

P.L. 1997, CHAPTER 189, *approved August 5, 1997*
Assembly, No. 2634 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning motor vehicle licenses and registrations, amending
2 R.S.39:3-4 and P.L.1989, c.326, and supplementing Title 39 of the
3 Revised Statutes

4

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

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8 1. R.S.39:3-4 is amended to read as follows:

9 39:3-4. Except as hereinafter provided, every resident of this State
10 and every nonresident whose automobile or motorcycle shall be driven
11 in this State shall, before using such vehicle on the public highways,
12 register the same, and no automobile or motorcycle shall be driven
13 unless so registered.

14 Such registration shall be made in the following manner: An
15 application in writing, signed by the applicant or by an agent or officer,
16 in case the applicant is a corporation, shall be made to the director or
17 the director's agent, on forms prepared and supplied by the director,
18 containing the name, street address of the residence or the business of
19 the owner, mailing address, if different from the street address of the
20 owner's residence or business, and age of the owner, together with a
21 description of the character of the automobile or motorcycle, including
22 the name of the maker and the vehicle identification number, or the
23 manufacturer's number or the number assigned by the director if the
24 vehicle does not have a vehicle identification number, and any other
25 statement that may be required by the director. A post office box shall
26 appear on the application only as part of a mailing address that is
27 submitted by the owner, agent or officer, as the case may be, in
28 addition to the street address of the applicant's residence or business
29 ; provided, however, the director ¹, upon application, ¹ shall permit a
30 person who was a victim of a violation of N.J.S.2C:12-10,
31 N.J.S.2C:14-2, or N.J.S.2C:25-17 et seq., ¹or who the director

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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Assembly ATC committee amendments adopted May 5, 1997.

1 otherwise determines to have good cause,¹ to use as a mailing address
2 a post office box ¹[in a county other than the county where the
3 applicant resides] , an address other than the applicant's address or
4 other contact point¹. An owner whose last address appears on the
5 records of the division as a post office box shall change his address on
6 his application for renewal to the street address of his residence or
7 business and, if different from his street address, his mailing address
8 ¹unless the director has determined, pursuant to this section, that the
9 owner may use a post office box, an address other than the owner's
10 address or other contact point as a mailing address¹. The application
11 shall contain the name of the insurer of the vehicle and the policy
12 number. If the vehicle is a leased motor vehicle, the application shall
13 make note of that fact and shall include along with the name and street
14 address of the lessor the name, street address and driver license
15 number of the lessee. A lessor of a leased motor vehicle shall notify
16 the director in writing, on such form as the director may prescribe, of
17 the termination of a lease or of a change of the lessee within seven
18 days after the termination or change.

19 Thereupon the director shall have the power to grant a registration
20 certificate to the owner of any motor vehicle, if over 17 years of age,
21 application for the registration having been properly made and the fee
22 therefor paid, and the vehicle being of a type that complies with the
23 requirements of this title. The form and contents of the registration
24 certificate to be issued shall be determined by the director.

25 If the vehicle is a leased motor vehicle, the registration certificate
26 shall, in addition to containing the name and street address of the
27 lessor, identify the vehicle as a leased motor vehicle.

28 The director shall maintain a record of all registration certificates
29 issued, and of the contents thereof.

30 Every registration shall expire and the registration certificate
31 thereof become void on the last day of the twelfth calendar month
32 following the calendar month in which the certificate was issued;
33 provided, however, that the director may, at his discretion, require
34 registrations which shall expire, and issue certificates thereof which
35 shall become void, on a date fixed by him, which date shall not be
36 sooner than three months nor later than 26 months after the date of
37 issuance of such certificates, and the fees for such registrations,
38 including any other fees or charges collected in connection with the
39 registration fee, shall be fixed by the director in amounts
40 proportionately less or greater than the fees established by law. The
41 director may fix the expiration date for registration certificates at a
42 date other than 12 months if the director determines that the change
43 is necessary, appropriate or convenient in order to aid in implementing
44 the vehicle inspection requirements of chapter 8 of Title 39 or for
45 other good cause.

46 All motorcycles for which registrations have been issued prior to

1 the effective date of P.L.1989, c.167 and which are scheduled to
2 expire between November 1 and March 31 shall, upon renewal, be
3 issued registrations by the director which shall expire on a date fixed
4 by him, but in no case shall that expiration date be earlier than April
5 30 nor later than October 31. The fees for the renewal of the
6 motorcycle registrations authorized under this paragraph shall be fixed
7 by the director in an amount proportionately less or greater than the
8 fee established by R.S.39:3-21.

9 Application forms for all renewals of registrations for passenger
10 automobiles shall be sent to the last addresses of owners of motor
11 vehicles and motorcycles, as they appear on the records of the
12 division.

13 No person owning or having control over any unregistered vehicle
14 shall permit the same to be parked or to stand on a public highway.

15 Any police officer is authorized to remove any unregistered vehicle
16 from the public highway to a storage space or garage, and the expense
17 involved in such removal and storing of the vehicle shall be borne by
18 the owner of the vehicle, except that the expense shall be borne by the
19 lessee of a leased vehicle.

20 Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be subject
21 to a fine not exceeding \$100, except that for the misstatement of any
22 fact in the application required to be made to the director, the person
23 making such statement or omitting the statement that the motor
24 vehicle is to be used as a leased motor vehicle when that is the case
25 shall be subject to the penalties provided in R.S.39:3-37.

26 The director may extend the expiration date of a registration
27 certificate without payment of a proportionate fee when the director
28 determines that such extension is necessary, appropriate or convenient
29 to the implementation of vehicle inspection requirements. If any
30 registration certificate is so extended, the owner shall pay upon
31 renewal the full registration fee for the period fixed by the director as
32 if no extension had been granted.

33 The Division of Motor Vehicles shall make a reasonable effort to
34 notify any lessor whose name and address is on file with the division,
35 or any other lessor the division may determine it is necessary to notify,
36 of the requirements of this amendatory act.

37 (cf: P.L.1995, c.112, s.27)

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39 2. Section 2 of P.L.1989, c.326 (C.39:3-9b) is amended to read as
40 follows:

41 2. Each application for a driver's license, or a renewal thereof,
42 required by R.S.39:3-10 shall contain the street address of the place
43 of residence or business of the licensee at the time of application or
44 renewal. A post office box shall appear on a driver's license
45 application only as part of a mailing address that is submitted by the
46 licensee in addition to the street address of the licensee's residence or

1 business ; provided, however, the director¹, upon application,¹ shall
2 permit a person who was a victim of a violation of N.J.S.2C:12-10,
3 N.J.S.2C:14-2, or N.J.S.2C:25-17 et seq.,¹ or who the director
4 otherwise determines to have good cause,¹ to use as a mailing address
5 a post office box¹ [in a county other than the county where the
6 applicant resides] , an address other than the applicant's address or
7 other contact point¹. A licensee whose last address appears on the
8 records of the division as a post office box shall change the address on
9 the application for renewal to the street address of the licensee's
10 residence or business and, if different from the street address, his
11 mailing address¹ unless the director has determined, pursuant to this
12 section, that the licensee may use a post office box, an address other
13 than the licensee's address or other contact point as a mailing address¹.
14 (cf: P.L.1989, c.326, s.2)

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16 3. (New Section) Pursuant to the provisions of the "Administrative
17 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), the director,
18 in consultation with the Attorney General, may promulgate rules and
19 regulations to effectuate the purposes of P.L. , c. (now pending
20 before the Legislature as this bill).

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22 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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27 Permits certain crime victims to use post office box or different
28 address for driver's license and registration.