

First Regular Session
Sixty-eighth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 11-0008.01 Jason Gelender

HOUSE BILL 11-1084

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A BILL FOR AN ACT
101 **CONCERNING MODIFICATION OF THE FEE FOR LATE REGISTRATION OF**
102 **A VEHICLE.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)

Effective July 1, 2011, **section 1** of the bill changes the fee for late registration of a vehicle from a fee of \$25 per month up to a maximum of \$100 that may only be waived under specified conditions to a fee of up to \$10 that may be waived at the discretion of the department of revenue or its authorized agent registering the vehicle. The new late fee is

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

identical to the fee imposed prior to the effective date of Senate Bill 09-108. **Section 2** makes a conforming amendment.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** 42-3-112, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended
3 to read:

4 **42-3-112. Failure to pay tax - penalty - rules.** (1) If a vehicle
5 subject to taxation under this article is not registered when required by
6 law, the vehicle owner shall pay IS SUBJECT TO a late fee of twenty-five
7 UP TO TEN dollars, for each month or portion of a month following the
8 expiration of the registration period, or, if applicable, the expiration of the
9 grace period described in section 42-3-114 for which the vehicle is
10 unregistered; except that the amount of the late fee shall not exceed one
11 hundred dollars. The late fee shall be AS DETERMINED BY THE
12 DEPARTMENT OR THE AUTHORIZED AGENT REGISTERING THE VEHICLE,
13 WHICH IS due when the vehicle is registered. THE DEPARTMENT OR THE
14 AUTHORIZED AGENT REGISTERING THE VEHICLE MAY WAIVE THE LATE FEE.

15 (1.5) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this
16 section, the executive director of the department shall promulgate rules
17 in accordance with article 4 of title 24, C.R.S., that establish
18 circumstances in addition to the circumstances described in subsection (3)
19 of this section in which a vehicle owner shall be exempted from paying
20 the late fee described in said subsection (1). The rules shall apply
21 uniformly throughout the state and shall include, but shall not be limited
22 to, exemptions for:

23 (I) Acts of God and weather-related delays;
24 (II) Office closures and furloughs;
25 (III) Temporary registration number plates, tags, or certificates

1 that have expired;

2 (IV) Medical hardships; and

3 (V) Information technology failures.

4 (b) The executive director of the department shall also promulgate
5 rules in accordance with article 4 of title 24, C.R.S., that allow the
6 department or an authorized agent to reduce or waive the late fee that
7 would otherwise be due upon the registration of a trailer that is a
8 commercial or farm vehicle, as part of the normal operation, if the owner
9 can establish, in accordance with criteria specified in the rules, that the
10 trailer was idled so that it was not operated on any public highway in this
11 state for at least a full registration period. Nothing in this paragraph (b)
12 shall be construed to exempt the owner of an idled trailer from paying any
13 fees imposed pursuant to this article other than the late fee before again
14 operating the trailer on a public highway in this state or from paying any
15 taxes imposed pursuant to this article. The owner shall provide to the
16 department or authorized agent a sworn affidavit that states that the trailer
17 has not been operated on the public highways during the period for which
18 it was not registered as required and describes the nature of the business
19 conditions that resulted in the removal of the trailer from service.

20 (c) The executive director of the department shall consult with the
21 county clerk and recorders in promulgating the rules required by
22 paragraph (a) of this subsection (1.5).

23 (1.7) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this
24 section, on and after July 1, 2010, the amount of the late fee payable by
25 the owner of a vehicle without motive power that weighs sixteen
26 thousand pounds or less or a camper trailer or a multipurpose trailer
27 regardless of its weight, that is subject to taxation under this article, and

1 that is not registered when required by law shall be ten dollars. For
2 purposes of this subsection (1.7), the weight of a trailer of any kind is the
3 empty weight.

4 (2) ~~Ten dollars of~~ The late registration fee shall be retained by the
5 department or the authorized agent who registers the motor vehicle. Each
6 authorized agent shall remit to the department no less frequently than
7 once a month, but otherwise at the time and in the manner required by the
8 executive director of the department, the remainder of the late registration
9 fees collected by the authorized agent. The executive director shall
10 forward all late registration fees remitted by authorized agents plus the
11 remainder of the late registration fees collected directly by the department
12 to the state treasurer, who shall credit the fees to the highway users tax
13 fund in accordance with section 43-4-804 (1)(e), C.R.S.

14 (3) ~~The late fee described in subsection (1) of this section shall not~~
15 ~~be imposed on a vehicle subject to taxation under this article if:~~

16 (a) ~~The person who owns the vehicle uses the vehicle in operating~~
17 ~~a commercial business and, as part of the normal operation of the~~
18 ~~business, idles the vehicle so that it is not operated on any public highway~~
19 ~~in this state for at least one full registration period. Nothing in this~~
20 ~~paragraph (a) shall be construed to exempt the owner of an idled vehicle~~
21 ~~from paying any fees imposed pursuant to this article other than the late~~
22 ~~fee before again operating the vehicle on a public highway in this state or~~
23 ~~from paying any taxes imposed pursuant to this article.~~

24 (b) ~~The person who owns the vehicle is in the active military~~
25 ~~service of the United States and is serving outside the state when a~~
26 ~~registration period and grace period for renewal of registration for the~~
27 ~~vehicle end and the vehicle is not operated on any public highway of the~~

1 state between the time the registration period and grace period end and
2 the time the vehicle is reregistered. Nothing in this paragraph (b) shall be
3 construed to exempt the owner of such a vehicle from paying any fees
4 imposed pursuant to this article other than the late fee before again
5 operating the vehicle on a public highway in this state or from paying any
6 taxes imposed pursuant to this article.

7 (c) The vehicle registration expired during the period the vehicle
8 was reported stolen.

9 **SECTION 2. Repeal.** 43-4-804 (1) (e), Colorado Revised
10 Statutes, is repealed as follows:

11 **43-4-804. Highway safety projects - surcharges and fees -**
12 **crediting of moneys to highway users tax fund.** (1) On and after July
13 1, 2009, the following surcharges, fees, and fines shall be collected and
14 credited to the highway users tax fund created in section 43-4-201 (1) (a)
15 and allocated to the state highway fund, counties, and municipalities as
16 specified in section 43-4-205 (6.3):

17 (e) Late registration fees required to be credited to the highway
18 users tax fund pursuant to section 42-3-112 (2), C.R.S.

19 **SECTION 3. Effective date - applicability.** This act shall take
20 effect July 1, 2011, and shall apply to late fees accrued on or after said
21 date.

22 **SECTION 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
23 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
24 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.