

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 368

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR HOUGH.

Read 1st time February 7, 2019, and ordered printed.

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

1861S.011

AN ACT

To repeal section 301.560, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to vehicle dealer license plates.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 301.560, RSMo, is repealed and one new section
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 301.560, to read as follows:

301.560. 1. In addition to the application forms prescribed by the
2 department, each applicant shall submit the following to the department:

3 (1) Every application other than a renewal application for a motor vehicle
4 franchise dealer shall include a certification that the applicant has a bona fide
5 established place of business. Such application shall include an annual
6 certification that the applicant has a bona fide established place of business for
7 the first three years and only for every other year thereafter. The certification
8 shall be performed by a uniformed member of the Missouri state highway patrol
9 or authorized or designated employee stationed in the troop area in which the
10 applicant's place of business is located; except that in counties of the first
11 classification, certification may be performed by an officer of a metropolitan police
12 department when the applicant's established place of business of distributing or
13 selling motor vehicles or trailers is in the metropolitan area where the certifying
14 metropolitan police officer is employed. When the application is being made for
15 licensure as a boat manufacturer or boat dealer, certification shall be performed
16 by a uniformed member of the Missouri state water patrol stationed in the
17 district area in which the applicant's place of business is located or by a
18 uniformed member of the Missouri state highway patrol stationed in the troop
19 area in which the applicant's place of business is located or, if the applicant's
20 place of business is located within the jurisdiction of a metropolitan police

21 department in a first class county, by an officer of such metropolitan police
22 department. A bona fide established place of business for any new motor vehicle
23 franchise dealer, used motor vehicle dealer, boat dealer, powersport dealer,
24 wholesale motor vehicle dealer, trailer dealer, or wholesale or public auction shall
25 be a permanent enclosed building or structure, either owned in fee or leased and
26 actually occupied as a place of business by the applicant for the selling, bartering,
27 trading, servicing, or exchanging of motor vehicles, boats, personal watercraft, or
28 trailers and wherein the public may contact the owner or operator at any
29 reasonable time, and wherein shall be kept and maintained the books, records,
30 files and other matters required and necessary to conduct the business. The
31 applicant shall maintain a working telephone number during the entire
32 registration year which will allow the public, the department, and law
33 enforcement to contact the applicant during regular business hours. The
34 applicant shall also maintain an email address during the entire registration year
35 which may be used for official correspondence with the department. In order to
36 qualify as a bona fide established place of business for all applicants licensed
37 pursuant to this section there shall be an exterior sign displayed carrying the
38 name of the business set forth in letters at least six inches in height and clearly
39 visible to the public and there shall be an area or lot which shall not be a public
40 street on which multiple vehicles, boats, personal watercraft, or trailers may be
41 displayed. The sign shall contain the name of the dealership by which it is
42 known to the public through advertising or otherwise, which need not be identical
43 to the name appearing on the dealership's license so long as such name is
44 registered as a fictitious name with the secretary of state, has been approved by
45 its line-make manufacturer in writing in the case of a new motor vehicle
46 franchise dealer and a copy of such fictitious name registration has been provided
47 to the department. Dealers who sell only emergency vehicles as defined in section
48 301.550 are exempt from maintaining a bona fide place of business, including the
49 related law enforcement certification requirements, and from meeting the
50 minimum yearly sales;

51 (2) The initial application for licensure shall include a photograph, not to
52 exceed eight inches by ten inches but no less than five inches by seven inches,
53 showing the business building, lot, and sign. A new motor vehicle franchise
54 dealer applicant who has purchased a currently licensed new motor vehicle
55 franchised dealership shall be allowed to submit a photograph of the existing
56 dealership building, lot and sign but shall be required to submit a new

57 photograph upon the installation of the new dealership sign as required by
58 sections 301.550 to 301.580. Applicants shall not be required to submit a
59 photograph annually unless the business has moved from its previously licensed
60 location, or unless the name of the business or address has changed, or unless the
61 class of business has changed;

62 (3) Every applicant as a new motor vehicle franchise dealer, a used motor
63 vehicle dealer, a powersport dealer, a wholesale motor vehicle dealer, trailer
64 dealer, or boat dealer shall furnish with the application a corporate surety bond
65 or an irrevocable letter of credit as defined in section 400.5-102, issued by any
66 state or federal financial institution in the penal sum of fifty thousand dollars on
67 a form approved by the department. The bond or irrevocable letter of credit shall
68 be conditioned upon the dealer complying with the provisions of the statutes
69 applicable to new motor vehicle franchise dealers, used motor vehicle dealers,
70 powersport dealers, wholesale motor vehicle dealers, trailer dealers, and boat
71 dealers, and the bond shall be an indemnity for any loss sustained by reason of
72 the acts of the person bonded when such acts constitute grounds for the
73 suspension or revocation of the dealer's license. The bond shall be executed in
74 the name of the state of Missouri for the benefit of all aggrieved parties or the
75 irrevocable letter of credit shall name the state of Missouri as the beneficiary;
76 except, that the aggregate liability of the surety or financial institution to the
77 aggrieved parties shall, in no event, exceed the amount of the bond or irrevocable
78 letter of credit. The proceeds of the bond or irrevocable letter of credit shall be
79 paid upon receipt by the department of a final judgment from a Missouri court of
80 competent jurisdiction against the principal and in favor of an aggrieved
81 party. Additionally, every applicant as a new motor vehicle franchise dealer, a
82 used motor vehicle dealer, a powersport dealer, a wholesale motor vehicle dealer,
83 or boat dealer shall furnish with the application a copy of a current dealer garage
84 policy bearing the policy number and name of the insurer and the insured;

85 (4) Payment of all necessary license fees as established by the
86 department. In establishing the amount of the annual license fees, the
87 department shall, as near as possible, produce sufficient total income to offset
88 operational expenses of the department relating to the administration of sections
89 301.550 to 301.580. All fees payable pursuant to the provisions of sections
90 301.550 to 301.580, other than those fees collected for the issuance of dealer
91 plates or certificates of number collected pursuant to subsection 6 of this section,
92 shall be collected by the department for deposit in the state treasury to the credit

93 of the "Motor Vehicle Commission Fund", which is hereby created. The motor
94 vehicle commission fund shall be administered by the Missouri department of
95 revenue. The provisions of section 33.080 to the contrary notwithstanding, money
96 in such fund shall not be transferred and placed to the credit of the general
97 revenue fund until the amount in the motor vehicle commission fund at the end
98 of the biennium exceeds two times the amount of the appropriation from such
99 fund for the preceding fiscal year or, if the department requires permit renewal
100 less frequently than yearly, then three times the appropriation from such fund
101 for the preceding fiscal year. The amount, if any, in the fund which shall lapse
102 is that amount in the fund which exceeds the multiple of the appropriation from
103 such fund for the preceding fiscal year.

104 2. In the event a new vehicle manufacturer, boat manufacturer, motor
105 vehicle dealer, wholesale motor vehicle dealer, boat dealer, powersport dealer,
106 wholesale motor vehicle auction, trailer dealer, or a public motor vehicle auction
107 submits an application for a license for a new business and the applicant has
108 complied with all the provisions of this section, the department shall make a
109 decision to grant or deny the license to the applicant within eight working hours
110 after receipt of the dealer's application, notwithstanding any rule of the
111 department.

112 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 6 of this section, upon the
113 initial issuance of a license by the department, the department shall assign a
114 distinctive dealer license number or certificate of number to the applicant and the
115 department shall issue one number plate or certificate bearing the distinctive
116 dealer license number or certificate of number and two additional number plates
117 or certificates of number within eight working hours after presentment of the
118 application and payment by the applicant of a fee of fifty dollars for the first plate
119 or certificate and ten dollars and fifty cents for each additional plate or
120 certificate. Upon renewal, the department shall issue the distinctive dealer
121 license number or certificate of number as quickly as possible. The issuance of
122 such distinctive dealer license number or certificate of number shall be in lieu of
123 registering each motor vehicle, trailer, vessel or vessel trailer dealt with by a boat
124 dealer, boat manufacturer, manufacturer, public motor vehicle auction, wholesale
125 motor vehicle dealer, wholesale motor vehicle auction or new or used motor
126 vehicle dealer. The license plates described in this section shall be made with
127 fully reflective material with a common color scheme and design, shall be clearly
128 visible at night, and shall be aesthetically attractive, as prescribed by section

129 301.130.

130 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law to the contrary, the
131 department shall assign the following distinctive dealer license numbers to:

132	New motor vehicle franchise dealers	D-0 through D-999
133	New powersport dealers	D-1000 through D-1999
134	Used motor vehicle and used	
135	powersport dealers	D-2000 through D-9999
136	Wholesale motor vehicle dealers	W-0 through W-1999
137	Wholesale motor vehicle auctions	WA-0 through WA-999
138	New and used trailer dealers	T-0 through T-9999
139	Motor vehicle, trailer, and	
140	boat manufacturers	DM-0 through DM-999
141	Public motor vehicle auctions	A-0 through A-1999
142	Boat dealers	M-0 through M-9999
143	New and used recreational motor	
144	vehicle dealers	RV-0 through RV-999

145 For purposes of this subsection, qualified transactions shall include the purchase
146 of salvage titled vehicles by a licensed salvage dealer. A used motor vehicle
147 dealer who also holds a salvage dealer's license shall be allowed one additional
148 plate or certificate number per fifty-unit qualified transactions annually. In order
149 for salvage dealers to obtain number plates or certificates under this section,
150 dealers shall submit to the department of revenue on August first of each year a
151 statement certifying, under penalty of perjury, the dealer's number of purchases
152 during the reporting period of July first of the immediately preceding year to
153 June thirtieth of the present year. The provisions of this subsection shall become
154 effective on the date the director of the department of revenue begins to reissue
155 new license plates under section 301.130, or on December 1, 2008, whichever
156 occurs first. If the director of revenue begins reissuing new license plates under
157 the authority granted under section 301.130 prior to December 1, 2008, the
158 director of the department of revenue shall notify the revisor of statutes of such
159 fact.

160 5. Upon the sale of a currently licensed motor vehicle dealership the
161 department shall, upon request, authorize the new approved dealer applicant to
162 retain the selling dealer's license number and shall cause the new dealer's records
163 to indicate such transfer. If the new approved dealer applicant elects not to
164 retain the selling dealer's license number, the department shall issue the new

165 dealer applicant a new dealer's license number and an equal number of plates or
166 certificates as the department had issued to the selling dealer.

167 6. In the case of motor vehicle dealers, the department shall issue one
168 number plate bearing the distinctive dealer license number and may issue one
169 additional number plate to the applicant upon payment by the dealer of a fifty
170 dollar fee for the number plate bearing the distinctive dealer license number and
171 ten dollars and fifty cents for the additional number plate. The department may
172 issue a third plate to the motor vehicle dealer upon completion of the dealer's
173 fifteenth qualified transaction and payment of a fee of ten dollars and fifty cents.
174 In the case of new motor vehicle manufacturers, powersport dealers, recreational
175 motor vehicle dealers, and trailer dealers, the department shall issue one number
176 plate bearing the distinctive dealer license number and may issue two additional
177 number plates to the applicant upon payment by the manufacturer or dealer of
178 a fifty dollar fee for the number plate bearing the distinctive dealer license
179 number and ten dollars and fifty cents for each additional number plate. Boat
180 dealers and boat manufacturers shall be entitled to one certificate of number
181 bearing such number upon the payment of a fifty dollar fee. Additional number
182 plates and as many additional certificates of number may be obtained upon
183 payment of a fee of ten dollars and fifty cents for each additional plate or
184 certificate. New motor vehicle manufacturers shall not be issued or possess more
185 than three hundred forty-seven additional number plates or certificates of number
186 annually. New and used motor vehicle dealers, powersport dealers, wholesale
187 motor vehicle dealers, boat dealers, and trailer dealers are limited to one
188 additional plate or certificate of number per ten-unit qualified transactions
189 annually. New and used recreational motor vehicle dealers are limited to two
190 additional plates or certificate of number per ten-unit qualified transactions
191 annually for their first fifty transactions and one additional plate or certificate
192 of number per ten-unit qualified transactions thereafter. An applicant seeking
193 the issuance of an initial license shall indicate on his or her initial application
194 the applicant's proposed annual number of sales in order for the director to issue
195 the appropriate number of additional plates or certificates of number. A motor
196 vehicle dealer, trailer dealer, boat dealer, powersport dealer, recreational motor
197 vehicle dealer, motor vehicle manufacturer, boat manufacturer, or wholesale
198 motor vehicle dealer obtaining a distinctive dealer license plate or certificate of
199 number or additional license plate or additional certificate of number, throughout
200 the calendar year, shall be required to pay a fee for such license plates or

201 certificates of number computed on the basis of one-twelfth of the full fee
202 prescribed for the original and duplicate number plates or certificates of number
203 for such dealers' licenses, multiplied by the number of months remaining in the
204 licensing period for which the dealer or manufacturers shall be required to be
205 licensed. In the event of a renewing dealer, the fee due at the time of renewal
206 shall not be prorated. Wholesale and public auctions shall be issued a certificate
207 of dealer registration in lieu of a dealer number plate. In order for dealers to
208 obtain number plates or certificates under this section, dealers shall submit to
209 the department of revenue on August first of each year a statement certifying,
210 under penalty of perjury, the dealer's number of sales during the reporting period
211 of July first of the immediately preceding year to June thirtieth of the present
212 year.

213 7. The plates issued pursuant to subsection 3 or 6 of this section may be
214 displayed on any motor vehicle owned by a new motor vehicle manufacturer. The
215 plates issued pursuant to subsection 3 or 6 of this section may be displayed on
216 any motor vehicle or trailer owned and held for resale by a motor vehicle dealer
217 for use by a customer who is test driving the motor vehicle, **for use by any**
218 **customer while the customer's vehicle is being serviced or repaired by**
219 **the motor vehicle dealer**, for use and display purposes during, but not limited
220 to, parades, private events, charitable events, or for use by an employee or officer,
221 but shall not be displayed on any motor vehicle or trailer hired or loaned to
222 others or upon any regularly used service or wrecker vehicle. Motor vehicle
223 dealers may display their dealer plates on a tractor, truck or trailer to
224 demonstrate a vehicle under a loaded condition. Trailer dealers may display their
225 dealer license plates in like manner, except such plates may only be displayed on
226 trailers owned and held for resale by the trailer dealer.

227 8. The certificates of number issued pursuant to subsection 3 or 6 of this
228 section may be displayed on any vessel or vessel trailer owned and held for resale
229 by a boat manufacturer or a boat dealer, and used by a customer who is test
230 driving the vessel or vessel trailer, or is used by an employee or officer on a vessel
231 or vessel trailer only, but shall not be displayed on any motor vehicle owned by
232 a boat manufacturer, boat dealer, or trailer dealer, or vessel or vessel trailer
233 hired or loaned to others or upon any regularly used service vessel or vessel
234 trailer. Boat dealers and boat manufacturers may display their certificate of
235 number on a vessel or vessel trailer when transporting a vessel or vessels to an
236 exhibit or show.

237 9. If any law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that any
238 license plate or certificate of number issued under subsection 3 or 6 of this section
239 is being misused in violation of subsection 7 or 8 of this section, the license plate
240 or certificate of number may be seized and surrendered to the department.

241 10. (1) Every application for the issuance of a used motor vehicle dealer's
242 license shall be accompanied by proof that the applicant, within the last twelve
243 months, has completed an educational seminar course approved by the
244 department as prescribed by subdivision (2) of this subsection. Wholesale and
245 public auto auctions and applicants currently holding a new or used license for
246 a separate dealership shall be exempt from the requirements of this
247 subsection. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to current new
248 motor vehicle franchise dealers or motor vehicle leasing agencies or applicants for
249 a new motor vehicle franchise or a motor vehicle leasing agency. The provisions
250 of this subsection shall not apply to used motor vehicle dealers who were licensed
251 prior to August 28, 2006.

252 (2) The educational seminar shall include, but is not limited to, the dealer
253 requirements of sections 301.550 to 301.580, the rules promulgated to implement,
254 enforce, and administer sections 301.550 to 301.580, and any other rules and
255 regulations promulgated by the department.

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