

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

HOUSE BILL 3155

By: Humphrey

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to motor vehicles; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 1113, as amended by Section 127, Chapter 282, O.S.L. 2022 (47 O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 1113), which relates to issuance of license plates; requiring Service Oklahoma issue license plates to certain governmental entities; providing certain specifications; directing plates not expire; allowing for transferability of plates; requiring plates be registered to the entity; providing for fee; directing deposit of fee; providing replacement of current plates; requiring plates be permanent and transferable; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 1113, as amended by Section 127, Chapter 282, O.S.L. 2022 (47 O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 1113), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1113. A. 1. Except for all-terrain vehicles, utility vehicles and motorcycles used exclusively off roads and highways, upon the filing of a registration application and the payment of the fees provided for in the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act, Service Oklahoma or the Corporation Commission, as applicable, shall assign to the vehicle described in the application a

1 distinctive number, and issue to the owner of the vehicle a
2 certificate of registration, one license plate and a yearly decal.
3 Service Oklahoma shall assign an all-terrain vehicle, utility
4 vehicle or motorcycle used exclusively off roads and highways a
5 distinctive number and issue to the owner a certificate of
6 registration and a decal but not a license plate. For each
7 subsequent registration year, Service Oklahoma shall issue a yearly
8 decal to be affixed to the license plate, except for an all-terrain
9 vehicle, utility vehicle or motorcycle used exclusively off roads
10 and highways. The initial decal for an all-terrain vehicle, utility
11 vehicle or motorcycle shall be attached to the front of the vehicle
12 and shall be in clear view. The decal shall be on the front or on
13 the front fork of the motorcycle used exclusively off roads and
14 highways and the decal shall be in clear view. The yearly decal
15 shall have an identification number and the last two numbers of the
16 registration year for which it shall expire. Except as provided by
17 Section 1113A of this title, the license plate shall be affixed to
18 the exterior of the vehicle until a replacement license plate is
19 applied for. If the owner applies for a replacement license plate,
20 Service Oklahoma shall charge the fee provided for in Section 1114
21 of this title. The yearly decal will validate the license plate for
22 each registration period other than the year the license plate is
23 issued. The license plate and decal shall be of such size, color,
24 design and numbering as Service Oklahoma may direct. However,

1 yearly decals issued to the owner of a vehicle who has filed an
2 affidavit with the appropriate licensed operator in accordance with
3 Section 7-607 of this title shall be a separate and distinct color
4 from all other decals issued under this section. Before the
5 effective date of this act, Service Oklahoma shall also issue a
6 monthly decal which shall include a two-letter abbreviation
7 corresponding to the county in which the vehicle is registered.
8 Service Oklahoma shall issue all decals in the possession of Service
9 Oklahoma on the effective date of this act before issuing any decals
10 which do not contain the county abbreviation.

11 2. a. The operation of a street-legal utility vehicle on the
12 streets and highways of this state requires the
13 vehicle be issued a certificate of registration and
14 license plate to be renewed annually. Upon the filing
15 of a registration application and the payment of the
16 fees provided for in the Oklahoma Vehicle License and
17 Registration Act, Service Oklahoma or the Corporation
18 Commission, as applicable, shall assign to the vehicle
19 described in the application a distinctive number, and
20 issue to the owner of the vehicle a certificate of
21 registration, one license plate and a yearly decal.
22 For each subsequent registration year, Service
23 Oklahoma shall issue a yearly decal to be affixed to
24 the license plate. The initial decal for a street-

1 legal utility vehicle shall be attached to the front
2 of the vehicle and shall be in clear view. The yearly
3 decal shall have an identification number and the last
4 two numbers of the registration year for which it
5 shall expire. Except as provided by Section 1113A of
6 this title, the license plate shall be affixed to the
7 exterior of the vehicle until a replacement license
8 plate is issued. If the owner applies for a
9 replacement license plate, Service Oklahoma shall
10 charge the fee provided for in Section 1114 of this
11 title. The yearly decal will validate the license
12 plate for each registration period other than the year
13 the license plate is issued. The license plate and
14 decal shall be of such size, color, design and
15 numbering as Service Oklahoma may direct. However,
16 yearly decals issued to the owner of a vehicle who has
17 filed an affidavit with the appropriate licensed
18 operator in accordance with Section 7-607 of this
19 title shall be a separate and distinct color from all
20 other decals issued under this section.

- 21 b. Service Oklahoma shall design and issue a temporary
22 tag to out-of-state owners of street-legal utility
23 vehicles. The temporary tag shall be recognized in
24 lieu of registration in this state. The temporary tag
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1 shall clearly indicate the date of issuance and the
2 date of expiration, which shall be five (5) days,
3 including the day of issuance. Upon application for a
4 temporary tag, the out-of-state owner shall show proof
5 of insurance coverage that satisfies the requirements
6 of the Compulsory Insurance Law pursuant to Section 7-
7 600 et seq. of this title. Service Oklahoma is
8 authorized to promulgate rules and procedures to
9 implement the provisions of this paragraph.

10 3. The license plate shall be securely attached to the rear of
11 the vehicle, except truck-tractor plates which shall be attached to
12 the front of the vehicle. Service Oklahoma may, with the
13 concurrence of the Department of Public Safety, by Joint Rule,
14 change and direct the manner, place and location of display of any
15 vehicle license plate when such action is deemed in the public
16 interest. The license plate, decal and all letters and numbers
17 shall be clearly visible at all times. The operation of a vehicle
18 in this state, regardless of where such vehicle is registered, upon
19 which the license plate is covered, overlaid or otherwise screened
20 with any material, whether such material be clear, translucent,
21 tinted or opaque, shall be a violation of this paragraph.

22 4. Upon payment of the annual registration fee provided in
23 Section 1133 of this title, Service Oklahoma or the Corporation
24 Commission, as applicable, or a licensed operator may issue a
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1 permanent nonexpiring license plate to an owner of one hundred or
2 more commercial motor vehicles and for vehicles registered under the
3 provisions of Section 1120 of this title. Upon payment of the
4 annual registration fee, Service Oklahoma or the Corporation
5 Commission shall issue a certificate of registration that shall be
6 carried at all times in the vehicle for which it is issued.

7 Provided, if the registrant submits its application through
8 electronic means, such qualified owners of one hundred or more
9 commercial motor vehicles, properly registered pursuant to the
10 provisions of Section 1133 of this title, may elect to receive a
11 permanent certificate of registration that shall be carried at all
12 times in the vehicle for which it is issued.

13 5. Every vehicle owned by an agency of this state shall be
14 exempt from the payment of registration fees required by this title.
15 Provided, such vehicle shall be registered and shall otherwise
16 comply with the provisions of the Oklahoma Vehicle License and
17 Registration Act.

18 B. The license plates required under the provisions of this
19 title shall conform to the requirements and specifications listed
20 hereinafter:

21 1. Each license plate shall have a space for the placement of
22 the yearly decals for each succeeding year of registration after the
23 initial issue;

1 2. The provisions of the Oklahoma Vehicle License and
2 Registration Act regarding the issuance of yearly decals shall not
3 apply to the issuance of apportioned license plates, including
4 license plates for state vehicles, and exempt plates for
5 governmental entities and fire departments organized pursuant to
6 Section 592 of Title 18 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

7 3. All license plates and decals shall be made with
8 reflectorized material as a background to the letters, numbers and
9 characters displayed thereon. The reflectorized material shall be
10 of such a nature as to provide effective and dependable brightness
11 during the service period for which the license plate or decal is
12 issued;

13 4. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, Service
14 Oklahoma shall design appropriate official license plates for all
15 state vehicles. Such license plates shall be permanent in nature
16 and designed in such manner as to remain with the vehicle for the
17 duration of the vehicle's life span or until the title is
18 transferred to a nongovernmental owner;

19 5. Within the limits prescribed in this section, Service
20 Oklahoma shall design appropriate official license plates for
21 vehicles of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol. The license plates shall
22 have the legend "Oklahoma OK" and shall contain the letters "OHP"
23 followed by the state seal and the badge number of the Highway
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1 Patrol officer to whom the vehicle is assigned. The words "Oklahoma
2 Highway Patrol" shall also be included on such license plates;

3 6. Within the limits prescribed in this section, Service
4 Oklahoma shall design appropriate official license plates for
5 vehicles of the Oklahoma Military Department. Such license plates
6 shall have the legend "Oklahoma OK" and shall contain the letters
7 "OMD" followed by the state seal and three numbers or letters as
8 designated by the Adjutant General. The words "Oklahoma Military
9 Department" shall also be included on such license plates;

10 7. Within the limits prescribed in this section, Service
11 Oklahoma shall design appropriate official license plates for
12 vehicles of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections. Such license
13 plates shall contain the letters "DOC" followed by the Department of
14 Corrections badge and three numbers or letters or combination of
15 both as designated by the Director of the agency. The words
16 "Department of Corrections" shall also be included on such license
17 plates; ~~and~~

18 8. Within the limits prescribed in this section, the Oklahoma
19 Tourism and Recreation Department shall design any license plates
20 required by the initiation of a license plate reissuance by Service
21 Oklahoma at the request of the Department of Public Safety pursuant
22 to the provisions of Section 1113.2 of this title. Any such new
23 designs shall be submitted by the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation
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1 Department to the Department of Public Safety for its approval prior
2 to being issued by Service Oklahoma;

3 9. Within the limits prescribed in this section, Service
4 Oklahoma shall design appropriate official license plates for
5 vehicles of Oklahoma fire departments. Such license plates shall
6 have the word "Oklahoma" at the top of the plate, and across the
7 bottom, the plate shall read "Fire Department". A Maltese Cross
8 shall be centered on the left with the six (6) random numbers and
9 letters that were assigned at the time of manufacture of the plate.
10 The Maltese Cross shall be the same Maltese Cross currently used by
11 Service Oklahoma. The license plates shall have a white background
12 with black lettering. The tags shall not expire and shall be
13 registered to the fire department, not an individual vehicle, and
14 may be transferred to other vehicles within the department. All new
15 license plates issued shall be permanent transferable license
16 plates;

17 10. Within the limits prescribed in this section, Service
18 Oklahoma shall design appropriate official license plates for
19 vehicles of Oklahoma law enforcement agencies. Such license plates
20 shall have the word "Oklahoma" at the top of the plate, and across
21 the bottom, the plate shall read "Law Enforcement". A badge shall
22 be centered on the left with the six (6) random numbers and letters
23 that were assigned at the time of manufacture of the plate. The
24 badge shall be the same badge currently used by Service Oklahoma and
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1 shall contain no letters. The license plates shall have a white
2 background with black lettering. The tags shall not expire and
3 shall be registered to the law enforcement agency, not an individual
4 vehicle, and may be transferred to other vehicles within the agency.
5 All new license plates issued shall be permanent transferable
6 license plates;

7 11. Within the limits prescribed in this section, Service
8 Oklahoma shall design appropriate official license plates for
9 vehicles of licensed Oklahoma ambulance services belonging to a
10 municipality or a 522 emergency medical service district, pursuant
11 to Section 9C of Article 10 of the Oklahoma Constitution. Such
12 license plates shall have the word "Oklahoma" at the top of the
13 plate, and across the bottom, the plate shall read "Ambulance". A
14 Star of Life shall be centered on the left with the six (6) random
15 numbers and letters that were assigned at the time of manufacture of
16 the plate. The Star of Life shall be the same badge currently used
17 by Service Oklahoma. The license plates shall have a white
18 background with black lettering and logos. The tags shall not
19 expire and shall be registered to the licensed Oklahoma ambulance
20 services, not an individual vehicle, and may be transferred to other
21 ambulance vehicles within the municipality or district. All new
22 license plates issued shall be permanent transferable license
23 plates; and

1 12. Within the limits prescribed in this section, Service
2 Oklahoma shall design appropriate official license plates for
3 vehicles of Oklahoma emergency management agencies. Such license
4 plates shall have the word "Oklahoma" at the top of the plate, and
5 across the bottom, the plate shall read "Emergency Management". The
6 emergency management logo with a semi-circle and three (3) stars
7 with the letters "EM" shall be centered on the left with the six (6)
8 random numbers and letters that were assigned at the time of
9 manufacture. The license plates shall have a white background with
10 black lettering and logo. The tags shall not expire and shall be
11 registered to the emergency management agency, not an individual
12 vehicle, and may be transferred to other vehicles within the agency.
13 All new license plates issued shall be permanent transferable
14 license plates.

15 The license plates listed in paragraphs 9 through 12 of this
16 section shall be available to all state, county, city, and town
17 entities currently recognized by Service Oklahoma to receive
18 government license plates. This is to include license plates for
19 trailers, boats, motorcycles, and recreational vehicles. Boats and
20 other watercraft shall be issued a permanent decal for both the hull
21 and motor. Motorcycle tags shall be modified to size as shall be
22 determined by Service Oklahoma. There shall be an initial fee of
23 Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) to purchase the transferable license
24 plates. The fee shall be deposited in accordance with Service

1 Oklahoma rules. License plates currently on these vehicles do not
2 need to be replaced until a new vehicle is purchased. All new
3 license plates issued shall be permanent transferable license
4 plates.

5 C. Where the applicant has satisfactorily shown that the
6 applicant owns the vehicle sought to be registered but is unable to
7 produce documentary evidence of the ownership, a license plate may
8 be issued upon approval by Service Oklahoma or the Corporation
9 Commission, as applicable. In such instances the reason for not
10 issuing a certificate of title shall be indicated on the receipt
11 given to the applicant. It shall still be the duty of the applicant
12 to immediately take all necessary steps to obtain the Oklahoma
13 certificate of title and it shall be unlawful for the applicant to
14 sell the vehicle until the certificate has been obtained in the
15 applicant's name.

16 D. The certificate of registration provided for in this section
17 shall be in convenient form, and the certificate of registration, or
18 a certified copy or photostatic copy thereof, duly authenticated by
19 Service Oklahoma or the Corporation Commission, as applicable, shall
20 be carried at all times in or upon all vehicles so registered, in
21 such manner as to permit a ready examination thereof upon demand by
22 any peace officer of the state or duly authorized employee of the
23 Department of Public Safety. Any such officer or agent may seize
24 and hold such vehicle when the operator of the same does not have

1 the registration certificate in the operator's possession or when
2 any such officer or agent determines that the registration
3 certificate has been obtained by misrepresentation of any essential
4 or material fact or when any number or identifying information
5 appearing on such certificate has been changed, altered, obliterated
6 or concealed in any way, until the proper registration or
7 identification of such vehicle has been made or produced by the
8 owner thereof.

9 E. The purchaser of a new or used manufactured home shall,
10 within thirty (30) days of the date of purchase, register the home
11 with Service Oklahoma or a licensed operator pursuant to the
12 provisions of Section 1117 of this title. For a new manufactured
13 home, it shall be the responsibility of the dealer selling the home
14 to place a temporary license plate on the home in the same manner as
15 provided in Section 1128 of this title for other new motor vehicles.
16 For the first year that any manufactured home is registered in this
17 state, Service Oklahoma shall issue a metal license plate which
18 shall be affixed to the manufactured home. The temporary dealer
19 license plate or the metal license plate shall be displayed on the
20 manufactured home at all times when upon a public roadway; provided,
21 a repossession affidavit issued pursuant to Sections 1110 and 1126
22 of this title shall be permissible in lieu of a current license
23 plate and decal for the purposes of removing a repossessed
24 manufactured home to a secure location. Manufactured homes
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1 previously registered and subject to ad valorem taxation as provided
2 by law shall have a decal affixed at the time ad valorem taxes are
3 paid for such manufactured home; provided, for a manufactured home
4 permanently affixed to real estate, no decal or license plate shall
5 be required to be affixed and the owner thereof shall be given a
6 receipt upon payment of ad valorem taxes due on the home. Service
7 Oklahoma shall make sufficient plates and decals available to the
8 various licensed operators of the state in order for an owner of a
9 manufactured home to acquire the plate or decal. A ~~one-dollar~~ fee
10 of One Dollar (\$1.00) shall be charged for issuance of any plate or
11 decal. The fee shall be apportioned each month to the General
12 Revenue Fund of the State Treasury.

13 F. The decal shall be easily visible for purposes of
14 verification by a county assessor that the manufactured home is
15 properly assessed for ad valorem taxation. In the first year of
16 registration, a decal shall be issued for placement on the license
17 plate indicating payment of applicable registration fees and excise
18 taxes. A duplicate manufactured home registration decal shall be
19 affixed inside the window nearest the front door of the manufactured
20 home. In the second and all subsequent years for which the
21 manufactured home is subject to ad valorem taxation, an annual decal
22 shall be affixed inside the window nearest the front door as
23 evidence of payment of ad valorem taxes. Service Oklahoma shall
24 issue decals to the various county treasurers of the state in order
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1 for a manufactured home owner to obtain such decal each year. Upon
2 presentation of a valid ad valorem tax receipt, the manufactured
3 home owner shall be issued the annual decal.

4 G. Upon the registration of a manufactured home in this state
5 for the first time or upon discovery of a manufactured home
6 previously registered within this state for which the information
7 required by this subsection is not known, Service Oklahoma shall
8 obtain:

- 9 1. The name of the owner of the manufactured home;
- 10 2. The serial number or identification number of the
11 manufactured home;
- 12 3. A legal description or address of the location for the home;
- 13 4. The actual retail selling price of the manufactured home
14 excluding Oklahoma taxes;
- 15 5. The certificate of title number for the home; and
- 16 6. Any other information which Service Oklahoma deems to be
17 necessary.

18 The application for registration shall also include the school
19 district in which the manufactured home is located or is to be
20 located. The information shall be entered into a computer data
21 system which shall be used by Service Oklahoma to provide
22 information to county assessors upon request by the assessor. The
23 assessor may request any information from the system in order to
24 properly assess a manufactured home for ad valorem taxation.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

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