SENATE BILL 576

By Pody

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 5, Chapter 8, Part 1; Title 55, Chapter 4 and Title 55, Chapter 6, relative to vehicle registration.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-104, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection (g):

(1) Notwithstanding another law to the contrary, an owner or lessee of a private vehicle who has been issued, or is entitled under this chapter to be issued, a registration, may elect for the issuance of a registration that is valid for twenty-four (24) months, and expires on the last day of the last month of the registration period.

(2) Beginning January 1, 2024, if requested pursuant to subdivision (g)(1), the commissioner may establish a system of registration renewals at alternate intervals that allow for the distribution of the registration workload as uniformly as is practicable throughout the registration period.

(3) The department shall set twenty-four-month registration fees in an amount that offsets revenue that would otherwise be generated by twelve-month registration fees in effect prior to January 1, 2024.

(4) This subsection (g) does not apply to commercial vehicles.

(5) Beginning in fiscal year 2024-2025, and subsequent fiscal years, on June 15 of each fiscal year, counties may earmark and allocate a sum from the county general fund to hold county clerks harmless from the loss of fee revenue resulting from the increase in the duration of the registration period from twelve (12) months to twenty-four (24) months as authorized in this subsection (g). A county that desires to earmark and

allocate registration fee revenue to the county clerk may, by action of its governing body, establish an escrow account to provide for the disbursement of such funds on a prorated basis.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, and applies to plates issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2024.