

# SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### SENATE, No. 4084

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: NOVEMBER 27, 2023

The Senate Transportation Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 4084.

As reported, this bill establishes an application process and certain security procedures for licensed motor vehicle dealers seeking to provide temporary license plates to buyers.

Under the bill, a licensed motor vehicle dealer is required to apply to the Chief Administrator (chief administrator) of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (commission) before the dealer is permitted to issue temporary registration certificates and temporary license plates. The application is to include the dealer's name and business address, proof of a valid dealer license, a demonstration of a secure storage and printing area, completion of an approved training course, and the application fee.

The bill provides that for each temporary license plate requested from the commission, in addition to any information required by the chief administrator, the dealer is required to provide: (1) a copy of the front and back of the purchaser's driver's license; (2) a copy of the title or manufacturer's certificate of origin showing the make, model, and the vehicle identification number of the motor vehicle sold to the purchaser; (3) proof of a bona fide sale, including, but not limited to, a copy of the executed bill of sale; (4) a copy of the proof of insurance coverage for the motor vehicle sold to the purchaser, and (5) the static IP address of the printer used to print the temporary license plate.

The bill requires licensed motor vehicle dealers to print temporary license plates on reflective paper that utilizes enhanced security features, as established by the chief administrator, for the purpose of preventing forgery or duplication.

The bill increases penalties for licensed motor vehicle dealers who violate the provisions of the bill or any rule or regulation prescribed by the chief administrator related to the issuance of temporary license plates and temporary registration certificates. Under the bill, a violator would be liable to a penalty of \$2,500 for a first offense and \$5,000 for any subsequent offense. Each temporary license plate issued in violation of this bill is to constitute a separate offense. The bill grants the chief administrator the discretion to permanently prohibit any member, officer, agent, employee, or other representative of a licensed dealer who violates the provisions of this bill from obtaining a position

as an owner, officer or director, or employee at another licensed dealership.

In addition, this bill establishes: (1) a crime of the fourth degree for any person who knowingly produces, sells, offers, or exposes for sale a temporary license plate or temporary registration certificate obtained by providing false information to the chief administrator; (2) a disorderly persons offense for any person who knowingly exhibits or displays or produces a temporary license plate or temporary registration certificate obtained by providing false information; (3) a petty disorderly persons offense for any person possessing a temporary license plate or temporary registration certificate obtained by providing false information; (4) a crime of the fourth degree for any person who knowingly produces, sells, offers, or exposes for sale a forged, altered, counterfeited, or simulated temporary registration certificate or temporary license plate; (5) a disorderly persons offense for any person who exhibits or displays on a motor vehicle a falsely made, forged, altered, counterfeited or simulated temporary registration certificate or temporary license plate, knowing that the temporary registration certificate or temporary license plate was falsely made, forged, altered, counterfeited or simulated; and (6) a petty disorderly persons offense for any person who possesses a falsely made, forged, altered, counterfeited, or simulated temporary registration certificate or temporary license plate, knowing that the temporary registration certificate or temporary license plate was falsely made, forged, altered, counterfeited, or simulated.

A crime of the fourth degree is punishable by up to 18 months imprisonment, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both. A disorderly persons offense is punishable by up to six months imprisonment, a fine of up to \$1,000, or both. A petty disorderly persons offense is punishable by up to 30 days imprisonment, a fine of up to \$500, or both.

Under the bill, the chief administrator may suspend or revoke the dealer license of a dealer who commits multiple violations of the provisions of this bill or who is convicted of a criminal violation of the provisions of this bill.