

HOUSE BILL NO. 375

INTRODUCED BY E. CARNEY

BY REQUEST OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING THAT A HEALTH CARE FACILITY BE DESIGNATED BY THE FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AS A HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREA BEFORE AN EMPLOYEE OF THAT FACILITY WHOSE VEHICLE IS REGISTERED IN ANOTHER STATE OR COUNTRY MAY BE EXEMPT FROM FOREIGN VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEES; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 15-6-217 AND 61-3-707, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 15-6-217, MCA, is amended to read:

"15-6-217. Exemption for vehicle of certain health care professionals. A motor vehicle that is brought, driven, or coming into this state ~~that~~ IS EXEMPT FROM THE REGISTRATION FEES IMPOSED IN 15-24-301 IF THE MOTOR VEHICLE is registered in another state or country by a nonresident person who is a licensed health care professional, as provided in Title 37, chapter 3, 5, 8, 11, 14, 20, 21, 25, 28, or 34, and who is employed in Montana by a rural health care facility that ~~is located in a medically underserved area~~ IS LOCATED IN AN AREA THAT has been:

(1) designated by the secretary of the federal department of health and human services as a health professional shortage area, as provided in 42 U.S.C. 254(e), is exempt from taxation as provided the registration fees imposed in 15-24-301; OR

(2) DETERMINED TO HAVE A CRITICAL SHORTAGE OF NURSES, AS PROVIDED IN 42 U.S.C. 297N(A)(3)."

Section 2. Section 61-3-707, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-3-707. Foreign vehicles used for transportation in connection with employment. (1) (a) Before a motor vehicle assessed a fee pursuant to 15-24-301(4) may be operated in Montana for a calendar quarter, the person responsible for payment of fees shall apply for and obtain a window decal provided by the department.

(b) Decals must be color-coded to distinguish the four quarterly registration periods of the year.



1 (c) An applicant may purchase a decal for more than one registration quarter at a time by paying
2 the appropriate amount.

3 (d) There is a \$2 fee for each decal, and money collected from this fee must be deposited to the
4 county general fund. The \$2 fee is in addition to the registration fee.

5 (e) A current window decal must be displayed on the lower right-hand corner of the windshield.

6 (2) (a) Before a motor vehicle exempted pursuant to 15-6-217 may be operated in Montana, the
7 person responsible for the motor vehicle shall apply for and obtain a window decal from the county
8 treasurer. The department shall supply the decals to the county treasurers.

9 (b) An application approved by the department must include a verification from the employer that
10 the person is employed by a Montana health care facility ~~in a rural, medically underserved area that~~
11 ~~experiences difficulty in recruiting and retention of health care professionals~~ that IS LOCATED IN AN AREA THAT
12 has been:

13 (i) designated by the secretary of the federal department of health and human services as a health
14 professional shortage area, as provided in 42 U.S.C. 254(e); OR

15 (ii) DETERMINED TO HAVE A CRITICAL SHORTAGE OF NURSES, AS PROVIDED IN 42 U.S.C. 297N(A)(3).

16 (c) Decals expire each year on December 31 of the year in which issued, and application for
17 reregistration must be filed with the county treasurer no later than February 15 of each year. Decals must
18 be color-coded to distinguish the year.

19 (d) A current window decal must be displayed on the lower right-hand corner of the windshield."
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