

1 H.261

2 Introduced by Representatives Marcotte of Coventry, Morrissey of

3 Bennington, Baker of West Rutland, Bissonnette of Winooski,

4 Botzow of Pownal, Branagan of Georgia, Bray of New Haven,

5 Brennan of Colchester, Canfield of Fair Haven, Clerkin of

6 Hartford, Condon of Colchester, Consejo of Sheldon, Devereux

7 of Mount Holly, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Donaghy of

8 Poultney, Fagan of Rutland City, Higley of Lowell, Hube of

9 Londonderry, Hubert of Milton, Johnson of Canaan, Keenan of

10 St. Albans City, Kilmartin of Newport City, Kitzmiller of

11 Montpelier, Koch of Barre Town, Komline of Dorset, Larocque

12 of Barnet, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lewis of Derby, Lorber of

13 Burlington, McAllister of Highgate, Moran of Wardsboro,

14 Morley of Barton, O'Donnell of Vernon, Pearce of Richford,

15 Perley of Enosburg, Savage of Swanton, Shand of

16 Weathersfield, Smith of Mendon, Turner of Milton, Wheeler of

17 Derby, Wilson of Manchester and Zenie of Colchester

18 Referred to Committee on

19 Date:

20 Subject: Motor vehicles; financial responsibility and insurance; expiration of

21 insurance; reporting requirements

1 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to require any company issuing  
2 motor vehicle insurance in the state to provide written notice to the  
3 commissioner of motor vehicles when a policyholder's insurance expires. The  
4 bill also requires a person to show proof of insurance when registering a  
5 vehicle, and permits the commissioner of motor vehicles to suspend or revoke  
6 a vehicle's registration if the owner of the vehicle is cited for operating the  
7 vehicle without insurance more than once.

8 An act relating to expired automotive insurance

9 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

10 Sec. 1. 23 V.S.A. § 811 is added to read:

11 § 811. EXPIRATION OF INSURANCE; REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

12 (a) Any company issuing policies in this state insuring against liability  
13 arising out of the maintenance, ownership, or use of any motor vehicle shall  
14 provide written notice to the commissioner of the department of motor vehicles  
15 whenever a policyholder's motor vehicle liability insurance expires. The  
16 notice shall include the policyholder's name, address, driver's license number,  
17 and the license plate number of the insured vehicle.

18 (b) The department of motor vehicles, 30 days after it receives the written  
19 notice required by subsection (a), shall forward to the department of public

1 safety the information contained in the notice and a description of the make  
2 and model of the policyholder's vehicle.

3 Sec. 2. 23 V.S.A. § 303 is amended to read:

4 § 303. APPLICATION REQUIRED

5 (a) The commissioner or his or her duly authorized agent shall register a  
6 motor vehicle, trailer, or semi-trailer when application therefor, on a form  
7 prescribed by the commissioner, showing such motor vehicle to be properly  
8 equipped and in good mechanical condition, is filed with him or her,  
9 accompanied by the required registration fee, proof of financial responsibility  
10 and evidence of the applicant's ownership of the vehicle in such form as the  
11 commissioner may reasonably require. Except for state or municipal vehicles,  
12 registrants and titled owners shall be identical.

13 \* \* \*

14 Sec. 3. 23 V.S.A. § 800 is amended to read:

15 § 800. MAINTENANCE OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

16 (a) No owner or operator of a motor vehicle required to be licensed shall  
17 operate or permit the operation of the vehicle upon the highways of the state  
18 without having in effect an automobile liability policy or bond in the amounts  
19 of at least \$25,000.00 for one person and \$50,000.00 for two or more persons  
20 killed or injured and \$10,000.00 for damages to property in any one accident.  
21 In lieu thereof, evidence of self-insurance in the amount of \$115,000.00 must

1 be filed with the commissioner of motor vehicles. Such financial  
2 responsibility shall be maintained and evidenced in a form prescribed by the  
3 commissioner. The commissioner may require that evidence of financial  
4 responsibility be produced before motor vehicle inspections are performed  
5 pursuant to the requirements of section 1222 of this title.

6 (b) A person who violates this section shall be assessed a civil penalty of  
7 not more than \$100.00, and such violation shall be a traffic violation within the  
8 meaning of chapter 24 of this title.

9 (c) The commissioner of motor vehicles may suspend or revoke the  
10 registration of the motor vehicle of a person who commits a second or  
11 subseq`uent offense under this section.