



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

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DATE: May 6, 2015
TO: Senate Committee on Business and Transportation
FROM: Amy Joyce, Legislative Liaison
SUBJECT: HB 2261-A, proof of vehicle registration

INTRODUCTION

House Bill 2261-A would allow a person who has renewed a vehicle's registration but has not yet received the stickers from DMV to show that proof of renewal to satisfy registration requirements. This concept was recommended by the DMV Customer Service Task Force.

DISCUSSION

HB 2261 allows that a person who can show proof that the vehicle's registration renewal has been completed, but the tags have not yet arrived from DMV, will not receive a ticket for lack of registration. As amended in the House, if the person does receive a ticket but can show that proof to the court clerk or judge, the ticket can be dismissed. The bill directs DMV to write rules on what suffices as proof.

In a survey of customers, DMV found that many people do not use the internet to renew a vehicle's registration because they are at or beyond the renewal date. Customers who are concerned they may be ticketed without the stickers in place will go to the field office to pay the renewal fee and receive the stickers immediately. By allowing a driver to use a receipt to show the registration renewal was completed on-line less than 30 days before, customers are spared the inconvenience of getting to DMV to complete the transaction. The other field office customers and DMV staff are helped by reducing the number of customers in the field office. An on-line transaction costs the Highway Fund about half as much as a visit to the field office.

To be clear, the bill does not grant a "grace period" by which a person who has failed to renew their tags can, after receiving a ticket, complete the renewal and have the ticket dismissed. The bill provides a mechanism for a driver to prove that the registration has already been renewed, and establishes an acceptable reason the tags are not yet on the vehicle.

This bill was one of the recommendations of the Task Force on Transportation and Customer Service Efficiency, created by the Legislature in 2014 (HB 4047). Their full report is found here. <http://www.oregon.gov/DAS/Task%20Forces/HB4047%20Report%20with%20attachments.pdf>

SUMMARY

The Task Force that considered ways to improve customer service and efficiency at DMV recommended this change. DMV welcomes the opportunity to encourage more Oregonians to go on-line rather than in line to complete their business.