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SENATE BILL NO. 369  
INTRODUCED BY COCCHIARELLA

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING THAT A DEALER THAT SELLS NEW AND USED MOTOR VEHICLES OR RECREATIONAL VEHICLES MAY OBTAIN ADDITIONAL DEMONSTRATOR PLATES TO BE PLACED ON VEHICLES BEING MOVED TO OR FROM SERVICE AND REPAIR FACILITIES BEFORE SALE; AND AMENDING SECTION 61-4-129, MCA."

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

**Section 1.** Section 61-4-129, MCA, is amended to read:

**"61-4-129. Assignment of demonstrator plates.** (1) A dealer or wholesaler may purchase demonstrator plates at a fee of \$5 a plate. Demonstrator plates must be issued for each vehicle type for which a dealer's license is required under 61-4-102. Demonstrator plates must be designed by the department in a manner that distinguishes demonstrator plates from dealer plates.

(2) (a) ~~New~~ Except as provided in subsection (2)(c), new and used motor vehicle or recreational vehicle demonstrator plates may be used on a vehicle displaying a Monroney label or a buyer's guide label, as required by 61-4-123(2), that is:

- (i) being demonstrated and offered for sale, for not more than 72 hours when operated by an individual holding a valid operator's license;
  - (ii) owned by the dealership when operated by an officer or bona fide full-time employee of the dealer or wholesaler and used to transport the dealer's or wholesaler's own tools, parts, and equipment;
  - (iii) being tested for repair;
  - (iv) being moved to or from a dealer's place of business for sale;
  - (v) being moved to or from service and repair facilities before sale; and
  - (vi) being moved to or from exhibitions within the state, provided the exhibition does not exceed a period of 20 days.
- (b) Mobile home and trailer demonstrator plates may be used:
- (i) on units being hauled to or from the place of business of the manufacturer and the place of business

1 of the dealer or to and from places of business of the dealer;

2 (ii) on mobile homes being hauled to a customer's location for setup after sale;

3 (iii) on travel trailers held for sale to demonstrate the towing capability of the vehicle, provided that a  
4 dated demonstration permit, valid for not more than 72 hours, is carried with the vehicle at all times;

5 (iv) on any motor vehicle owned by the dealer that is used only to move vehicles legally bearing mobile  
6 home and travel trailer dealer's license plates of the dealer owning the motor vehicle; and

7 (v) on units being moved to or from exhibitions within the state, provided the exhibition does not exceed  
8 a period of 20 days.

9 (c) Extra demonstrator plates may be made available to dealers eligible for demonstrator plates under  
10 subsection (2)(a) to provide to one or more service repair facilities to be used when moving vehicles in the  
11 dealer's inventory to and from the dealer's place of business and the service and repair facility prior to sale. A  
12 vehicle displaying demonstrator plates under this subsection is not required to have a Monroney label or a  
13 buyer's guide label as required by 61-4-123(2).

14 ~~(e)~~(d) A vehicle being operated in accordance with this subsection (2) need only display one  
15 demonstrator plate conspicuously on the rear of the vehicle.

16 (3) A dealer who files the annual report required under 61-4-124 on or before December 31 of the  
17 calendar year may display or use demonstrator plates assigned and registered for the calendar year through  
18 the last day of February of the following year, as provided in 61-4-124(5)."

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20 COORDINATION SECTION. SECTION 2. COORDINATION INSTRUCTION. IF SENATE BILL NO. 285 AND [THIS  
21 ACT] ARE BOTH PASSED AND APPROVED, THEN THE CODE COMMISSIONER SHALL CHANGE ALL REFERENCES TO VEHICLE  
22 IN SUBSECTION (2)(C) OF 61-4-129 IN [THIS ACT] TO REFERENCES TO MOTOR VEHICLE.

23 - END -