

SENATE, No. 1420

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JULY 25, 1996

By Senator MATHEUSSEN

1 AN ACT concerning the registration of certain motor vehicles and
2 amending R.S.39:3-4.

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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.39:3-4 is amended to read as follows:

8 39:3-4. Except as hereinafter provided, every resident of this State
9 and every nonresident whose automobile or motorcycle shall be driven
10 in this State shall, before using such vehicle on the public highways,
11 register the same, and no automobile or motorcycle shall be driven
12 unless so registered.

13 Such registration shall be made in the following manner: An
14 application in writing, signed by the applicant or by an agent or officer,
15 in case the applicant is a corporation, shall be made to the director or
16 the director's agent, on forms prepared and supplied by the director,
17 containing the name, street address of the residence or the business of
18 the owner, mailing address, if different from the street address of the
19 owner's residence or business, and age of the owner, together with a
20 description of the character of the automobile or motorcycle, including
21 the name of the maker and the vehicle identification number (VIN), or
22 the manufacturer's number or the number assigned by the director if
23 the vehicle does not have a vehicle identification number, and any
24 other statement that may be required by the director. A post office
25 box shall appear on the application only as part of a mailing address
26 that is submitted by the owner, agent or officer, as the case may be, in
27 addition to the street address of the applicant's residence or business.
28 An owner whose last address appears on the records of the division as
29 a post office box shall change his address on his application for
30 renewal to the street address of his residence or business and, if
31 different from his street address, his mailing address. The application
32 shall contain the name of the insurer of the vehicle and the policy
33 number. If the vehicle is a leased motor vehicle, the application shall
34 make note of that fact and shall include along with the name and street

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 address of the lessor the name, street address and driver license
2 number of the lessee. A lessor of a leased motor vehicle shall notify
3 the director in writing, on such form as the director may prescribe, of
4 the termination of a lease or of a change of the lessee within seven
5 days after the termination or change.

6 Thereupon the director shall have the power to grant a registration
7 certificate to the owner of any motor vehicle, if over 17 years of age,
8 application for the registration having been properly made and the fee
9 therefor paid, and the vehicle being of a type that complies with the
10 requirements of this title. The form and contents of the registration
11 certificate to be issued shall be determined by the director, which
12 contents shall include, at such time as the registration certificate is
13 next redesigned or reformatted, the National Association of Insurance
14 Commissioners (NAIC) insurance company code of the insurer of the
15 vehicle. The director shall maintain a record of all registration
16 certificates issued, and of the contents thereof on an electronic data
17 base. Law enforcement agencies, the New Jersey Division of
18 Insurance Fraud Prevention established pursuant to section 8 of
19 P.L.1983, c.320 (C.17:33A-8), and special investigation units
20 established by insurers in accord with fraud and theft prevention plans
21 filed and approved by the Commissioner of Insurance pursuant to
22 section 56 of P.L.1990, c.8 (C.17:33B-46) shall have on-line access to
23 a data base of standard motor vehicle information that shall include,
24 but not be limited to, the vehicle identification number (VIN); the
25 National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) insurance
26 company code of the insurer of the vehicle and the policy number; and
27 any other information deemed appropriate by the director.

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

31 [The director shall maintain a record of all registration certificates
32 issued, and of the contents thereof.]

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

1 the vehicle inspection requirements of chapter 8 of Title 39 or for
2 other good cause.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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42 2. This act shall take effect on the 365th day after enactment, but
43 the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles may take such
44 anticipatory administrative action in advance of that date as shall be
45 necessary for the implementation of the act.

STATEMENT

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This bill requires the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) insurance company code and the motor vehicle insurance policy number of a registered automobile or motorcycle to be recorded on the electronic data base maintained by the Division of Motor Vehicles. The bill also requires that the NAIC insurance company code be printed on the registration certificate at such time as the certificate is redesigned or reformatted.

The bill also provides that law enforcement agencies, the New Jersey Division of Insurance Fraud Prevention, and special investigation units established by insurance companies under fraud and theft prevention plans which have been filed with and approved by the Commissioner of Insurance pursuant to requirements set forth in the section 56 of the "Fair Automobile Insurance Reform Act of 1990," P.L.1990, c.8 (C.17:33B-46) shall have on-line access to a data base of standard motor vehicle information including insurance company information, which is maintained by the Division of Motor Vehicles.

Requires insurance company information to be included on automobile and motorcycle registration certificates.