



General Assembly

February Session, 2004

Substitute Bill No. 5474

* HB05474TRAF IN031004 *

**AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO CERTAIN DEPARTMENT OF
MOTOR VEHICLE STATUTES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 14-16 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2004*):

4 (c) If the owner of a registered motor vehicle dies, the registration
5 for the vehicle shall, unless the vehicle is destroyed, continue in force
6 as a valid registration until the end of the registration period unless: (1)
7 Ownership of the vehicle is transferred pursuant to subsection (b) of
8 this section or by the deceased owner's executor, administrator, legatee
9 or distributee prior to the end of the registration period, in which case
10 the registration shall continue in force until the time of the transfer; or
11 (2) ownership of the vehicle is transferred to the brother, sister, father,
12 mother, child or spouse of the owner, in which case the registration
13 shall, upon the payment of a fee of [five] twenty dollars, continue in
14 force until the end of the registration period or until the ownership is
15 sooner transferred to a person other than such a relative. [On and after
16 July 1, 1986, the fee shall be ten dollars, on and after July 1, 1988,
17 eleven dollars, and on and after July 1, 1992, twelve dollars.] If at the
18 end of the registration period the relative has not transferred
19 ownership of the vehicle and the relative applies for registration of the

20 vehicle, the registration shall not be subject to the provisions of
21 subsection (a) of section 12-71b.

22 Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 14-16 of the general statutes is
23 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
24 *1, 2004*):

25 (d) If a motor vehicle is transferred in connection with the
26 organization, reorganization or dissolution, or because of the partial
27 liquidation, of an incorporated or unincorporated business in which
28 gain or loss to the transferor is not recognized for federal income tax
29 purposes under the Internal Revenue Code and Treasury regulations
30 and rulings issued thereunder, the registration of the vehicle shall,
31 upon the payment of a fee of [five] twenty dollars, continue in force
32 until the end of the registration period or until the registration is
33 sooner transferred to anyone outside the original business
34 organization. [On and after July 1, 1986, the fee shall be ten dollars, on
35 and after July 1, 1988, eleven dollars, and on and after July 1, 1992,
36 twelve dollars.] If the transferee of the motor vehicle has not
37 transferred ownership of the motor vehicle to anyone outside the
38 original business organization at the end of the registration period and
39 the transferee applies for a registration for the vehicle, the registration
40 shall not be subject to the provisions of subsection (a) of section 12-71b.

41 Sec. 3. Subsection (e) of section 14-16 of the general statutes is
42 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
43 *1, 2004*):

44 (e) A person who transfers ownership of a registered motor vehicle
45 to another may have registered in his name, upon the filing of a new
46 application and the payment of the fee required by subsection (i) of
47 section 14-49, as amended by this act, another motor vehicle for the
48 remainder of the registration period if the gross weight of the other
49 motor vehicle is the same or less than that of the transferred motor
50 vehicle and the registration of the transferred motor vehicle has been
51 surrendered. If the gross weight of the other motor vehicle is greater

52 than the gross weight of the motor vehicle the registration of which has
53 been surrendered, the applicant shall pay, in addition to such fee, the
54 difference between the fee paid by him for the surrendered registration
55 and the fee for the registration of the motor vehicle of greater gross
56 weight. The minimum fee for any such transfer shall be [five] twenty
57 dollars. [On and after July 1, 1985, the minimum fee shall be seven
58 dollars and fifty cents, on and after July 1, 1986, ten dollars, on and
59 after July 1, 1988, eleven dollars, and on and after July 1, 1992, twelve
60 dollars.]

61 Sec. 4. Subsection (i) of section 14-49 of the general statutes is
62 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
63 *1, 2004*):

64 (i) For the transfer of the registration of a motor vehicle previously
65 registered, except as provided in subsection (e) of section 14-16, as
66 amended by this act, and subsection (d) of section 14-253a, there shall
67 be charged a fee of [eleven] twenty dollars.

68 Sec. 5. Subsection (n) of section 14-49 of the general statutes is
69 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
70 *1, 2004*):

71 (n) For each temporary registration [for a period of ten days or less,
72 (1) when the motor vehicle is a passenger or dealer's car or motorcycle
73 or side car, the fee shall be six dollars, and on and after July 1, 1992,
74 seven dollars; (2) when the motor vehicle is used to transport
75 passengers for hire, the fee shall be five dollars per day, and on and
76 after July 1, 1992, six dollars; (3) when the motor vehicle is used for
77 commercial purposes and under three tons capacity, the fee shall be
78 twenty-two dollars, and on and after July 1, 1992, twenty-five dollars;
79 and (4) when the capacity is over three tons, the fee shall be forty
80 dollars, and on and after July 1, 1992, forty-six dollars] of a motor
81 vehicle not used for commercial purposes, or renewal of such
82 registration, the commissioner shall charge a fee computed at the rate
83 of twenty dollars for each ten day period, or part thereof. For each

84 temporary registration of a motor vehicle used for commercial
85 purposes, or renewal of such registration, the commissioner shall
86 charge a fee computed at the rate of twenty-five dollars for each ten-
87 day period, or part thereof, if the motor vehicle has a gross vehicle
88 weight rating of six thousand pounds or less. For each temporary
89 registration of a motor vehicle used for commercial purposes, or
90 renewal of such registration, the commissioner shall charge a fee
91 computed at the rate of forty-six dollars for each ten-day period, or
92 part thereof, if the motor vehicle has a gross vehicle weight rating of
93 more than six thousand pounds.

94 Sec. 6. Subsection (z) of section 14-49 of the general statutes is
95 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
96 *1, 2004*):

97 (z) For each special use or in-transit registration for a period of
98 thirty days or less, the fee shall be [ten] twenty dollars.

99 Sec. 7. Subsection (f) of section 14-50 of the general statutes is
100 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
101 *1, 2004*):

102 (f) Whenever any check issued to the commissioner in payment of
103 any fee is returned as uncollectible, the commissioner shall charge the
104 drawer of such check or the person presenting such check to him a fee
105 of [fifteen] thirty-five dollars for each such check which is drawn in an
106 amount of not more than [one] two hundred dollars, and a fee of
107 fifteen per cent of the full amount of each such check which is drawn
108 in an amount in excess of [one] two hundred dollars, [but not more
109 than two hundred dollars and thirty-five dollars for each such check
110 which is drawn in an amount in excess of two hundred dollars,] plus
111 all protest fees, to cover the cost of collection.

112 Sec. 8. Section 14-50b of the general statutes is repealed and the
113 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2004*):

114 (a) Any person whose operator's license or right to operate a motor

115 vehicle in this state has been suspended or revoked by the
116 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, or who has been disqualified from
117 operating a commercial motor vehicle, shall pay a restoration fee of
118 [one] two hundred dollars to said commissioner prior to the issuance
119 to such person of a new operator's license or the restoration of such
120 operator's license or such privilege to operate a motor vehicle or
121 commercial motor vehicle. Such restoration fee shall be in addition to
122 any other fees provided by law.

123 (b) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection any
124 person whose motor vehicle registration or right of operation of a
125 motor vehicle in this state has been suspended or revoked by the
126 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall pay a restoration fee of [one]
127 two hundred dollars to said commissioner prior to the issuance to such
128 person of a new registration or the restoration of such registration or
129 such right of operation. Such restoration fee shall be in addition to any
130 other fees provided by law.

131 (2) Any person whose motor vehicle registration has been cancelled
132 pursuant to section 14-12g shall pay a restoration fee of the aggregate
133 of two hundred fifty dollars for the first thirty-one days such
134 registration is cancelled, or any portion thereof, and five dollars for
135 each additional day such registration is cancelled, not to exceed ninety
136 days or five hundred forty-five dollars, except that the commissioner
137 may reduce the restoration fee to the amount of one hundred dollars if
138 the commissioner finds that the vehicle was not operated during the
139 period of such cancellation and during the period such owner failed to
140 maintain mandatory security.

141 Sec. 9. Subsection (a) of section 14-65 of the general statutes is
142 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
143 *1, 2004*):

144 (a) No person, firm or corporation shall engage in the business of
145 selling motor vehicles at auction unless such person, firm or
146 corporation is licensed as a new or used car dealer and has obtained an

147 auction permit from the commissioner. Such auction permit may be
148 issued at the discretion of the commissioner. The fee for such auction
149 permit shall be [~~thirteen~~] twenty dollars.

150 Sec. 10. Section 14-69 of the general statutes, as amended by section
151 10 of public act 03-265, is repealed and the following is substituted in
152 lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2004*):

153 No person shall engage in the business of conducting a drivers'
154 school without being licensed therefor by the commissioner.
155 Application therefor shall be in writing and shall contain such
156 information as the commissioner requires. Each applicant shall be
157 fingerprinted before such application is approved. If the application is
158 approved, the applicant shall be granted a license upon the payment of
159 a fee of one hundred dollars and a deposit with the commissioner of
160 cash or a bond of a surety company authorized to do business in this
161 state, conditioned on the faithful performance by the applicant of any
162 contract to furnish instruction, in either case in such amount as the
163 commissioner may require, such cash or bond to be held by the
164 commissioner to satisfy any execution issued against such school in a
165 cause arising out of failure of such school to perform such contract.
166 The license fee shall be three hundred fifty dollars for each place of
167 business maintained. [For each additional place of business of such
168 school, the commissioner shall charge a fee of eighty-eight dollars.] No
169 license shall be required in the case of any board of education, or any
170 public, private or parochial school, which conducts a course in driver
171 education established in accordance with sections 14-36e and 14-36f. A
172 license so issued shall be valid during the calendar year. The annual
173 fee for renewal shall be the same amount and the same deposit of
174 security shall be required. The commissioner shall issue a license
175 certificate or certificates to each licensee, one of which shall be
176 displayed in each place of business of the licensee. In case of the loss,
177 mutilation or destruction of a certificate, the commissioner shall issue a
178 duplicate upon proof of the facts and the payment of a fee of [~~two~~]
179 twenty dollars. [Such fee shall be seven dollars.]

180 Sec. 11. Subsection (f) of section 14-73 of the general statutes is
181 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
182 *1, 2004*):

183 (f) The fee for an instructor's license, or for any renewal thereof,
184 shall be [three] fifty dollars. [On and after July 1, 1985, such fee shall be
185 four dollars and fifty cents, on and after July 1, 1989, six dollars and
186 seventy-five cents, on and after July 1, 1991, eight dollars and fifty
187 cents, and on and after July 1, 1993, ten dollars and seventy-five cents.]

188 Sec. 12. Subsection (c) of section 14-96q of the general statutes is
189 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
190 *1, 2004*):

191 (c) Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles other than
192 school buses, except (1) as a means for indicating a right or left turn, (2)
193 flashing blue lights used by members of volunteer or civil
194 preparedness fire companies, as provided by subsection (b) of section
195 14-96p, (3) on certain emergency and maintenance vehicles by written
196 permit from the commissioner, (4) flashing or revolving yellow lights
197 on (A) wreckers registered pursuant to section 14-66, as amended, or
198 (B) vehicles of carriers in rural mail-delivery service or vehicles
199 transporting or escorting any vehicle or load or combinations of
200 vehicles or vehicles and load which is or are either oversize or
201 overweight, or both, and operated or traveling under a permit issued
202 by the Commissioner of Transportation pursuant to section 14-270, (5)
203 flashing red lights (A) on a motor vehicle accommodating fifteen or
204 fewer handicapped students used only during the time such vehicle is
205 stopped for the purpose of receiving or discharging such handicapped
206 students, (B) used by members of the fire police on a stationary vehicle
207 as a warning signal during traffic directing operations at the scene of a
208 fire, (C) on rescue vehicles, (D) used by chief executive officers of
209 emergency medical service organizations as provided in subsection (a)
210 of section 14-96p, (E) ambulances, as defined in section 19a-175, or (F)
211 used by local fire marshals or directors of emergency management, (6)
212 flashing green lights used by members of volunteer ambulance

213 associations or companies as provided in subsection (c) of section
214 14-96p, or (7) flashing white lights or flashing lights of other colors
215 specified by federal requirements for the manufacture of an ambulance
216 used in conjunction with flashing red lights or flashing head lamps
217 and a flashing amber light on an ambulance responding to an
218 emergency call. The prohibitions in this section shall not prevent the
219 operator of a motor vehicle who while traveling on a limited access
220 divided highway, because of the grade, is unable to maintain the
221 minimum speed of forty miles per hour, or who while traveling on any
222 other highway is operating such motor vehicle at such slow speed as to
223 obstruct or endanger following traffic, or the operator of a disabled
224 vehicle stopped on a hazardous location on the highway, or in close
225 proximity thereto, from flashing lights, installed on the vehicle
226 primarily for other purposes, in any manner that the operator selects
227 so as to indicate that such vehicle is traveling slowly, obstructing
228 traffic or is disabled and is a hazard to be avoided. The commissioner
229 is authorized, at such commissioner's discretion, to issue special
230 permits for the use of flashing or revolving lights on emergency
231 vehicles, on escort vehicles and on maintenance vehicles, provided any
232 person, firm or corporation other than the state or any metropolitan
233 district, town, city or borough shall pay an annual permit fee of two
234 dollars for each such vehicle, provided vehicles not registered in this
235 state used for transporting or escorting any vehicle or load or
236 combinations of vehicles or vehicles and load which is or are either
237 oversize or overweight, or both, when operating under a permit issued
238 by the Commissioner of Transportation pursuant to section 14-270,
239 shall not require such permit. [On and after July 1, 1985, such annual
240 permit fee shall be three dollars, on and after July 1, 1989, four dollars
241 and fifty cents, on and after July 1, 1991, five dollars and seventy-five
242 cents and on and after July 1, 1993, seven dollars.] Such annual permit
243 fee shall be twenty dollars.

244 Sec. 13. Subsection (a) of section 14-192 of the general statutes is
245 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
246 *1, 2004*):

247 (a) The commissioner shall be paid the following fees: (1) For filing
248 an application for a certificate of title, twenty-five dollars; (2) for each
249 security interest noted upon a certificate of title or maintained in the
250 electronic title file pursuant to subsection (b) of section 14-175, ten
251 dollars; (3) for each record copy search, [seven] twenty dollars; (4) for
252 each assignment of a security interest noted upon a certificate of title or
253 maintained in the electronic title file, [three dollars and fifty cents] ten
254 dollars; (5) for an application for a duplicate certificate of title, twenty-
255 five dollars, provided such fee shall not be required for any such
256 duplicate certificate of title (A) which is requested on a form prepared
257 and signed by the assessor in any town for purposes of such proof of
258 ownership of a motor vehicle as may be required in accordance with
259 section 12-71b, or (B) in connection with an application submitted by a
260 licensed dealer in accordance with the provisions of subsection (c) of
261 section 14-12 or section 14-61; (6) for an ordinary certificate of title
262 issued upon surrender of a distinctive certificate, [three dollars and
263 fifty cents] ten dollars; (7) for filing a notice of security interest, [three
264 dollars and fifty cents] ten dollars; (8) for a certificate of search of the
265 records of the Department of Motor Vehicles, for each name or
266 identification number searched against, [seventeen dollars and fifty
267 cents] twenty dollars; (9) for filing an assignment of security interest,
268 [three dollars and fifty cents] ten dollars; (10) for search of a motor
269 vehicle certificate of title record, requested by a person other than the
270 owner of such motor vehicle, [ten] twenty dollars; and (11) for a bond
271 filing under section 14-176, twenty-five dollars.

272 Sec. 14. Subsection (c) of section 52-62 of the general statutes is
273 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
274 *1, 2004*):

275 (c) Process in such a civil action against a nonresident shall be
276 served by the officer to whom the process is directed upon the
277 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles by leaving with or at the office of the
278 commissioner, at least twelve days before the return day of the
279 process, a true and attested copy thereof, and by sending to the
280 defendant or his administrator, executor or other legal representative,

281 by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, a like true and attested
282 copy, with an endorsement thereon of the service upon the
283 commissioner, addressed to the defendant or representative at his last-
284 known address. The officer serving the process upon the
285 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall leave with the commissioner, at
286 the time of service, a fee of [five] twenty dollars, which fee shall be
287 taxed in favor of the plaintiff in his costs if he prevails in the action.
288 The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall keep a record of each such
289 process and the day and hour of service.

290 Sec. 15. Subsection (f) of section 52-63 of the general statutes is
291 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
292 *1, 2004*):

293 (f) The officer serving such process upon the Commissioner of
294 Motor Vehicles shall leave with the commissioner, at the time of
295 service, a fee of [five] twenty dollars, which fee shall be taxed in favor
296 of the plaintiff in his costs if he prevails in the action. The
297 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall keep a record of each such
298 process and the day and hour of service.

299 Sec. 16. Subsection (n) of section 14-164c of the general statutes is
300 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
301 *1, 2004*):

302 (n) No person, firm or corporation shall operate or allow to be
303 operated any motor vehicle that has not been inspected and found to
304 be in compliance with the provisions of subsections (c), (d) and (i) of
305 this section and the regulations adopted by the commissioner.
306 Operation in violation of said subsections or the regulations adopted
307 by the commissioner shall be an infraction for each violation, except
308 that the fine for a first violation shall be thirty-five dollars. The
309 commissioner may deny the issuance of registration to the owner of a
310 motor vehicle, or the renewal of registration to any such owner, or
311 suspend or revoke any registration that has been issued, if such motor
312 vehicle is not in compliance with the inspection requirements of this

313 chapter, or such owner has failed to pay any fee required by the
314 provisions of this chapter.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 14	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 15	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 16	<i>July 1, 2004</i>

TRA

Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

FIN