

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1159**

Introduced by

Representatives Beadle, Boehning

Senator Casper

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 39-04-11 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to clearly displaying letters and numbers on motor vehicle plates.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 39-04-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **39-04-11. Display of number plates and tabs.**

7 ~~Except as~~Unless otherwise specifically provided by law, ~~a person~~an individual may not  
8 operate ~~or drive~~ a vehicle on ~~the~~ a public highway~~highway~~ of this state unless the vehicle has a  
9 distinctive number assigned to ~~it~~the vehicle by the department, and two number plates, bearing  
10 the distinctive number conspicuously displayed, horizontally and in an upright position, one on  
11 the front and one on the rear of the vehicle, each securely fastened, except number plates  
12 assigned to a motorcycle, trailer, or housetrailer must be attached to the rear thereof. When  
13 only one number plate is furnished for an apportioned vehicle ~~licensed~~registered under the  
14 international registration plan as authorized in section 39-19-04, truck tractor, or semitrailer, the  
15 plate must be attached to the front of the apportioned vehicle or truck tractor and the rear of the  
16 semitrailer. The bottom of each number plate must be at a height of not less than twelve inches  
17 [30.48 centimeters] above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. Each plate must be  
18 mounted in a visible manner that ~~does not cover any words, letter, or number~~clearly displays the  
19 distinctive letters and numbers on the plate. As far as is reasonably possible, the plates must at  
20 all times be kept free and clear of mud, ice, or snow so as to be clearly visible and all number  
21 plates, markers, or evidence of registration or licensing except for the current year must be  
22 removed from the vehicle. All vehicle license plates issued by the department ~~continue to bear~~e  
23 the property of the ~~state of North Dakota~~department for the period for which the plates are valid.  
24 An annual registration tab or sticker for the current registration year must be displayed on each

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- 1 number plate, in the area designated by the department for the tab or sticker, in those years for
- 2 which tabs or stickers are issued in lieu of number plates.