

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 508

Introduced by Bostelman, 23.

Read first time January 19, 2021

Committee:

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Motor Vehicle Registration Act; to
2 amend sections 60-3,107 and 60-3,108, Reissue Revised Statutes of
3 Nebraska, and sections 60-3,185 and 60-3,189, Revised Statutes
4 Cumulative Supplement, 2020; to provide motor vehicle tax exemptions
5 for certain veterans and spouses as prescribed; to define terms; to
6 harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

7 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 60-3,107, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,
2 is amended to read:

3 60-3,107 The department may provide distinctive license plates
4 issued for use on motor vehicles which are tax exempt pursuant to
5 subdivision (1)(h) ~~(6)~~ of section 60-3,185. License plates on such motor
6 vehicles shall display, in addition to the license number, the words tax
7 exempt.

8 Sec. 2. Section 60-3,108, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
9 amended to read:

10 60-3,108 The department may provide distinctive license plates
11 issued for use on trailers exempt pursuant to subdivision (1)(h) ~~(6)~~ of
12 section 60-3,185. License plates on such trailers shall display, in
13 addition to the license number, the word exempt which shall appear at the
14 bottom of the license plates.

15 Sec. 3. Section 60-3,185, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
16 2020, is amended to read:

17 60-3,185 (1) A motor vehicle tax is imposed on motor vehicles
18 registered for operation upon the highways of this state, except:

19 (a) ~~(1)~~ Motor vehicles exempt from the registration fee in section
20 60-3,160;

21 (b) ~~(2)~~ One motor vehicle owned and used for his or her personal
22 transportation by a disabled veteran or blind veteran of the United
23 States Armed Forces ~~as defined in section 77-202.23~~ whose disability or
24 blindness is recognized by the United States Department of Veterans
25 Affairs and who was discharged or otherwise separated with a
26 characterization of honorable if an application for the exemption has
27 been approved under subsection (1) of section 60-3,189;

28 (c) Beginning January 1, 2022, one motor vehicle owned and used for
29 his or her personal transportation by a veteran of the United States
30 Armed Forces with a one hundred percent service-connected disability
31 compensation rate recognized by the United States Department of Veterans

1 Affairs and payable under 38 U.S.C. chapter 11, who is drawing on social
2 security payable under 42 U.S.C. chapter 7, and who was discharged or
3 otherwise separated with a characterization of honorable if an
4 application for the exemption has been approved under subsection (1) of
5 section 60-3,189;

6 (d) Beginning January 1, 2022, one motor vehicle owned and used for
7 his or her personal transportation by a spouse who is a recipient of
8 dependency and indemnity compensation paid by the United States
9 Department of Veterans Affairs if an application for the exemption has
10 been approved under subsection (1) of section 60-3,189;

11 (e) ~~(3)~~ Motor vehicles owned by Indians who are members of an Indian
12 tribe;

13 (f) ~~(4)~~ Motor vehicles owned by a member of the United States Armed
14 Forces serving in this state in compliance with military or naval orders
15 or his or her spouse if such servicemember or spouse is a resident of a
16 state other than Nebraska;

17 (g) ~~(5)~~ Motor vehicles owned by the state and its governmental
18 subdivisions and exempt as provided in subdivision (1)(a) or (b) of
19 section 77-202;

20 (h) ~~(6)~~ Motor vehicles owned and used exclusively by an organization
21 or society qualified for a tax exemption provided in subdivision (1)(c)
22 or (d) of section 77-202 if an application for the exemption provided in
23 this subdivision has been approved under subsection (2) of section
24 60-3,189; and

25 (i) ~~(7)~~ Trucks, trailers, or combinations thereof registered under
26 section 60-3,198.

27 (2) For purposes of this section:

28 (a) Blind means a veteran whose sight is so defective as to
29 seriously limit his or her ability to engage in the ordinary vocations
30 and activities of life; and

31 (b) Disabled veteran means a veteran who has lost the use of or has

1 undergone amputation of two or more extremities or has undergone
2 amputation of one or more extremities and has lost the use of one or more
3 extremities.

4 Sec. 4. Section 60-3,189, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
5 2020, is amended to read:

6 60-3,189 (1) A veteran of the United States Armed Forces who
7 qualifies for an exemption from the motor vehicle tax under subdivision
8 (1)(b) ~~(2)~~ of section 60-3,185 shall apply for the exemption to the
9 county treasurer not more than fifteen days before and not later than
10 thirty days after the registration date for the motor vehicle. A renewal
11 application shall be made annually not sooner than the first day of the
12 last month of the registration period or later than the last day of the
13 registration period. The county treasurer shall approve or deny the
14 application and notify the applicant of his or her decision within twenty
15 days after the filing of the application. An applicant may appeal the
16 denial of an application to the county board of equalization within
17 twenty days after the date the notice was mailed.

18 (2) An organization which qualifies for an exemption from the motor
19 vehicle tax under subdivision (1)(h) ~~(6)~~ of section 60-3,185 shall apply
20 for the exemption to the county treasurer not more than fifteen days
21 before and not later than thirty days after the registration date for the
22 motor vehicle. For a newly acquired motor vehicle, an application for
23 exemption must be made within thirty days after the purchase date. A
24 renewal application shall be made annually not sooner than the first day
25 of the last month of the registration period or later than the last day
26 of the registration period. The county treasurer shall examine the
27 application and recommend either exempt or nonexempt status to the county
28 board of equalization within twenty days after receipt of the
29 application. The county board of equalization, after a hearing on ten
30 days' notice to the applicant and after considering the recommendation of
31 the county treasurer and any other information it may obtain, shall

1 approve or deny the exemption on the basis of law and of rules and
2 regulations adopted and promulgated by the Tax Commissioner within thirty
3 days after the hearing. The county board of equalization shall mail or
4 deliver its final decision to the applicant and the county treasurer
5 within seven days after the date of decision. The decision of the county
6 board of equalization may be appealed to the Tax Equalization and Review
7 Commission in accordance with the Tax Equalization and Review Commission
8 Act within thirty days after the final decision.

9 Sec. 5. Original sections 60-3,107 and 60-3,108, Reissue Revised
10 Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 60-3,185 and 60-3,189, Revised
11 Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2020, are repealed.