

Enrolled House Bill 2261

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Transportation and Economic Development)

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to proof of motor vehicle registration; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 803.550 and 803.560.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. ORS 803.550 is amended to read:

803.550. (1) A person commits the offense of illegal alteration or illegal display of a registration plate if the person knowingly does any of the following:

(a) Illegally alters a registration plate in a manner described in subsection (2) of this section.

(b) Causes a registration plate to be illegally displayed as described in subsection (3) of this section.

(c) Operates any vehicle that is displaying a registration plate that is illegally altered in a manner described in subsection (2) of this section or that is illegally displayed as described in subsection (3) of this section.

(d) Owns and causes or permits a vehicle to display a registration plate that is illegally altered in a manner described in subsection (2) of this section or that is illegally displayed as described in subsection (3) of this section.

(2) A registration plate is illegally altered for purposes of this section if the plate has been altered, modified, covered or obscured in any manner including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) Any change of the color, configuration, numbers, letters or material of the plate.

(b) Any material or covering, other than a frame or plate holder, placed on, over or in front of the plate that alters the appearance of the plate.

(c) Any frame or plate holder that obscures the numbers, letters or registration stickers, so as to render them unreadable.

(3) A registration plate is illegally displayed for purposes of this section if the plate:

(a) Is displayed on a vehicle other than the vehicle for which the plate was issued; or

(b) Displays registration stickers that contain an expiration date that is different from the expiration date shown upon the vehicle registration records of the Department of Transportation.

(4) Subsection (2) of this section does not apply to the following:

(a) Any placement of registration stickers described under ORS 803.555.

(b) Any public official who displays or performs any alteration of a registration plate in the course of official duties.

(c) Any special interest registration plate approved under ORS 805.210.

(5) Subsection (3)(a) of this section does not apply to a vehicle dealer authorized to use and operate vehicles displaying the dealer's plates under ORS 822.040.

(6) A person does not commit the offense of illegal alteration or illegal display of a registration plate if, at the time the conduct described in subsection (3)(b) of this section occurs, the person has proof of registration of the vehicle but has not yet received new registration stickers from the department. The proof of vehicle registration is valid 30 days from the date of issuance. The department shall adopt rules regarding what constitutes proof of vehicle registration under this subsection.

(7) The court shall dismiss any charge under this section if, prior to the court appearance date listed on the citation, the person charged delivers to the clerk of the court named on the citation proof of registration of the vehicle at the time of the violation.

[(6)] **(8)** The offense described in this section, illegal alteration or illegal display of a registration plate, is a Class B traffic violation.

SECTION 2. ORS 803.560 is amended to read:

803.560. (1) A person commits the offense of improper display of validating stickers if the person owns or drives a vehicle on which the display of registration stickers provides proof of valid registration and:

(a) The stickers are not displayed in a manner required by the Department of Transportation; or

(b) The stickers are displayed on the vehicle after the registration period shown on the stickers.

(2) A person does not commit the offense of improper display of validating stickers if, at the time the conduct described in subsection (1) of this section occurs, the person has proof of registration of the vehicle but has not yet received new registration stickers from the department. The proof of vehicle registration is valid 30 days from the date of issuance. The department shall adopt rules regarding what constitutes proof of vehicle registration under this subsection.

(3) The court shall dismiss any charge under this section if, prior to the court appearance date listed on the citation, the person charged delivers to the clerk of the court named on the citation proof of registration of the vehicle at the time of the violation.

[(2)] **(4)** The offense described in this section, improper display of validating stickers, is a Class D traffic violation.

SECTION 3. The amendments to ORS 803.550 and 803.560 by sections 1 and 2 of this 2015 Act apply to offenses occurring on or after the effective date of this 2015 Act.

Passed by House April 17, 2015

.....
Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

.....
Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Passed by Senate May 13, 2015

.....
Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Received by Governor:

.....M.,....., 2015

Approved:

.....M.,....., 2015

.....
Kate Brown, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M.,....., 2015

.....
Jeanne P. Atkins, Secretary of State