



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES**

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<http://ct.gov/dmv>



***Testimony of Department of Motor Vehicles
Commissioner Melody A. Currey
Transportation Committee Public Hearing
February 28, 2014***

**H.B. No. 5292 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING MOTOR VEHICLE
REGISTRATION.**

Good morning Senator Maynard, Representative Guerrero, Senator Boucher, Representative Scribner and other members of the Transportation Committee.

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is submitting testimony respectfully opposing HB 5292 AN ACT CONCERNING MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION. This legislation would require DMV to issue registration stickers to be placed inside the back windshield of a motor vehicle or somewhere else on the vehicle as determined by the Commissioner. DMV opposes this bill for several reasons.

First, the General Assembly changed the law four years ago abolishing registration stickers for motor vehicles. In order to do so, DMV performed significant changes to its registration renewal process and achieved approximately \$800,000 in savings in mailing and related costs.

As a reflection of those savings, the legislature reduced DMV's budget by approximately \$800,000. Should this legislation pass, DMV would need those funds restored as well as additional funding to be able to create this new registration process once again. It is estimated this would require nearly \$2,000,000 for the first year and approximately \$1,000,000 for the second year to be able to create the system and then produce and mail the stickers for more than three million vehicles currently registered.

Second, DMV is in the midst of its IT modernization project (CIVLS – Connecticut Integrated Vehicle and Licensing System) and this proposal could not be implemented while such a project is underway. As part of the modernization effort, commitments have been made to municipalities and car dealers who utilize DMV systems that would have to be broken or substantially altered in order to accomplish the issuance of registration stickers.

Third, many police departments use license plate readers that allow law enforcement to determine whether a vehicle is properly registered. More and more police departments are moving to license plate readers further reducing the need for registration stickers.

Finally, DMV has website that anybody can use to find out whether a motor vehicle is registered by entering the plate numbers of that vehicle.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to this proposal and I would be happy to answer any questions.