

ASSEMBLY, No. 867

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman NICHOLAS CHIARAVALLOTI

District 31 (Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

Requires MVC to provide option to indicate hearing impairment when registering vehicle.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** concerning the registration process for motor vehicles and
2 amending R.S.39:3-4.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. R.S.39:3-4 is amended to read as follows:

8 39:3-4. Except as hereinafter provided, every resident of this
9 State and every nonresident whose automobile or motorcycle shall
10 be driven in this State shall, before using the vehicle on the public
11 highways, register the same, and an automobile or motorcycle shall
12 not be driven unless so registered.

13 Registration shall be made in the following manner: An
14 application in writing, signed by the applicant or by an agent or
15 officer, in case the applicant is a corporation, shall be made to the
16 chief administrator or the chief administrator's agent, on forms
17 prepared and supplied by the chief administrator, containing the
18 name, street address of the residence or the business of the owner,
19 mailing address, if different from the street address of the owner's
20 residence or business, and age of the owner, together with a
21 description of the character of the automobile or motorcycle,
22 including the name of the maker and the vehicle identification
23 number, or the manufacturer's number or the number assigned by
24 the chief administrator if the vehicle does not have a vehicle
25 identification number, and any other statement that may be required
26 by the chief administrator. A post office box shall appear on the
27 application only as part of a mailing address that is submitted by the
28 owner, agent or officer, as the case may be, in addition to the street
29 address of the applicant's residence or business; provided, however,
30 the chief administrator, upon application, shall permit a person who
31 was a victim of a violation of section 1 of P.L.1992, c.209
32 (C.2C:12-10), N.J.S.2C:14-2, or P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-17 et
33 seq.), or who the chief administrator otherwise determines to have
34 good cause, to use as a mailing address a post office box, an address
35 other than the applicant's address or other contact point. An owner
36 whose last address appears on the records of the commission as a
37 post office box shall change the owner's address on the owner's
38 application for renewal to the street address of the owner's
39 residence or business and, if different from the owner's street
40 address, the owner's mailing address unless the chief administrator
41 has determined, pursuant to this section, that the owner may use a
42 post office box, an address other than the owner's address or other
43 contact point as a mailing address. The application shall contain the
44 name of the insurer of the vehicle and the policy number. If the
45 vehicle is a leased motor vehicle, the application shall make note of

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 that fact and shall include along with the name and street address of
2 the lessor the name, street address, and driver license number of the
3 lessee. The application shall provide the registrant with the option
4 to indicate that the registrant has a hearing impairment, which shall
5 be accompanied by satisfactory proof of such hearing impairment as
6 determined by the chief administrator. The indication shall be used
7 by law enforcement officers to assist in identifying and effectively
8 communicating with the individual with a hearing impairment and
9 shall not be used for any other purpose.

10 Thereupon the chief administrator shall have the power to grant a
11 registration certificate to the owner of any motor vehicle, if over 17
12 years of age, application for the registration having been properly
13 made and the fee therefor paid, and the vehicle being of a type that
14 complies with the requirements of this Title. The form and contents
15 of the registration certificate to be issued shall be determined by the
16 chief administrator.

17 If the vehicle is a leased motor vehicle, the registration
18 certificate shall, in addition to containing the name and street
19 address of the lessor, identify the vehicle as a leased motor vehicle.

20 The chief administrator shall maintain a record of all registration
21 certificates issued, and of the contents thereof.

22 Every registration shall expire and the registration certificate
23 thereof become void on the registrant's numerical calendar day of
24 birth in the 12th calendar month following the calendar month in
25 which the certificate was issued; except that the registration shall
26 expire on the last day of the 12th calendar month following the
27 calendar month in which the certificate was issued if the numerical
28 calendar day of the registrant's birth does not correspond to a
29 numerical calendar day in that month or if the vehicle is a leased
30 motor vehicle.

31 The chief administrator may, at the chief administrator's
32 discretion, require registrations which shall expire, and issue
33 certificates thereof which shall become void, on a date fixed by
34 **[him]** the chief administrator, which date shall not be sooner than
35 three months nor later than 26 months after the date of issuance of
36 the certificates, and the fees for the registrations, including any
37 other fees or charges collected in connection with the registration
38 fee, shall be fixed by the chief administrator in amounts
39 proportionately less or greater than the fees established by law. The
40 chief administrator may fix the expiration date for registration
41 certificates at a date other than 12 months if the chief administrator
42 determines that the change is necessary, appropriate or convenient
43 in order to aid in implementing the vehicle inspection requirements
44 of chapter 8 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes or for other good
45 cause. The chief administrator may, for good cause extend a
46 registration beyond the expiration date that appears upon the
47 registration certificate for periods not to exceed 12 additional
48 months. The chief administrator may extend the expiration date of

1 a registration without payment of a proportionate fee when the chief
2 administrator determines that the extension is necessary for good
3 cause. If any registration is so extended, the owner shall pay upon
4 renewal the full registration fee for the period fixed by the chief
5 administrator as if no extension had been granted.

6 Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary,
7 every registration for new passenger automobiles shall expire and
8 the registration certificate shall become void on the registrant's
9 numerical calendar day of birth in the 48th calendar month
10 following the calendar month in which the certificate was initially
11 issued; except that the registration shall expire on the last day of the
12 48th calendar month following the calendar month in which the
13 certificate was initially issued if the numerical calendar day of the
14 registrant's birth does not correspond to a numerical calendar day in
15 that month.

16 On and after February 1, 2005, the provisions of this paragraph
17 shall not apply to new passenger automobiles purchased by a rental
18 company for use as rental passenger automobiles. As used in this
19 paragraph, "rental company" means a person engaged in the
20 business of renting motor vehicles; and "rental passenger
21 automobile" means a passenger automobile that is rented without a
22 driver and used in the transportation of persons or property other
23 than commercial freight.

24 If the new passenger automobile being registered is a leased
25 passenger automobile, the registration shall expire in accordance
26 with the term of the lease. If the term of the lease extends beyond
27 one or more 12-month periods by one or more months, the
28 registration period shall be based upon the full year into which one
29 or more of the months extend; provided, however, the registration
30 period for a leased automobile shall not exceed 48 months.

31 Following the 48-month period of the initial registration of a new
32 passenger automobile, the subsequent registration shall expire, and
33 the registration certificate shall become void, on the registrant's
34 numerical calendar day of birth in the 12th calendar month
35 following the calendar month in which the certificate was next
36 issued; except that the registration shall expire on the last day of the
37 12th calendar month following the calendar month in which the
38 certificate was next issued if the numerical calendar day of the
39 registrant's birth does not correspond to a numerical calendar day in
40 that month.

41 All motorcycles for which registrations have been issued prior to
42 the effective date of P.L.1989, c.167 and which are scheduled to
43 expire between November 1 and March 31 shall, upon renewal, be
44 issued registrations by the chief administrator which shall expire on
45 a date fixed by **him** the chief administrator, but in no case shall
46 that expiration date be earlier than April 30 nor later than October
47 31. The fees for the renewal of the motorcycle registrations
48 authorized under this paragraph shall be fixed by the chief

1 administrator in an amount proportionately less or greater than the
2 fee established by R.S.39:3-21.

3 Application forms for all renewals of registrations for passenger
4 automobiles shall be sent to the last addresses of owners of motor
5 vehicles and motorcycles, as they appear on the records of the
6 commission.

7 A person owning or having control over any unregistered vehicle
8 shall not permit the same to be parked or to stand on a public
9 highway.

10 Any police officer is authorized to remove any unregistered
11 vehicle from the public highway to a storage space or garage, and
12 the expense involved in the removal and storing of the vehicle shall
13 be borne by the owner of the vehicle, except that the expense shall
14 be borne by the lessee of a leased vehicle.

15 Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be
16 subject to a fine not exceeding \$100, except that for the
17 misstatement of any fact in the application required to be made to
18 the chief administrator, the person making the statement or omitting
19 the statement that the motor vehicle is to be used as a leased motor
20 vehicle when that is the case shall be subject to the penalties
21 provided in R.S.39:3-37.

22 The chief administrator may extend the expiration date of a
23 registration certificate without payment of a proportionate fee when
24 the chief administrator determines that the extension is necessary,
25 appropriate or convenient to the implementation of vehicle
26 inspection requirements. If any registration certificate is so
27 extended, the owner shall pay upon renewal the full registration fee
28 for the period fixed by the chief administrator as if no extension had
29 been granted.

30 The **【New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission】** commission shall
31 make a reasonable effort to notify any lessor whose name and
32 address is on file with the commission, or any other lessor the
33 commission may determine it is necessary to notify, of the
34 requirements of this amendatory act.

35 A lessor doing business in this State shall notify in writing the
36 lessee of a motor vehicle registered pursuant to this Title of any
37 change in its policies or procedures affecting the registration of the
38 motor vehicle.

39 (cf: P.L.2017, c.217, s.1)

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41 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the 13th month
42 following enactment.

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45 STATEMENT

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47 This bill requires the application for motor vehicle registration to
48 provide an option for a registrant to voluntarily indicate that the

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1 registrant has a hearing impairment, accompanied by satisfactory
2 proof as determined by the Chief Administrator of the New Jersey
3 Motor Vehicle Commission. The indication is to be used by law
4 enforcement officers to assist in identifying and effectively
5 communicating with the individual with a hearing impairment and
6 is prohibited from being used for any other purpose.