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HOUSE BILL NO. 2135

Offered January 12, 2011

Prefiled January 12, 2011

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 46.2-214.3 and 46.2-646 of the Code of Virginia, relating to expiration and renewal of registration.

Patrons—Barlow and Tyler

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 46.2-214.3 and 46.2-646 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 46.2-214.3. Service charge to be imposed and collected by the Department; discount for multiyear registration.

A. In addition to any other fee imposed and collected by the Department, the Department shall impose and collect a service charge upon each person who carries out the registration renewal of a vehicle in any of the Department's Customer Service Centers if such registration can be conducted (i) by mail or telephone or by using an electronic medium using a format prescribed by the Commissioner, or (ii) through an agent of the Department that has entered into an agreement with the Department to perform certain services as described in subsection B of § 46.2-205. The service charge shall not apply (a) if concurrently with the registration of the vehicle, the person undertakes another transaction at a Customer Service Center, which other transaction cannot be conducted through a means described in clause (i) or (ii), (b) to the registration of any vehicle for which no registration fee is otherwise required by law, or (c) to any registration conducted by a motor vehicle dealer subject to the provisions of § 46.2-1530.2.

B. The service charge shall equal \$5 per vehicle registration renewal that is carried out in any Customer Service Center of the Department. The Department shall include information regarding such service charge in all vehicle registration renewal notices sent to vehicle owners.

C. All service charges imposed and collected by the Commissioner under this section shall be paid into the state treasury and shall be set aside as a special fund to be used to meet the expenses of the Department.

D. Pursuant to subsection C of § 46.2-646, for each motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer registered, the Commissioner may offer, at his discretion, a discount for multiyear registrations of such vehicles. The discount shall be equal to \$1 for each year of the multiyear registration or fraction thereof. The discount shall not be applicable to any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer registered (i) under the International Registration Plan or (ii) as an uninsured motor vehicle. When this option is offered and chosen by the registrant, all annual and 12-month fees due at the time of registration shall be multiplied by the number of years or fraction thereof that the vehicle will be registered. *The discount shall not apply to those choosing permanent registration under subsection C of § 46.2-646.*

E. In addition to the discount authorized in subsection D, for the renewal of registration of each motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer pursuant to § 46.2-646, the Commissioner shall offer a discount for renewal when such registration renewal is conducted using the Internet. The discount shall be equal to \$1. The discount shall not apply to any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer registered (i) under the International Registration Plan or (ii) as an uninsured motor vehicle.

§ 46.2-646. Expiration and renewal of registration.

A. Every registration under this title, unless otherwise provided, shall expire on the last day of the twelfth month next succeeding the date of registration. Every registration, unless otherwise provided, shall be renewed annually on application by the owner and by payment of the fees required by law, the renewal to take effect on the first day of the month succeeding the date of expiration.

B. All motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers registered in the Commonwealth shall, at the discretion of the Commissioner, be placed in a system of registration on a monthly basis to distribute the work of registering motor vehicles as uniformly as practicable throughout the ~~twelve~~ 12 months of the year. All such motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers, unless otherwise provided, shall be registered for a period of ~~twelve~~ 12 months. The registration shall be extended, at the discretion of the Commissioner, on receipt of appropriate prorated fees, as required by law, for a period of not less than one month nor more than ~~eleven~~ 11 months as is necessary to distribute the registrations as equally as practicable on a monthly basis. The Commissioner shall, on request, assign to any owner or owners of two or more motor vehicles, trailers, or semitrailers the same registration period. The expiration date shall be the last day of the twelfth month or the last day of the designated month. Except for motor

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HB2135

59 vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers registered for more than one year under subsection C of this section,
60 every registration shall be renewed annually on application by the owner and by payment of fees
61 required by law, the renewal to take effect on the first day of the succeeding month.

62 C. The Commissioner may offer, at his discretion, an optional ~~multi-year~~ *multiyear or permanent*
63 registration for all motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers except for (i) those registered under the
64 International Registration Plan and (ii) those registered as uninsured motor vehicles. When this option is
65 offered and chosen by the registrant, all annual and ~~twelve-month~~ *12-month* fees due at the time of
66 registration shall be multiplied by the number of years or fraction thereof that the vehicle will be
67 registered. *For those choosing permanent registration, the annual fees listed under § 46.2-694 shall be*
68 *multiplied by 10.*