

ASSEMBLY, No. 789

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Assemblywoman FARRAGHER and Assemblyman ARNONE

1 AN ACT concerning the registration of motor vehicles and amending
2 R.S.39:3-30.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. R.S.39:3-30 is amended to read as follows:

8 39:3-30. a. Upon the transfer of ownership or the destruction of
9 any motor vehicle its registration shall become void. If the motor
10 vehicle is sold the original owner shall remove the license plates
11 therefrom, and, within 48 hours, notify the director of the name and
12 address of the purchaser.

13 [The original owner may, by] The director shall, upon a proper
14 sworn application submitted by the original owner on a form to be
15 furnished by the division, register another motor vehicle for the
16 unexpired portion of the registration period of the original vehicle,
17 upon payment of a fee of \$4.50 if the vehicle is of a weight or other
18 classification equal with or less than the one originally registered, and
19 upon the payment of a fee of \$4.50 and the difference between the fee
20 originally paid and that due if the new motor vehicle is properly
21 registerable in a higher class.

22 The director, in implementing this requirement, shall permit a
23 passenger automobile registered under R.S.39:3-8 or a noncommercial
24 truck registered pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1968, c.439 (C.39:3-8.1)
25 to be registered for the unexpired term of the registration period of the
26 original vehicle if the original vehicle was a passenger automobile
27 registered under R.S.39:3-8 or a noncommercial truck registered
28 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1968, c.439 (C.39:3-8.1). The director
29 shall permit the registration of a passenger automobile for the
30 unexpired term of the registration period of a noncommercial truck or
31 the registration of a noncommercial truck for the unexpired
32 registration term of a passenger automobile. This subsection shall not

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 apply if either the original or new vehicle, or if both vehicles, are
2 registered as commercial motor vehicles.

3 Unless the original license plates have been destroyed, the owner
4 shall be assigned the license number previously issued to him and shall
5 receive a new registration certificate. If the original license plates
6 have been destroyed, replacement of the plates will be made under the
7 provisions of R.S.39:3-32.

8 b. The surviving husband, wife, child or children of a deceased
9 registered owner of any motor vehicle in whom title thereto shall vest
10 by virtue of the terms of the will of such deceased owner, or
11 otherwise, shall, upon application to the director, and upon the
12 payment of a fee of \$4.50, be entitled to have the registration of such
13 vehicle transferred to his or her name.

14 c. The registered owner of any motor vehicle shall, upon
15 application to the director, and payment of a fee of \$4.50, be entitled
16 to have the vehicle registered jointly in the name of the registered
17 owner and the spouse of said owner. The registration certificate and
18 certificate of ownership shall be amended accordingly without the
19 payment of any additional fee.

20 (cf: P.L.1978, c.96, s.1)

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22 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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27 This bill requires the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles to
28 register, at the owner's request, a new passenger automobile or
29 noncommercial truck for the unexpired portion of the registration
30 period of the passenger automobile or noncommercial truck originally
31 owned by the registered owner. This permits the owner to transfer the
32 registration plates from the original vehicle to the new vehicle without
33 having to obtain a new registration period or new registration plates
34 from the division.

35 Although R.S.39:3-30 appears already to permit the registration of
36 a new vehicle for the unexpired term of the original vehicle, the
37 Division of Motor Vehicles has interpreted and applied this provision
38 to permit the transfer of registrations and license plates only if the new
39 and original vehicles are within the same registration category. This
40 interpretation, however, is too restrictive and results in unnecessary
41 additional paperwork and confusion for the vehicle owner.

42 This bill would clarify and emphasize the Legislature's intent that
43 any new passenger automobile or noncommercial truck may be
44 registered by the owner for the unexpired term of the registration
45 period of the original passenger automobile or noncommercial truck.

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3 Requires DMV to register new passenger automobile or
4 noncommercial truck for the unexpired registration term of original
5 passenger automobile or noncommercial truck.