

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2022 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 455

FISCAL
NOTE

BY SENATOR TAKUBO

[Introduced January 20, 2022; referred
to the Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure; and then to the Committee on Finance]

1 A BILL to repeal §17C-16-1, §17C-16-2, §17C-16-3, §17C-16-4, §17C-16-5, §17C-16-6, §17C-16-
2 7, §17C-16-8, and §17C-16-9 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to
3 amend and reenact §17A-3-16 of said code, all relating to increasing motor vehicle
4 registration fees by \$5 for a 12-month registration and by \$10 for a 24-month registration;
5 and repealing article requiring inspection of vehicles.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

**CHAPTER 17A. MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION, REGISTRATION,
CERTIFICATE OF TITLE, AND ANTITHEFT PROVISIONS.**

**ARTICLE 3. ORIGINAL AND RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION; ISSUANCE OF
CERTIFICATES OF TITLE.**

§17A-3-16. Expiration of registration and certificates of title.

1 (a) Every vehicle registration under this chapter and every registration card and
2 registration plate issued under this chapter expires at midnight on the last day of the month
3 designated by the commissioner: *Provided*, That the commissioner may extend the period during
4 which the registration plates may be used.

5 Certificates of title need not be renewed annually but remain valid until canceled by the
6 division for cause or upon a transfer of any interest shown in the vehicle.

7 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section or of any provision of this chapter, the
8 commissioner shall adopt a staggered registration system whereby the registration of Class A
9 motor vehicles is for a period of 12 consecutive calendar months, the expiration dates of the
10 registrations to be staggered throughout the year: *Provided*, That on or after July 1, 1997, the
11 commissioner shall also offer an optional two-year registration system whereby the registration of
12 all vehicles shall be for a period of 24 consecutive calendar months, the expiration dates of the
13 registrations to be staggered throughout the year. Under this option, all annual fees due at the
14 time of registration shall be multiplied by two.

15 (1) On or after July 1, 1997, all Class A motor vehicles as defined in §17A-10-1 of this
16 code shall be registered for a period of 12 or 24 consecutive calendar months. There hereby are
17 established 12 registration periods, each of which shall start on day one of each calendar month
18 of the year and shall end on the last day of month 12 from date of beginning. The period ending
19 on January 31 is designated the first period; that ending on February 28 or 29 is designated the
20 second; that ending on March 31 is designated the third; that ending on April 30 is designated the
21 fourth; that ending on May 31 is designated the fifth; that ending on June 30 is designated the
22 sixth; that ending on July 31 is designated the seventh; that ending on August 31 is designated
23 the eighth; that ending on September 30 is designated the ninth; that ending on October 31 is
24 designated the tenth; that ending on November 30 is designated the eleventh; and that ending on
25 December 31 is designated the twelfth.

26 (2) All Class A motor vehicles, which are operated for the first time upon the public
27 highways of this state to and including day 15 of any given month are subject to registration and
28 payment of the fee for the 12- or 24-month period commencing day one of the month of operation.
29 All Class A motor vehicles operated for the first time upon the public highways of this state on and
30 after day 16 of any given month are subject to registration and payment of fee for the 12- or 24-
31 month period commencing day one of the month of the next following calendar month.

32 (c) On or before July 1, 1996, all Class T and Class R vehicles shall be registered for a
33 maximum period of three years or portion thereof based on the number of years remaining in the
34 three year period designated by the commissioner.

35 (d) On or before July 1, 2000, all Class C trailers shall be registered for the duration of the
36 owner's interest in the trailer and shall not expire until either sold or otherwise permanently
37 removed from the service of the owner.

38 (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section or of any other provision of this chapter
39 to the contrary, the commissioner shall on or before July 1, 2010, offer an optional two-year
40 registration for Class G vehicles. The commissioner may offer extended prorated registration

41 renewal cycles to accommodate changes in designated expiration dates.

42 (f) Beginning July 1, 2022, the commissioner shall increase vehicle registration fees by \$5
43 for a 12-month registration and by \$10 for a 24-month registration.

CHAPTER 17C. TRAFFIC REGULATIONS AND LAWS OF THE ROAD.

ARTICLE 16. INSPECTION OF VEHICLES.

§17C-16-1. Vehicles not to operate without required equipment or in unsafe condition.

1 [Repealed.]

§17C-16-2. Inspection by department of public safety.

1 [Repealed.]

§17C-16-3. Owners and drivers to comply with inspection laws.

1 [Repealed.]

§17C-16-4. Superintendent of the West Virginia State Police to require periodical inspection; acceptance of certificate of inspection from another state; suspension of registration of unsafe vehicles.

1 [Repealed.]

§17C-16-5. Permit for official inspection stations; fees for and certificate of inspection.

1 [Repealed.]

§17C-16-6. Assignment, transfer and posting of official inspection station permit; issuance and record of certificate of inspection; inspection fee.

1 [Repealed.]

§17C-16-7. Improper representation as official stations.

1 [Repealed.]

§17C-16-8. False certificates.

1 [Repealed.]

§17C-16-9. Operation without certificate or failure to produce certificate; penalty for

misdemeanor.

1 [Repealed.]

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to increase motor vehicle registration fees by \$5 for a 12-month registration and by \$10 for a 24-month registration and to repeal the article requiring inspection of vehicles.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.