

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2000 SESSION

CHAPTER 133

An Act to amend and reenact § 46.2-712 of the Code of Virginia, relating to registration of vehicles; issuance of license plates and decals.

[H 1002]

Approved March 17, 2000

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 46.2-712 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 46.2-712. Requirements of license plates and decals.

A. Every license plate shall display the registration number assigned to the motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer and to the owner thereof, the name of the Commonwealth, which may be abbreviated, and the year or the month and year, which may be abbreviated and in the form of decals, for which it is issued. Subject to the need for legibility, the size of the plate, the letters, numerals, and decals thereon, and the color of the plate, letters, numerals, and decals shall be in the discretion of the Commissioner. Decals shall be placed on the license plates in the manner prescribed by the Commissioner, and shall indicate the month and year of expiration. On the issuance of the decals, a new registration card shall be issued with the same date of expiration as the decals.

B. Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, the Department may issue permanent license plates without decals and without a month and year of expiration for all trailers and semitrailers, regardless of weight, as well as trucks and tractor trucks with a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating of more than 26,000 pounds, *and taxicabs or other motor vehicles performing a taxicab service as defined in § 46.2-2000 that are in compliance with the requirements of §§ 46.2-757 through 46.2-768 and Chapter 20 (§ 46.2-2000 et seq.) of this title.* In addition, the Department may issue permanent license plates without decals and without a month and year of expiration for trucks and tractor trucks with gross vehicle weight ratings or gross combination weight ratings of at least 7,501 pounds but not more than 26,000 pounds, provided that such vehicles are for business use only, and for farm vehicles registered with the Department pursuant to § 46.2-698.

C. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of this section, any person who, pursuant to former § 56-304.3, repealed by Chapters 744 and 803 of the Acts of Assembly of 1995, obtained from the State Corporation Commission an exemption from the marker or decal requirements of former §§ 56-304, 56-304.1 or § 56-304.2, and who has painted or, in the case of newly acquired vehicles, who paints an identifying number on the sides of any vehicle with respect to which such exemption applies and, in all other respects, continues to comply with the requirements of former § 56-304.3, shall be deemed to be in compliance with subsections C and D of § 46.2-761.