days in the regular course of the corporation's  
42 business; and

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- 1 (B) has a declared gross weight of not more than eleven  
 2 thousand (11,000) pounds.
- 3 (d) A corporation that owns a:  
 4 (1) passenger motor vehicle; or  
 5 (2) truck that has a declared gross weight of not more than eleven  
 6 thousand (11,000) pounds;  
 7 that is regularly rented to others for periods of not more than  
 8 twenty-nine (29) days in the regular course of the corporation's  
 9 business must register the passenger motor vehicle or truck before  
 10 March 1 of each year.
- 11 (e) A person who owns a:  
 12 (1) passenger motor vehicle;  
 13 (2) recreational vehicle;  
 14 (3) motorcycle; or  
 15 (4) truck that has a declared gross weight of not more than eleven  
 16 thousand (11,000) pounds;  
 17 that is not subject to the registration requirements under subsection (d)  
 18 shall register the passenger motor vehicle, recreational vehicle,  
 19 motorcycle, or truck in conformance with the schedule set forth in  
 20 subsection (f).
- 21 (f) The following schedule applies to persons who own vehicles that  
 22 are required to be registered under subsection (e):
- 23 (1) Persons whose last names begin with the letters A through BE  
 24 shall register before February 16 of each year.
- 25 (2) Persons whose last names begin with the letters BF through  
 26 BZ shall register before March 1 of each year.
- 27 (3) Persons whose last names begin with the letter C shall register  
 28 before March 16 of each year.
- 29 (4) Persons whose last names begin with the letter D shall register  
 30 before April 1 of each year.
- 31 (5) Persons whose last names begin with the letters E through F  
 32 shall register before April 16 of each year.
- 33 (6) Persons whose last names begin with the letter G shall register  
 34 before May 1 of each year.
- 35 (7) Persons whose last names begin with the letters HA through  
 36 HN shall register before May 16 of each year.
- 37 (8) Persons whose last names begin with the letters HO through  
 38 I shall register before June 1 of each year.
- 39 (9) Persons whose last names begin with the letters J through KM  
 40 shall register before June 16 of each year.
- 41 (10) Persons whose last names begin with the letters KN through  
 42 L shall register before July 1 of each year.

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- 1 (11) Persons whose last names begin with the letters MA through  
 2 ME shall register before July 16 of each year.
- 3 (12) Persons whose last names begin with the letters MF through  
 4 O shall register before August 1 of each year.
- 5 (13) Persons whose last names begin with the letters P through Q  
 6 shall register before August 16 of each year.
- 7 (14) Persons whose last names begin with the letter R shall  
 8 register before September 1 of each year.
- 9 (15) Persons whose last names begin with the letters SA through  
 10 SN shall register before September 16 of each year.
- 11 (16) Persons whose last names begin with the letters SO through  
 12 T shall register before October 1 of each year.
- 13 (17) Persons whose last names begin with the letters U through  
 14 WK shall register before October 16 of each year.
- 15 (18) Persons whose last names begin with the letters WL through  
 16 Z shall register before November 1 of each year.
- 17 (g) A person who owns a vehicle required to be registered under  
 18 subsection (c), (d), or (e) and who desires to register the vehicle for the  
 19 first time must apply to the bureau for a registration application form.  
 20 The bureau shall do the following:
- 21 (1) Administer the registration application form.
- 22 (2) Issue the license plate.
- 23 (3) Collect the proper registration and service fees in accordance  
 24 with the procedure established by the bureau.
- 25 (h) **Except as provided in IC 9-18-12-2.5**, the bureau shall issue a  
 26 semipermanent plate under section 30 of this chapter, or:
- 27 (1) an annual renewal tag; or
- 28 (2) other indicia;
- 29 to be affixed on the semipermanent plate.
- 30 SECTION 3. IC 9-18-2-26 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 31 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2003]: Sec. 26. (a) **Except as**  
 32 **provided in IC 9-18-12-2.5**, license plates shall be displayed as  
 33 follows:
- 34 (1) For a motorcycle, trailer, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle,  
 35 upon the rear of the vehicle.
- 36 (2) For a farm tractor or tractor, upon the front of the vehicle.
- 37 (3) For every other vehicle, upon the rear of the vehicle.
- 38 (b) A license plate shall be securely fastened, in a horizontal  
 39 position, to the vehicle for which the plate is issued:
- 40 (1) to prevent the license plate from swinging;
- 41 (2) at a height of at least twelve (12) inches from the ground,  
 42 measuring from the bottom of the license plate;

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- 1 (3) in a place and position that are clearly visible;  
 2 (4) maintained free from foreign materials and in a condition to  
 3 be clearly legible; and  
 4 (5) not obstructed or obscured by tires, bumpers, accessories, or  
 5 other opaque objects.

6 (c) The bureau may adopt rules the bureau considers advisable to  
 7 enforce the proper mounting and securing of license plates on vehicles  
 8 consistent with this chapter.

9 SECTION 4. IC 9-18-2-27 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 10 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2003]: Sec. 27. (a) Except as  
 11 provided in ~~subsection~~ **subsections (b) and (c)**, a vehicle required to  
 12 be registered under this chapter may not be used or operated upon the  
 13 highways if the motor vehicle displays any of the following:

- 14 (1) A registration number belonging to any other vehicle.  
 15 (2) A fictitious registration number.  
 16 (3) A sign or placard bearing the words "license applied for" or  
 17 "in transit" or other similar signs.

18 (b) Any other number may be displayed for any lawful purpose upon  
 19 a:

- 20 (1) motor vehicle;  
 21 (2) trailer;  
 22 (3) semitrailer; or  
 23 (4) recreational vehicle;

24 in addition to the license plates issued by the bureau under this chapter.

25 **(c) If a vehicle is registered as an antique motor vehicle under**  
 26 **IC 9-18-12, an authentic or reproduction Indiana license plate**  
 27 **from the vehicle's model year may be displayed on the vehicle**  
 28 **under IC 9-18-12-2.5.**

29 SECTION 5. IC 9-18-2-48 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 30 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2003]: Sec. 48. (a) The  
 31 commissioner may enter into a contract or an agreement authorizing a  
 32 person to create and use a reproduction of a license plate issued under  
 33 this article.

34 (b) **Except as provided in subsection (d)**, a person may not create  
 35 or use a reproduction of a license plate issued under this article unless  
 36 the creation or use of the reproduction is expressly authorized in  
 37 writing by the commissioner. The commissioner may impose under  
 38 IC 4-21.5 a civil penalty upon a person who violates this subsection.

39 The amount of a civil penalty imposed under this subsection:

- 40 (1) shall be determined by the commissioner; and  
 41 (2) may not exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

42 (c) Money paid to the bureau as:

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1 (1) compensation to the state under a contract or an agreement  
 2 entered into under subsection (a); or

3 (2) a civil penalty imposed under subsection (b);  
 4 shall be collected and deposited according to IC 9-29-1-1.

5 **(d) If a vehicle is registered as an antique motor vehicle under**  
 6 **IC 9-18-12, a reproduction of a license plate from the vehicle's**  
 7 **model year may be displayed on the vehicle under IC 9-18-12-2.5.**

8 SECTION 6. IC 9-18-12-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 9 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2003]: Sec. 2. (a) **Except as**  
 10 **provided in section 2.5 of this chapter**, the bureau shall issue one (1)  
 11 license plate to the person who owns an antique motor vehicle that is  
 12 registered under this chapter.

13 (b) A license plate for an antique motor vehicle shall be:

- 14 (1) manufactured of embossed steel; and  
 15 (2) painted a cream color.

16 (c) The lettering imprinted on a license plate issued under this  
 17 chapter shall:

- 18 (1) be painted in red;  
 19 (2) contain:  
 20 (A) the registration number assigned to the registration  
 21 certificate by the bureau; and  
 22 (B) the words "Historic Motor Vehicle, State of Indiana"; and  
 23 (3) indicate the year for which the antique motor vehicle has been  
 24 registered.

25 (d) Instead of issuing a new license plate each time that an antique  
 26 motor vehicle is registered, the bureau may issue to the person who  
 27 owns the antique motor vehicle a tag or sticker that indicates the year  
 28 for which the motor vehicle has been registered.

29 (e) A license plate issued under this ~~chapter~~ **section** shall be  
 30 securely attached to the rear of an antique motor vehicle.

31 SECTION 7. IC 9-18-12-2.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
 32 AS A **NEW SECTION** TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 33 JANUARY 1, 2003]: **Sec. 2.5. (a) A person who registers an antique**  
 34 **motor vehicle under this chapter may furnish and display on the**  
 35 **vehicle an Indiana license plate from the vehicle's model year.**

36 **(b) A license plate furnished and displayed under this section**  
 37 **must be either:**

- 38 (1) **an authentic license plate from the vehicle's model year; or**  
 39 (2) **a reproduction of an authentic license plate required**  
 40 **during the vehicle's model year that is identical to the**  
 41 **authentic license plate in material, size, form, and colors.**

42 **(c) Before a license plate is mounted on an antique motor vehicle**

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1 under this section, the bureau shall inspect the license plate to  
2 determine if the license plate:  
3 (1) complies with this section; and  
4 (2) is in suitable condition to be displayed.  
5 (d) If an Indiana license plate from the vehicle's model year is  
6 displayed on a motor vehicle registered as an antique motor vehicle  
7 under this chapter, the current certificate of registration of the  
8 motor vehicle must at all times be kept in the vehicle and made  
9 available for inspection upon the demand of a police officer.  
10 Notwithstanding IC 9-18-2-21, this subsection is not satisfied by  
11 keeping a reproduction of the certificate of registration in the  
12 vehicle or making a reproduction of the certificate of registration  
13 available for inspection.

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