

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 636

2 INTRODUCED BY C. LONEY

3
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING MOTOR VEHICLE LAWS; ALLOWING FOR
5 THE OPERATION OF LOW-SPEED ELECTRIC VEHICLES; ALLOWING FOR HIGHWAY USE OF UTILITY
6 VEHICLES; PROVIDING FOR A PILOT PROGRAM TO ALLOW FOR EXPEDITED VEHICLE TITLE SERVICES
7 FOR A FEE; PERMITTING TEMPORARY REGISTRATION FOR HIGHWAY USE OF CERTAIN
8 QUADRICYCLES AND UTILITY VEHICLES OWNED BY NONRESIDENTS; REQUIRING TITLING OF
9 MOTORCYCLES, QUADRICYCLES, AND UTILITY VEHICLES OPERATED ON PRIVATE PROPERTY;
10 ALLOWING SPECIAL MILITARY OR VETERAN LICENSE PLATES TO BE USED FOR QUADRICYCLES
11 REGISTERED FOR HIGHWAY USE; GRANTING RULEMAKING AUTHORITY TO TITLE AND REGISTER
12 CERTAIN VESSELS OWNED BY NONRESIDENTS; CLARIFYING REQUIREMENTS FOR ANATOMICAL GIFT
13 ~~DONATIONS~~ DESIGNATIONS ON A DRIVER'S LICENSE AND IDENTIFICATION CARD; AMENDING
14 SECTIONS 10-3-1307, 15-6-228, 23-1-105, 23-2-801, 23-2-804, 61-1-101, 61-3-103, 61-3-109, 61-3-118,
15 61-3-201, 61-3-202, 61-3-205, 61-3-208, 61-3-216, 61-3-217, 61-3-218, 61-3-219, 61-3-220, 61-3-221, 61-3-222,
16 61-3-224, 61-3-301, 61-3-303, 61-3-312, 61-3-313, 61-3-321, 61-3-332, 61-3-333, 61-3-458, 61-3-506, 61-3-509,
17 61-4-101, 61-4-108, 61-4-131, 61-5-102, 61-5-301, 61-6-158, 61-6-303, 61-8-359, 61-9-203, 61-9-206, 61-9-220,
18 61-9-303, 61-9-304, 61-9-312, 61-9-417, 61-9-418, 61-9-421, 61-9-432, 61-9-435, AND 61-13-103, MCA; AND
19 PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATES."

20
21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

22
23 NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Low-speed electric vehicle.** (1) A low-speed electric vehicle may be
24 operated only on a highway for which the posted speed limit does not exceed 35 miles per hour.

25 (2) A low-speed electric vehicle may not cross a highway with a posted speed limit of greater than 45
26 miles per hour.

27 (3) Except as provided in subsections (1) and (2), the provisions of this chapter apply to a low-speed
28 electric vehicle.

29
30 **Section 2.** Section 10-3-1307, MCA, is amended to read:

1 **"10-3-1307. Responsibilities of department of transportation -- assessment and collection of fees**

2 **-- issuance of permits -- inspection of motor carriers.** (1) After receiving notification from the person or entity
3 that plans to ship high-level radioactive waste or transuranic waste through the state, the department of
4 transportation shall assess fees according to the following schedule:

5 (a) a fee of \$2,500 must be assessed for each cask designed for transport by truck; and

6 (b) a fee of \$4,500 must be assessed for the first cask designed for transport by rail and a fee of \$3,000
7 for each additional cask designed for transport by rail that is shipped by the same person or entity in the same
8 shipment.

9 (2) Payment of the fees provided in subsection (1) is the responsibility of the person or entity who owns
10 the waste.

11 (3) Upon receipt of the fees provided in subsection (1), the department of transportation shall issue to
12 the owner of the waste a permit that must be carried with the waste as it is traveling through the state.

13 (4) The department of transportation shall deposit all of the fees collected under this section in the
14 radioactive waste transportation monitoring, emergency response, and training account created in 10-3-1304.

15 (5) If the waste is to be transported through the state by motor carrier, the department of transportation
16 shall coordinate with the highway patrol on the inspection of the motor carrier by the motor carrier services
17 division.

18 (6) This section does not exempt the operator of a motor carrier from any of the provisions of Title 61,
19 chapter 10, from Title 69, chapter 12, or from any other law that applies to the operation of motor vehicles in
20 Montana.

21 (7) Fees under this section must be assessed regardless of ownership, and ~~61-3-321(13)~~ 61-3-321(14)
22 and 61-10-127 do not apply."

23

24 **Section 3.** Section 15-6-228, MCA, is amended to read:

25 **"15-6-228. Property subject to registration fee.** The following property that is subject to a registration
26 fee is exempt from property taxation:

27 (1) truck canopy covers or toppers and campers;

28 (2) motor homes;

29 (3) all watercraft;

30 (4) all trailers, semitrailers, pole trailers, and travel trailers as those terms are defined in 61-1-101;

- 1 (5) all vehicles registered under 61-3-456;
- 2 (6) (a) buses, trucks having a manufacturer's rated capacity of more than 1 ton, and truck tractors,
3 including buses, trucks, and truck tractors apportioned under Title 61, chapter 3, part 7; and
- 4 (b) personal property that is attached to a bus, truck, or truck tractor that is exempt under subsection
5 (6)(a);
- 6 (7) motorcycles, utility vehicles, and quadricycles; and
- 7 (8) light vehicles as defined in 61-1-101."

8

9 **Section 4.** Section 23-1-105, MCA, is amended to read:

10 **"23-1-105. Fees and charges.** (1) The department may levy and collect reasonable fees or other
11 charges for the use of privileges and conveniences that may be provided and to grant concessions that it
12 considers advisable, except as provided in subsections (2) and (6). All money derived from the activities of the
13 department, except as provided in subsection (5), must be deposited in the state treasury in a state special
14 revenue fund to the credit of the department.

15 (2) Overnight camping fees established by the department under subsection (1) must be discounted 50%
16 for a campsite rented by a person who is a resident of Montana, as defined in 87-2-102, and either 62 years of
17 age or older or certified as disabled in accordance with rules adopted by the department.

18 (3) For a violation of any fee collection rule involving a vehicle, the registered owner of the vehicle at the
19 time of the violation is personally responsible if an adult is not in the vehicle at the time the violation is discovered
20 by an authorized officer. A defense that the vehicle was driven into the fee area by another person is not
21 allowable unless it is shown that at that time, the vehicle was being used without the consent of the registered
22 owner.

23 (4) Money received from the collection of fees and charges is subject to the deposit requirements of
24 17-6-105(6) unless the department has submitted and received approval for a modified deposit schedule pursuant
25 to 17-6-105(8).

26 (5) There is a fund of the enterprise fund type, as defined in 17-2-102(2)(a), for the purpose of managing
27 state park visitor services revenue. The fund is to be used by the department to serve the recreating public by
28 providing for the obtaining of inventory through purchase, production, or donation and for the sale of educational,
29 commemorative, and interpretive merchandise and other related goods and services at department sites and
30 facilities. The fund consists of money from the sale of educational, commemorative, and interpretive merchandise

1 and other related goods and services and from donations. Gross revenue from the sale of educational,
 2 commemorative, and interpretive merchandise and other related goods and services must be deposited in the
 3 fund. All interest and earnings on money deposited in the fund must be credited to the fund for use as provided
 4 in this subsection.

5 (6) In recognition of the fact that individuals support state parks through the payment of certain motor
 6 vehicle registration fees, persons who pay the fee provided for in ~~61-3-321(18)(a)~~ 61-3-321(19)(a) may not be
 7 required to pay a day-use fee for access to state parks. Other fees for the use of state parks and fishing access
 8 sites, such as overnight camping fees, are still chargeable and may be collected by the department."
 9

10 **Section 5.** Section 23-2-801, MCA, is amended to read:

11 **"23-2-801. Definition.** (1) As used in this part, "off-highway vehicle" means a self-propelled vehicle ~~used~~
 12 designed for off-road or all-terrain recreation or cross-country travel ~~on public lands, trails, easements, lakes,~~
 13 ~~rivers, or streams.~~ The term includes but is not limited to motorcycles, quadricycles, utility vehicles, dune buggies,
 14 amphibious vehicles, air cushion vehicles, and any other means of land transportation deriving motive power from
 15 any source other than muscle or wind.

16 (2) Off-highway vehicle does not include:

17 ~~— (a) vehicles designed primarily for travel on, over, or in the water; or~~

18 ~~— (b) snowmobiles; or~~

19 ~~— (c) except as provided in 23-2-804, vehicles otherwise issued a certificate of title and registered under~~
 20 ~~the laws of the state, unless the vehicle is used for off-road recreation on public lands."~~

21

22 **Section 6.** Section 23-2-804, MCA, is amended to read:

23 **"23-2-804. Decal required.** (1) Except as provided in 23-2-802, a person may not operate an
 24 off-highway vehicle ~~may not be operated by a person for off-road recreation~~ on public lands in Montana unless
 25 ~~there is displayed in a conspicuous place~~ a decal, in a form prescribed by the department of justice and issued
 26 by the county treasurer, is conspicuously displayed on the vehicle as visual proof that the vehicle has been
 27 registered for off-road use under ~~the following fees have been paid:~~

28 ~~— (a) the registration fee provided for in 61-3-321(5); or~~

29 ~~— (b) when the vehicle will be used as provided in this section, the registration and taxation fees for~~
 30 ~~motorcycles and quadricycles subject to licensure under 61-3-321(8); as evidenced by presentation of an owner's~~

1 ~~certificate of registration and payment receipt. The county treasurer may confirm the registration status of a~~
2 ~~motorcycle or quadricycle by examining the current registration receipt for the vehicle or checking the electronic~~
3 ~~record of title for the vehicle.~~

4 (2) The decal must be serially numbered."
5

6 **Section 7.** Section 61-1-101, MCA, is amended to read:

7 **"61-1-101. Definitions.** As used in this title, unless the context indicates otherwise, the following
8 definitions apply:

9 (1) (a) "Authorized agent" means a person who has executed a written agreement with the department
10 and is specifically authorized by the department to electronically access and update the department's motor
11 vehicle titling, registration, or driver records, using an approved automated interface, for specific functions or
12 purposes upon behalf of a third party.

13 (b) For purposes of this subsection (1), "person" means an individual, corporation, partnership, limited
14 partnership, limited liability company, association, joint venture, state agency, local government unit, another state
15 government, the United States, a political subdivision of this or another state, or any other legal or commercial
16 entity.

17 (2) "Authorized agent agreement" means the written agreement executed between an authorized agent
18 and the department that sets the technical and operational program standards, compliance criteria, payment
19 options, and service expectations by which the authorized agent is required to operate in performing specific
20 motor vehicle or driver-related record functions.

21 (3) "Bus" means a motor vehicle designed for carrying more than 10 passengers and used for the
22 transportation of persons and any other motor vehicle, other than a taxicab, designed and used for the
23 transportation of persons for compensation.

24 (4) (a) "Business entity" means a corporation, association, partnership, limited liability partnership, limited
25 liability company, or other legal entity recognized under state law.

26 (b) The term does not include an individual.

27 (5) (a) "Camper" means a structure designed to be mounted in the cargo area of a truck or attached to
28 an incomplete vehicle for the purpose of providing shelter for persons. The term includes but is not limited to a
29 cab-over, half cab-over, noncab-over, telescopic, and telescopic cab-over.

30 (b) The term does not include a truck canopy cover or topper.

1 (6) "Certificate of title" means the paper record issued by the department or by the appropriate agency
2 of another jurisdiction that establishes a verifiable record of ownership between an identified person or persons
3 and the motor vehicle specifically described in the record and that provides notice of a perfected security interest
4 in the motor vehicle.

5 (7) "Commercial driver's license" means:

6 (a) a driver's license issued under or granted by the laws of this state that authorizes a person to operate
7 a class of commercial motor vehicle; and

8 (b) the privilege of a person to drive a commercial motor vehicle, whether or not the person holds a valid
9 commercial driver's license.

10 (8) (a) "Commercial motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle or combination of motor vehicles used in
11 commerce to transport passengers or property if the vehicle:

12 (i) has a gross combination weight rating or a gross combination weight of 26,001 pounds or more,
13 whichever is greater, inclusive of a towed unit with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 10,000 pounds;

14 (ii) has a gross vehicle weight rating or a gross vehicle weight of 26,001 pounds or more, whichever is
15 greater;

16 (iii) is designed to transport at least 16 passengers, including the driver;

17 (iv) is a school bus; or

18 (v) is of any size and is used in the transportation of hazardous materials as defined in 61-8-801.

19 (b) The following vehicles are not commercial motor vehicles:

20 (i) an authorized emergency service vehicle:

21 (A) equipped with audible and visual signals as required under 61-9-401 and 61-9-402; and

22 (B) entitled to the exemptions granted under 61-8-107;

23 (ii) a vehicle:

24 (A) controlled and operated by a farmer, family member of the farmer, or person employed by the farmer;

25 (B) used to transport farm products, farm machinery, or farm supplies to or from the farm within Montana
26 within 150 miles of the farm or, if there is a reciprocity agreement with a state adjoining Montana, within 150 miles
27 of the farm, including any area within that perimeter that is in the adjoining state; and

28 (C) not used to transport goods for compensation or for hire; or

29 (iii) a vehicle operated for military purposes by active duty military personnel, a member of the military
30 reserves, a member of the national guard on active duty, including personnel on full-time national guard duty,

1 personnel in part-time national guard training, and national guard military technicians, or active duty United States
2 coast guard personnel.

3 (c) For purposes of this subsection (8):

4 (i) "farmer" means a person who operates a farm or who is directly involved in the cultivation of land or
5 crops or the raising of livestock owned by or under the direct control of that person;

6 (ii) "gross combination weight rating" means the value specified by the manufacturer as the loaded weight
7 of a combination or articulated vehicle;

8 (iii) "gross vehicle weight rating" means the value specified by the manufacturer as the loaded weight of
9 a single vehicle; and

10 (iv) "school bus" has the meaning provided in 49 CFR 383.5.

11 (9) "Commission" means the state transportation commission.

12 (10) "Custom-built motorcycle" means a motorcycle that is equipped with:

13 (a) an engine that was manufactured 20 years prior to the current calendar year and that has been
14 altered from the manufacturer's original design;

15 (b) an engine that was manufactured to resemble an engine 20 or more years old and that has been
16 constructed in whole or in part from nonoriginal materials.

17 (11) "Custom vehicle" means a motor vehicle other than a motorcycle that:

18 (a) (i) was manufactured with a model year after 1948 and that is at least 25 years old; or

19 (ii) was built to resemble a vehicle manufactured after 1948 and at least 25 years before the current
20 calendar year, including a kit vehicle intended to resemble a vehicle manufactured after 1948 and that is at least
21 25 years old; and

22 (b) has been altered from the manufacturer's original design or has a body constructed from nonoriginal
23 materials.

24 (12) "Customer identification number" means:

25 (a) a driver's license or identification card number when the customer is an individual who has been
26 issued a driver's license or identification card by a state driver licensing authority;

27 (b) a federal employer or tax identification number when the customer is a business entity that has been
28 issued a federal employer or tax identification number;

29 (c) the identification number assigned by the secretary of state to a business entity authorized to do
30 business in this state under Title 35 if the customer is a business entity that does not have a federal employer

1 or tax identification number other than a social security number; or

2 (d) if the customer has not been issued one of the numbers described in subsections (12)(a) through
3 (12)(c), a number assigned to the customer by the department when a transaction is initiated under this title.

4 (13) (a) "Dealer" means a person that, for commission or profit, engages in whole or in part in the
5 business of buying, selling, exchanging, or accepting on consignment new or used motor vehicles, trailers,
6 semitrailers, pole trailers, travel trailers, motorboats, sailboats, snowmobiles, off-highway vehicles, or special
7 mobile equipment that is not registered in the name of the person.

8 (b) The term does not include the following:

9 (i) receivers, trustees, administrators, executors, guardians, or other persons appointed by or acting
10 under a judgment or order of any court of competent jurisdiction;

11 (ii) employees of the persons included in subsection (13)(b)(i) when engaged in the specific performance
12 of their duties as employees; or

13 (iii) public officers while performing or in the operation of their duties.

14 (14) "Declared weight" means the total unladen weight of a vehicle plus the weight of the maximum load
15 to be carried on the vehicle as stated by the registrant in the application for registration.

16 (15) "Department" means the department of justice acting directly or through its duly authorized officers
17 or agents.

18 (16) "Dolly or converter gear" means a device consisting of one or two axles with a fifth wheel and trailer
19 tongue used to support the forward end of a semitrailer, converting a semitrailer into a trailer.

20 (17) "Domiciled" means a place where:

21 (a) an individual establishes residence;

22 (b) a business entity maintains its principal place of business;

23 (c) the business entity's registered agent maintains an address; or

24 (d) a business entity most frequently uses, dispatches, or controls a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer,
25 or pole trailer that it owns or leases.

26 (18) "Driver" means a person who drives or is in actual physical control of a vehicle.

27 (19) "Driver's license" means a license or permit to operate a motor vehicle issued under or granted by
28 the laws of this state, including:

29 (a) any temporary license or instruction permit;

30 (b) the privilege of any person to drive a motor vehicle, whether or not the person holds a valid license;

1 (c) any nonresident's driving privilege;

2 (d) a motorcycle endorsement; or

3 (e) a commercial driver's license.

4 (20) "Electric personal assistive mobility device" means a device that has two nontandem wheels, is
5 self-balancing, and is designed to transport only one person with an electric propulsion system that limits the
6 maximum speed of the device to 12 1/2 miles an hour.

7 (21) "For hire" means an action performed for remuneration of any kind, whether paid or promised, either
8 directly or indirectly, or received or obtained through leasing, brokering, or buy-and-sell arrangements from which
9 a remuneration is obtained or derived for transportation service.

10 (22) "Golf cart" means a self-propelled vehicle that is designed for use on a golf course to carry a person
11 or persons and golf equipment and that has an average speed of less than 15 miles per hour.

12 ~~(22)~~(23) "Gross vehicle weight" means the weight of a vehicle without load plus the weight of any load
13 on the vehicle.

14 ~~(23)~~(24) "Highway" or "public highway" means the entire width between the boundary lines of every
15 publicly maintained way when any part of the publicly maintained way is open to the use of the public for purposes
16 of vehicular travel.

17 ~~(24)~~(25) "Highway patrol officer" means a state officer authorized to direct or regulate traffic or to make
18 arrests for violations of traffic regulations.

19 ~~(25)~~(26) "Implement of husbandry" means a vehicle that is designed for agricultural purposes and
20 exclusively used by the owner of the vehicle in the conduct of the owner's agricultural operations.

21 ~~(26)~~(27) "Kit vehicle" is a motor vehicle assembled from a manufactured kit either as:

22 (a) a complete kit, consisting of a prefabricated body and chassis, to construct a new motor vehicle; or

23 (b) a kit with a prefabricated body to be mounted to an existing motor vehicle chassis and drivetrain,
24 commonly referred to as a donor vehicle.

25 ~~(27)~~(28) "Light vehicle" means a motor vehicle commonly referred to as an automobile, van, sport utility
26 vehicle, or truck having a manufacturer's rated capacity of 1 ton or less.

27 (29) "Low-speed electric vehicle" means a motor vehicle upon or by which a person may be transported
28 that:

29 (a) has four wheels;

30 (b) has a maximum speed of at least 20 miles an hour and no greater than 25 miles an hour as certified

1 by the manufacturer;

2 (c) is propelled by its own power, using an electric motor or other device that transforms stored electrical
3 energy into the motion of the vehicle;

4 (d) stores electricity in batteries, ultracapacitors, or similar devices, which are charged from the power
5 grid or from renewable electrical energy sources;

6 (e) has a wheelbase of 40 inches or greater and a wheel diameter of 10 inches or greater;

7 (f) exhibits a manufacturer's compliance with 49 CFR, part 565, or displays a 17-character vehicle
8 identification number as provided in 49 CFR, part 565; and

9 (g) is equipped as provided in 61-9-432.

10 ~~(28)~~(30) "Manufactured home" has the meaning provided in 15-24-201.

11 ~~(29)~~(31) "Manufacturer" includes any person engaged in the manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers,
12 semitrailers, pole trailers, travel trailers, motorboats, sailboats, snowmobiles, or off-highway vehicles as a regular
13 business.

14 ~~(30)~~(32) "Manufacturer's certificate of origin" means the original paper record produced and issued by
15 the manufacturer of a vehicle or, if in a medium authorized by the department, an electronic record created and
16 transmitted by the manufacturer of a vehicle to the manufacturer's agent or a licensed dealer. The record must
17 establish the origin of the vehicle specifically described in the record and, upon assignment, transfers of
18 ownership of the vehicle to the person or persons named in the certificate.

19 ~~(31)~~(33) (a) "Medium-speed electric vehicle" is a motor vehicle, upon or by which a person may be
20 transported, that:

21 (i) has a maximum speed of 45 miles an hour as certified by the manufacturer;

22 (ii) is propelled by its own power, using an electric motor or other device that transforms stored electrical
23 energy into the motion of the vehicle;

24 (iii) stores electricity in batteries, ultracapacitors, or similar devices, which are charged from the power
25 grid or from renewable electrical energy sources;

26 (iv) is fully enclosed and includes at least one door for entry;

27 (v) has a wheelbase of 40 inches or greater and a wheel diameter of 10 inches or greater;

28 (vi) exhibits a manufacturer's compliance with 49 CFR, part 565, or displays a 17-character vehicle
29 identification number as provided in 49 CFR, part 565;

30 (vii) bears a sticker, affixed by the manufacturer or dealer, on the left side of the rear window that

1 indicates the vehicle's maximum speed rating; and

2 (viii) as certified by the manufacturer, is equipped as provided in 61-9-432.

3 (b) A medium-speed electric vehicle must be treated as a light vehicle for purposes of titling and
4 registration under Title 61, chapter 3.

5 (c) A medium-speed electric vehicle may not have a gross vehicle weight in excess of 5,000 pounds.

6 (34) (a) "Minitruck" means either a foreign-manufactured used vehicle imported for off-road use or a
7 domestic manufactured vehicle that:

8 (i) is powered by an internal combustion engine with a piston or rotor displacement of 1,000 cubic
9 centimeters or less;

10 (ii) is less than 67 inches in width;

11 (iii) has a weight of 4,200 pounds or less;

12 (iv) travels on four or more tires;

13 (v) has a top speed of 55 miles per hour;

14 (vi) has an enclosed passenger cab;

15 (vii) is equipped with headlights, taillights, turn signals, windshield wipers, a rearview mirror, and a
16 seatbelt assembly;

17 (viii) has a four-speed, five-speed, or automatic transmission; and

18 (ix) is equipped with a bed or compartment for hauling.

19 (b) If titled and registered for highway use, a minitruck is a motor vehicle TREATED AS A LIGHT VEHICLE.

20 ~~(32)~~(35) "Mobile home" or "housetrailer" has the meaning provided in 15-24-201.

21 ~~(33)~~(36) "Montana resident" means:

22 (a) an individual who resides in Montana as determined under 1-1-215;

23 (b) for the purposes of chapter 3, a business entity that maintains a principal place of business or a
24 registered agent in this state.

25 ~~(34)~~(37) (a) "Motorboat" means a vessel, including a personal watercraft or pontoon, propelled by any
26 machinery, motor, or engine of any description, whether or not the machinery, motor, or engine is the principal
27 source of propulsion. The term includes boats temporarily equipped with detachable motors or engines.

28 (b) The term does not include a vessel that has a valid marine document issued by the U.S. coast guard
29 or any successor federal agency.

30 ~~(35)~~(38) (a) "Motor carrier" means a person or corporation or its lessees, trustees, or receivers appointed

1 by a court that are operating motor vehicles upon a public highway in this state for the transportation of property
2 for hire on a commercial basis.

3 (b) The term does not include motor carriers regulated under Title 69, chapter 12.

4 ~~(36)~~(39) (a) "Motorcycle" means a ~~motor~~ vehicle that has a seat or saddle for the use of the operator and
5 that is ~~designated~~ designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground. A motorcycle may
6 carry one or more attachments and a seat for the conveyance of a passenger.

7 (B) A MOTORCYCLE DESIGNED FOR USE ON HIGHWAYS IS A MOTOR VEHICLE UNLESS OTHERWISE PRESCRIBED.

8 (C) A MOTORCYCLE DESIGNED FOR OFF-ROAD RECREATIONAL USE IS AN OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE UNLESS IT HAS
9 BEEN MODIFIED TO MEET THE EQUIPMENT STANDARDS SPECIFIED IN CHAPTER 9 OF THIS TITLE AND HAS BEEN REGISTERED
10 FOR HIGHWAY USE.

11 ~~(b)~~(D) The term does not include a tractor, a bicycle as defined in 61-8-102, a motorized nonstandard
12 vehicle, or a two- or three-wheeled all-terrain vehicle that is used exclusively on private property.

13 ~~(37)~~(40) (a) "Motor-driven cycle" means a motorcycle, including a motor scooter, with a motor that
14 produces 5 horsepower or less.

15 (b) The term does not include a bicycle, as defined in 61-8-102, or a motorized nonstandard vehicle.

16 ~~(38)~~(41) "Motor home" means a motor vehicle:

17 (a) designed to provide temporary living quarters, built as an integral part of or permanently attached to
18 a self-propelled motor vehicle chassis or van;

19 (b) containing permanently installed independent life support systems that meet the ANSIA/A119.2
20 standard; and

21 (c) providing at least four of the following types of facilities:

22 (i) cooking, refrigeration, or icebox;

23 (ii) self-contained toilet;

24 (iii) heating or air conditioning, or both;

25 (iv) potable water supply, including a faucet and sink; or

26 (v) separate 110-volt or 125-volt electrical power supply or a liquefied petroleum gas supply; or both.

27 ~~(39)~~(42) (a) "Motorized nonstandard vehicle" means a vehicle, upon or by which a person may be
28 transported, that:

29 (i) is propelled by its own power, using an internal combustion engine or an electric motor;

30 (ii) has a wheelbase of less than 40 inches and a wheel diameter of less than 10 inches; and

1 (iii) does not display a manufacturer's certification in accordance with 49 CFR, part 567, or have a
2 17-character vehicle identification number assigned by the manufacturer in accordance with 49 CFR, part 565.

3 (b) The term includes but is not limited to a motorized skateboard and a vehicle commonly known as a
4 "pocket rocket".

5 (c) The term does not include an electric personal assistive mobility device or a motorized wheelchair
6 or other low-powered, mechanically propelled vehicle designed specifically for use by a physically disabled
7 person.

8 ~~(40)~~(43) (a) "Motor vehicle" means:

9 (i) a vehicle propelled by its own power and designed ~~or used~~ to transport persons or property upon the
10 highways ~~of the state~~; and,

11 ~~—— (ii) a quadricycle if it is registered and equipped for use on the highways as prescribed in chapter 9 and~~
12 ~~not otherwise prescribed, includes a minitruck, a motorcycle designed for ~~road~~ OFF-ROAD use, a quadricycle, or~~
13 ~~a utility vehicle.~~

14 (b) The term does not include a bicycle as defined in 61-8-102, an electric personal assistive mobility
15 device, a motorized nonstandard vehicle, or a motorized wheelchair or other low-powered, mechanically propelled
16 vehicle that is designed specifically for use by a physically disabled person and that is used as a means of
17 mobility for that person.

18 ~~(41)~~(44) "New motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle, regardless of the mileage of the vehicle, the legal
19 or equitable title to which has never been transferred by a manufacturer, distributor, or dealer to another person
20 as the result of a retail sale.

21 ~~(42)~~(45) "Nonresident" means a person who is not a Montana resident.

22 ~~(43)~~(46) (a) "Not used for general transportation purposes" means the operation of a motor vehicle,
23 registered as a collector's item, a custom vehicle, a street rod, or a custom-built motorcycle to or from a car or
24 motorcycle club activity or event or an exhibit, show, cruise night, or parade, or other occasional transportation
25 activity.

26 (b) The term does not include operation of a motor vehicle for routine or ordinary household
27 maintenance, employment, education, or other similar purposes.

28 ~~(44)~~(47) (a) "Off-highway vehicle" means a self-propelled vehicle designed for off-road or all-terrain
29 recreation or cross-country travel ~~on public lands, trails, easements, lakes, rivers, or streams~~. The term includes
30 but is not limited to motorcycles, quadricycles, utility vehicles, dune buggies, amphibious vehicles, air cushion

1 vehicles, and any other means of land transportation deriving motive power from any source other than muscle
2 or wind.

3 (b) The term does not include:

4 (i) vehicles designed primarily for travel on, over, or in the water; or

5 (ii) snowmobiles; or

6 ~~_____ (iii) motor vehicles designed to transport persons or property upon the highways unless the vehicle is~~
7 ~~used for off-road recreation on public lands.~~

8 ~~(45)(48)~~ "Operator" means a person who is in actual physical control of a motor vehicle.

9 ~~(46)(49)~~ "Owner" means a person who holds the legal title to a vehicle. If a vehicle is the subject of an
10 agreement for the conditional sale of the vehicle with the right of purchase upon performance of the conditions
11 stated in the agreement and with an immediate right of possession vested in the conditional vendee, or in the
12 event a vehicle is subject to a lease, contract, or other legal arrangement vesting right of possession or control,
13 for security or otherwise, or in the event a mortgagor of a vehicle is entitled to possession, then the owner is the
14 person in whom is vested the right of possession or control.

15 ~~(47)(50)~~ "Person" means an individual, corporation, partnership, association, firm, or other legal entity.

16 ~~(48)(51)~~ "Personal watercraft" means a vessel that uses an outboard motor or an inboard engine
17 powering a water jet pump as its primary source of propulsion and that is designed to be operated by a person
18 sitting, standing, or kneeling on the vessel rather than by the conventional method of sitting or standing in the
19 vessel.

20 ~~(49)(52)~~ "Pole trailer" means a vehicle without power designed to be drawn by another vehicle and
21 attached to the towing vehicle by means of a reach or pole or by being boomed or otherwise secured to the
22 towing vehicle and ordinarily used for transporting long or irregularly shaped loads such as poles, pipes, or
23 structural members capable generally of sustaining themselves as beams between the supporting connections.

24 ~~(50)(53)~~ "Police officer" means an officer authorized to direct or regulate traffic or to make arrests for
25 violations of traffic regulations.

26 ~~(51)(54)~~ (a) "Quadricycle" means a four-wheeled ~~motor~~ self-propelled vehicle, designed for ~~on-road or~~
27 ~~off-road~~ or all-terrain use, ~~having that:~~

28 (i) has handlebar steering;

29 (ii) has a seat or saddle upon which the operator sits and a motor capable of producing not more than
30 50 horsepower that is straddled by the operator;

- 1 (iii) has a wheelbase of 61 inches or less;
- 2 (iv) is 50 inches or less in width; and
- 3 (v) weighs less than 900 pounds.
- 4 (b) The term does not include golf carts.
- 5 ~~(52)~~(55) "Railroad" means a carrier of persons or property upon cars, other than streetcars, operated
- 6 upon stationary rails.
- 7 ~~(53)~~(56) (a) "Railroad train" or "train" means a steam engine or electric or other motor, with or without cars
- 8 coupled to the engine, that is operated upon rails.
- 9 (b) The term does not include streetcars.
- 10 ~~(54)~~(57) "Recreational vehicle" includes a motor home, travel trailer, or camper.
- 11 ~~(55)~~(58) "Registration" or "register" means the act or process of creating an electronic record, maintained
- 12 by the department, of the assignment of a license plate or a set of license plates to and the issuance of a
- 13 registration decal for a specific vehicle, the ownership of which has been established or is presumed in
- 14 department records.
- 15 ~~(56)~~(59) "Registration decal" means an adhesive sticker produced by the department and issued by the
- 16 department, its authorized agent, or a county treasurer to the owner of a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole
- 17 trailer, motorboat, sailboat, personal watercraft, or snowmobile as proof of payment of all fees imposed for the
- 18 registration period indicated on the sticker as recorded by the department under 61-3-101.
- 19 ~~(57)~~(60) "Registration receipt" means a paper record that is produced and issued or, if authorized by the
- 20 department, an electronic record that is transmitted by the department, its authorized agent, or a county treasurer
- 21 to the owner of a vehicle that identifies a vehicle, based on information maintained in the electronic record of title
- 22 for the vehicle, and that provides evidence of the payment of all fees required to be paid for the registration of the
- 23 vehicle for the registration period indicated in the receipt.
- 24 ~~(58)~~(61) "Retail sale" means the sale of a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, travel trailer,
- 25 motorboat, snowmobile, off-highway vehicle, or special mobile equipment by a dealer to a person for purposes
- 26 other than resale.
- 27 ~~(59)~~(62) "Revocation" means the termination by action of the department of a person's driver's license,
- 28 privilege to drive a motor vehicle on the public highways, and privilege to apply for and be issued a driver's license
- 29 for a period of time designated by law, during which the license or privilege may not be renewed, restored, or
- 30 exercised. An application for a new license may be presented and acted upon by the department after the

1 expiration of the period of the revocation.

2 ~~(60)~~(63) "Roadway" means that portion of a highway improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular
3 travel, exclusive of the berm or shoulder. In the event that a highway includes two or more separate roadways,
4 the term refers to any roadway separately but not to all roadways collectively.

5 ~~(61)~~(64) (a) "Sailboat" means a vessel that uses a sail and wind as its primary source of propulsion.

6 (b) The term does not include a canoe or kayak propelled by wind.

7 ~~(62)~~(65) "School zone" means an area near a school beginning at the school's front door, encompassing
8 the campus and school property, and including the streets directly adjacent to the school property and for as
9 many blocks surrounding the school as determined by the local authority establishing a special speed limit under
10 61-8-310(1)(d).

11 ~~(63)~~(66) "Sell" means to transfer ownership from one person to another person or from a dealer to
12 another person for consideration.

13 ~~(64)~~(67) "Semitrailer" means a vehicle, with or without motive power, other than a pole trailer, designed
14 for carrying property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle and constructed so that some part of its weight and
15 that of its load rests upon or is carried by another vehicle.

16 ~~(65)~~(68) "Snowmobile" means a self-propelled vehicle of an overall width of 48 inches or less, excluding
17 accessories, that is designed primarily for travel on snow or ice, that may be steered by skis or runners, and that
18 is not otherwise registered or licensed under the laws of the state of Montana.

19 ~~(66)~~(69) "Special mobile equipment" means a vehicle not designed for the transportation of persons or
20 property on the highways but incidentally operated or moved over the highways, including road construction or
21 maintenance machinery, ditch-digging apparatus, and well-boring apparatus. The fact that equipment is
22 permanently attached to a vehicle does not make the vehicle special mobile equipment. The enumeration in this
23 subsection is partial and does not exclude other vehicles that are within the general terms of this subsection.

24 ~~(67)~~(70) (a) "Specially constructed vehicle" means a motor vehicle, including a motorcycle, that:

25 (i) was not originally constructed under a distinctive make, model, or type by a generally recognized
26 manufacturer of motor vehicles;

27 (ii) has been structurally modified so that it does not have the same appearance as similar vehicles from
28 a generally recognized manufacturer of motor vehicles;

29 (iii) has been constructed or assembled entirely from custom-built parts and materials not obtained from
30 other vehicles;

1 (iv) has been constructed or assembled by using major component parts from one or more manufactured
2 vehicles and that cannot be identified as a specific make or model; or

3 (v) has been constructed by the use of a kit that cannot be visually identified as a specific make or model.

4 (b) The term does not include a motor vehicle that has been repaired or restored to its original design
5 by replacing parts.

6 ~~(68)~~(71) (a) "Sport utility vehicle" means a light vehicle designed to transport 10 or fewer persons that
7 is constructed on a truck chassis or that has special features for occasional off-road use.

8 (b) The term does not include trucks having a manufacturer's rated capacity of 1 ton or less.

9 ~~(69)~~(72) (a) "Stop", when required, means complete cessation from movement.

10 (b) "Stop", "stopping", or "standing", when prohibited, means any stopping or standing of a vehicle,
11 whether occupied or not, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the
12 directions of a police officer, highway patrol officer, or traffic control sign or signal.

13 ~~(70)~~(73) "Storage lot" means property owned, leased, or rented by a dealer that is not contiguous to the
14 dealer's established place of business where a motor vehicle from the dealer's inventory may be placed when
15 space at the dealer's established place of business is not available.

16 ~~(74)~~(74) "Street" means the entire width between the boundary lines of every publicly maintained way
17 when any part of the publicly maintained way is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel.

18 ~~(72)~~(75) "Street rod" means a motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle, that:

19 (a) was manufactured prior to 1949 or was built to resemble a vehicle manufactured before 1949,
20 including a kit vehicle intended to resemble a vehicle manufactured before 1949; and

21 (b) has been altered from the manufacturer's original design or has a body constructed from nonoriginal
22 materials.

23 ~~(73)~~(76) "Suspension" means the temporary withdrawal by action of the department of a person's driver's
24 license, privilege to drive a motor vehicle on the public highways, and privilege to apply for or be issued a driver's
25 license for a period of time designated by law.

26 ~~(74)~~(77) "Temporary registration permit" means a paper record:

27 (a) issued by the department, an authorized agent, a county treasurer, or a person, using a
28 department-approved electronic interface after an electronic record has been transmitted to the department, that
29 contains:

30 (i) required vehicle and owner information; and

1 (ii) the purpose for which the record was generated; and

2 (b) that, when placed in a durable license-plate style plastic pouch approved by the department and
3 displayed as prescribed in 61-3-224, authorizes a person to operate the described motor vehicle, motorboat,
4 sailboat that is 12 feet in length or longer, snowmobile, or off-highway vehicle for 40 days from the date the record
5 is issued or until the vehicle is registered under Title 23 or this title, whichever first occurs.

6 ~~(75)~~(78) "Traffic" means pedestrians, ridden or herded animals, vehicles, streetcars, and other
7 conveyances either singly or together while using any highways for purposes of travel.

8 ~~(76)~~(79) (a) "Trailer" means a vehicle, with or without motive power, other than a pole trailer, designed
9 for carrying property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle and constructed so that no part of its weight rests
10 upon the towing vehicle.

11 (b) The term does not include a mobile home or a manufactured home, as defined in 15-1-101.

12 ~~(77)~~(80) "Transaction summary receipt" means an electronic record produced and issued by the
13 department, its authorized agent, or a county treasurer for which a paper receipt is issued. The record may be
14 created by the department and transmitted to the owner of a vehicle, a secured party, or a lienholder. The record
15 must contain a unique transaction record number and summarize and verify the electronic filing of the transaction
16 described in the receipt on the electronic record of title maintained under 61-3-101.

17 ~~(78)~~(81) "Travel trailer" means a vehicle:

18 (a) that is 40 feet or less in length;

19 (b) that is of a size or weight that does not require special permits when towed by a motor vehicle;

20 (c) with gross trailer area of less than 320 square feet; and

21 (d) that is designed to provide temporary facilities for recreational, travel, or camping use and not used
22 as a principal residence.

23 ~~(79)~~(82) "Truck" or "motortruck" means a motor vehicle designed, used, or maintained primarily for the
24 transportation of property.

25 ~~(80)~~(83) "Truck tractor" means a motor vehicle designed and used primarily for drawing other vehicles
26 and not constructed to carry a load other than a part of the weight of the vehicle and load drawn.

27 ~~(81)~~(84) "Under the influence" has the meaning provided in 61-8-401.

28 ~~(82)~~(85) "Used motor vehicle" includes any motor vehicle that has been sold, bargained, exchanged,
29 given away, or had its title transferred from the person who first took title to it from the manufacturer, importer,
30 dealer, wholesaler, or agent of the manufacturer or importer and that has been used so as to have become what

1 is commonly known as "secondhand" within the ordinary meaning of that term.

2 (86) "Utility vehicle" means a self-propelled vehicle designed primarily for off-road use that:

3 (a) travels on four or more low-pressure tires;

4 (b) has a steering wheel;

5 (c) has a bench seat or side-by-side seats upon which the operator and at least one passenger may sit;

6 (d) has a wheelbase of 61 inches or greater and not more than 110 inches;

7 (e) has a width of 50 inches or greater and not more than 74 inches; and

8 (f) weighs 900 pounds or greater and not more than 2,000 pounds.

9 ~~(83)~~(87) "Van" means a motor vehicle designed for the transportation of at least six persons and not more
10 than nine persons and intended for but not limited to family or personal transportation without compensation.

11 ~~(84)~~(88) (a) "Vehicle" means a device in, upon, or by which any person or property may be transported
12 or drawn upon a public highway, except devices moved by animal power or used exclusively upon stationary rails
13 or tracks.

14 (b) The term does not include a manually or mechanically propelled wheelchair or other low-powered,
15 mechanically propelled vehicle that is designed specifically for use by a physically disabled person and that is
16 used as a means of mobility for that person.

17 ~~(85)~~(89) "Vehicle identification number" means the number, letters, or combination of numbers and letters
18 assigned by the manufacturer, by the department, or in accordance with the laws of another state or country for
19 the purpose of identifying the motor vehicle or a component part of the motor vehicle.

20 ~~(86)~~(90) "Vessel" means every description of watercraft, unless otherwise defined by the department,
21 other than a seaplane on the water, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water.

22 ~~(87)~~(91) "Wholesaler" means a person that for a commission or with intent to make a profit or gain of
23 money or other thing of value sells, exchanges, or attempts to negotiate a sale or exchange of an interest in a
24 used motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, travel trailer, motorboat, snowmobile, off-highway vehicle, or
25 special mobile equipment only to dealers and auto auctions licensed under chapter 4, part 1."

26

27 **Section 8.** Section 61-3-103, MCA, is amended to read:

28 **"61-3-103. Filing of security interests -- perfection -- rights -- procedure -- fees.** (1) (a) Except as
29 provided in subsection (2), the department, its authorized agent, or a county treasurer shall, upon payment of the
30 fee required by subsection (8), enter a voluntary security interest or lien against the electronic record of title for

1 a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer,
2 camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile upon receipt of a written acknowledgment of
3 a voluntary security interest or lien by the owner of a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle,
4 utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile on
5 a form prescribed by the department.

6 (b) After the voluntary security interest or lien has been entered on the electronic record of title for the
7 motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper,
8 motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile, the department, its authorized agent, or a county
9 treasurer shall issue a transaction summary receipt to the owner and, if requested, to the secured party or
10 lienholder, showing the date that the security interest or lien was perfected.

11 (c) A voluntary security interest or lien is perfected on the date that the department, its authorized agent,
12 or a county treasurer receives the written acknowledgment of the voluntary security interest or lien from the owner
13 of the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer,
14 camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile.

15 (d) Except as provided in subsection (3), when a person applying for a certificate of title requests
16 issuance of a certificate of title under 61-3-201, the department shall record the voluntary security interest or lien
17 on the face of a certificate of title.

18 (2) A security interest in a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle,
19 trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile held as inventory
20 by a dealer licensed under Title 23, chapter 2, part 5, 6, or 8, or chapter 4 of this title must be perfected in
21 accordance with Title 30, chapter 9A.

22 (3) Whenever a security interest or lien is filed against the electronic record of title for a motor vehicle,
23 motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat,
24 personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile that is subject to two security interests previously perfected under
25 this section and the applicant has requested issuance of a certificate of title under 61-3-201, the department shall
26 endorse on the face of the certificate of title, "NOTICE. This vehicle is subject to additional security interests on
27 file with the Department of Justice." Other information regarding the additional security interests is not required
28 to be endorsed on the certificate.

29 (4) Upon default under a chattel mortgage or conditional sales contract covering a motor vehicle,
30 motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat,

1 personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile, the mortgagee or vendor has the same remedies as in the case of
2 other personal property. In case of attachment of motor vehicles, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle,
3 utility vehicle, trailers, semitrailers, pole trailers, campers, motorboats, personal watercraft, sailboats, or
4 snowmobiles, all the provisions of 27-18-413, 27-18-414, and 27-18-804 are applicable except that deposits must
5 be made with the department.

6 (5) A secured party or lienholder who has a perfected security interest in a motor vehicle, motorcycle,
7 quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal
8 watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile and who fails to file a satisfaction of the security interest or lien within 21 days
9 after receiving final payment is required to pay the department \$25 for each day that the secured party or
10 lienholder fails to file the satisfaction.

11 (6) Within 24 hours after receiving notice of any involuntary liens or attachments against the record of
12 any motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer,
13 camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile registered in this state, the department shall mail
14 to the owner or any secured party or lienholder of record a notice showing the name and address of the lien
15 claimant, the amount of the lien, the date of execution of the lien, and, in the case of attachment, the full title of
16 the court and the action and the names of the attorneys for the plaintiff and attaching creditor.

17 (7) (a) This section does not prevent a secured party or lienholder from assigning the secured party's
18 or lienholder's interest in a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer,
19 semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile, for which a certificate
20 of title is issued under this chapter, to any other person without the consent of and without affecting the interest
21 of the holder of the certificate of title.

22 (b) If a secured party assigns all or part of the party's interest in a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle,
23 off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft,
24 sailboat, or snowmobile for which a certificate of title is issued under this chapter, the secured party assigning
25 the interest shall file a copy of the assignment with the department and the department shall record the
26 assignment in the department's records.

27 (8) (a) A fee must be paid to the department to file any security interest or other lien against a motor
28 vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper,
29 motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile. The fee covers the cost of entering and, upon the
30 subsequent satisfaction or release, of removing the security interest or lien from the electronic record of title.

1 (b) Beginning January 1, 2002, and ending June 30, 2016, the fee is \$8. Of the \$8 fee, \$4 must be
 2 deposited in the state general fund in accordance with 15-1-504. The remaining \$4 must be forwarded to the state
 3 for deposit in the motor vehicle information technology system account provided for in 61-3-550.

4 (c) Beginning July 1, 2016, the fee is \$4 and must be deposited in the state general fund.

5 (9) (a) Until June 30, 2018, a fee of \$10 must be paid to the department by a vehicle owner if, following
 6 satisfaction or release of a security interest and its removal from the department's records, the motor vehicle,
 7 motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat,
 8 personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile owner requests issuance of a new certificate of title without the
 9 security interest or lien shown on the face of the title. Beginning July 1, 2018, the fee for a new certificate of title
 10 under this subsection is \$5.

11 (b) Until June 30, 2018, the \$10 fee must be deposited in the motor vehicle information technology
 12 system account provided for in 61-3-550.

13 (c) Beginning July 1, 2018, the \$5 fee must be deposited in the state general fund."
 14

15 **Section 9.** Section 61-3-109, MCA, is amended to read:

16 **"61-3-109. Electronic title, lien filing, and registration.** (1) The department shall develop and
 17 implement a pilot program to allow:

18 ~~(1)~~(a) electronic transmission of data by an authorized agent, a county treasurer, or a person to or from
 19 the department in lieu of the transmission of paper documents;

20 ~~(2)~~(b) substantiation of electronic record transactions performed by the department, an authorized agent,
 21 a county treasurer, or a person;

22 ~~(3)~~(c) the production and certification by a court or an authorized agent of a motor vehicle record
 23 generated from electronic records of title and registration maintained by the department;

24 ~~(4)~~(d) electronic filing, perfection, and release of security interests or liens of record; ~~and~~

25 ~~(5)~~(e) certification and audit by the department of its authorized agents; and

26 (f) expedited title services for customers with exceptional needs who are willing to pay an optional
 27 department-prescribed fee.

28 (2) Any fee imposed under subsection (1)(f) must be deposited in the motor vehicle electronic commerce
 29 account provided in 61-3-118."

30

1 **Section 10.** Section 61-3-118, MCA, is amended to read:

2 **"61-3-118. Motor vehicle electronic commerce operating account.** (1) There is a motor vehicle
3 electronic commerce operating account of the enterprise fund type as provided in 17-2-102.

4 (2) Fees imposed for issuance of a temporary registration permit under 61-3-224 must be deposited in
5 the account.

6 (3) Fees imposed for expedited title services under 61-3-109 must be deposited in this account.

7 ~~(3)~~(4) The money in the motor vehicle electronic commerce operating account must be used by the
8 department to pay costs directly incurred in the operation, maintenance, and enhancement of electronic
9 commerce applications, including but not limited to payments to third-party vendors who provide services to
10 support the applications."
11

12 **Section 11.** Section 61-3-201, MCA, is amended to read:

13 **"61-3-201. Certificate of title required -- exclusions.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), the
14 owner of a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole
15 trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile that is in this state and for which a
16 certificate of title has not been issued by or an electronic record of title has not been created by the department
17 shall apply to the department, its authorized agent, or a county treasurer for a certificate of title for the motor
18 vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper,
19 motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile.

20 (2) The following motor vehicles, motorcycles, quadricycles, off-highway vehicles, utility vehicles, trailers,
21 semitrailers, pole trailers, campers, motorboats, personal watercraft, sailboats, or snowmobiles are exempt from
22 the requirements of this part:

23 (a) a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole
24 trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile owned by the United States, unless the
25 motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper,
26 motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile is registered in this state;

27 (b) except as required in 61-4-111, a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility
28 vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile that is:

29 (i) owned by a manufacturer, a dealer, a wholesaler, or an auto auction; and

30 (ii) held for sale, even though incidentally moved on the highway, used for purposes of testing or

1 demonstration, or used solely by a manufacturer for testing;

2 (c) a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole
3 trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile owned by a nonresident of this state
4 unless permitted under rules adopted pursuant to 61-3-506;

5 (d) a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or
6 snowmobile regularly engaged in the interstate transportation of persons or property and:

7 (i) for which a currently effective certificate of title has been issued in another state or jurisdiction; or

8 (ii) that is properly registered under the provisions of Title 61, chapter 3, part 7;

9 (e) a vehicle moved solely by human or animal power;

10 (f) an implement of husbandry;

11 (g) special mobile equipment or a motor vehicle or trailer designed and used to apply fertilizer to
12 agricultural land;

13 (h) a self-propelled wheelchair or tricycle used by a person with a disability;

14 (i) a dolly or converter gear;

15 (j) a mobile home or housetrailer; or

16 (k) a manufactured home declared to be an improvement to real property under 15-1-116."

17

18 **Section 12.** Section 61-3-202, MCA, is amended to read:

19 **"61-3-202. Certificate of title -- issuance -- contents -- joint ownership.** (1) A certificate of title issued
20 by the department must contain:

21 (a) the date issued;

22 (b) the name and address of the owner;

23 (c) the mileage disclosed by the transferor when ownership of the motor vehicle; OR motorcycle;
24 quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal
25 watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile DESIGNED FOR USE ON HIGHWAYS was transferred, including a notation that the
26 record mileage is actual, not actual, or exceeds mechanical limits;

27 (d) the name and address of each secured party and lienholder, in the order of priority and perfection
28 or, if the application was based on a surrendered certificate of title, in the order that the names and addresses
29 are shown on the certificate of title;

30 (e) the title number assigned to the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility

- 1 vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile;
- 2 (f) the name of the jurisdiction in which the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle,
- 3 utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile
- 4 owner resides, the words "certificate of title", the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility
- 5 vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile
- 6 identification number, the manufacturer's designated model year of manufacture, make, and model of the motor
- 7 vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper,
- 8 motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile, and any required or carried-forward brands;
- 9 (g) the unique transaction record number, if available and assigned by the department; and
- 10 (h) any other data that the department prescribes.
- 11 (2) A certificate of title issued by the department is valid until canceled by the department upon:
- 12 (a) a transfer, in the electronic record, of title of any ownership interest shown in the certificate of title;
- 13 (b) notice received by the department of the surrender of the certificate of title to a motor vehicle,
- 14 motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat,
- 15 personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile to a title-issuing agency of another jurisdiction for an issuance of
- 16 a title in that jurisdiction;
- 17 (c) the issuance of a duplicate certificate of title; or
- 18 (d) a determination by the department that the certificate of title contains a substantial error or that the
- 19 person who requested issuance of the certificate of title paid the required fees and taxes with an insufficient funds
- 20 check.
- 21 (3) (a) Whenever the conditions described in subsection (2)(d) occur, the department shall:
- 22 (i) give prompt written notice of the cancellation of the certificate of title to any owner, secured party, or
- 23 lienholder of record; and
- 24 (ii) stop any change to the electronic record of title.
- 25 (b) The action taken by the department under subsection (3)(a) prevents the transfer of any ownership
- 26 interest until the error is corrected or the fees and taxes have been paid.
- 27 (4) If the names and addresses of more than one owner are listed on the certificate of title, joint
- 28 ownership with right of survivorship, and not as tenants in common, is presumed."
- 29
- 30

Section 13. Section 61-3-205, MCA, is amended to read:

1 **"61-3-205. Transfer of ownership of vehicles by insurance company.** (1) When an insurance
2 company or its adjuster has taken possession of a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle,
3 utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile as
4 a result of settling an insurance claim and transfers ownership of the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle,
5 off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft,
6 sailboat, or snowmobile, it shall deliver to the transferee at the time of transfer a certificate of title signed and
7 acknowledged by the registered owner or owners before the county treasurer, a deputy county treasurer, or a
8 notary public.

9 (2) If the certificate of title names one or more holders of a perfected security interest in the motor
10 vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper,
11 motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile, the insurance company or its adjuster shall also secure
12 and deliver to the transferee a release from the secured party of the security interest."

13

14 **Section 14.** Section 61-3-208, MCA, is amended to read:

15 **"61-3-208. Affidavit and bond for certificate of title.** (1) If an applicant for a certificate of title cannot
16 provide the department with the certificate of title that assigns the prior owner's interest in the motor vehicle,
17 motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat,
18 personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile to the applicant, the department may issue a certificate of title if
19 subsection (2) is complied with.

20 (2) (a) The applicant shall submit an affidavit in a form prescribed by the department that must be signed
21 and sworn to before an officer authorized to administer oaths and affirmations. The affidavit must accompany the
22 application for the certificate of title and must:

23 (i) include the facts and circumstances through which the applicant acquired ownership and possession
24 of the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer,
25 camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile;

26 (ii) disclose security interests, liens, or encumbrances that are known to the applicant and that are
27 outstanding against the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer,
28 semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile;

29 (iii) state that the applicant has the right to have a certificate of title issued.

30 (b) The application must satisfy one of the following conditions:

1 (i) ~~The vehicle for which~~ If the application is being made must be for a certificate of title to a camper,
 2 quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat 12 feet in length or longer,
 3 or snowmobile, and the loss of the applicant shall establish to the department's satisfaction that the certificate
 4 of title must be established by the applicant to the department's satisfaction was lost and provide evidence, if
 5 available, of purchase or transfer, including but not limited to a bill of sale, an invoice, or another supporting
 6 document.

7 (ii) If application is being made for a certificate of title to a motor vehicle, motorcycle, trailer, semitrailer,
 8 or pole trailer with a value of \$500 or less, the applicant shall establish the loss of the certificate of title to the
 9 department's satisfaction and either provide evidence of the average trade-in or wholesale value of the motor
 10 vehicle, motorcycle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer as determined by the applicable national appraisal guide
 11 for the vehicle as of January 1 for the year in which the application is made or, if a national appraisal guide is not
 12 available for a motor vehicle, motorcycle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, the applicant shall certify that the value
 13 of the motor vehicle, motorcycle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer is \$500 or less.

14 (iii) If application is being made for a motor vehicle, motorcycle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer with a
 15 value that exceeds \$500, the applicant shall provide a bond, in a form prescribed by the department, issued by
 16 a surety company authorized to do business in this state, in an amount equal to the value of the motor vehicle,
 17 motorcycle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer for which the application is being made as determined by the
 18 applicant, based on information from the applicable national appraisal guide for the motor vehicle, motorcycle,
 19 trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer as of January 1 for the year in which the application is made or, if a national
 20 appraisal guide is not available for a motor vehicle, motorcycle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, according to the
 21 applicant's knowledge and belief. The bond is conditioned to indemnify a prior owner, lienholder, subsequent
 22 purchaser, secured creditor, or encumbrancer of the motor vehicle, motorcycle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer
 23 and any respective successors in interest against expenses, losses, or damages, including reasonable attorney
 24 fees, caused by the issuance of the certificate of title or by a defect in or undisclosed security interest upon the
 25 right, title, and interest of the applicant in the motor vehicle, motorcycle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer.

26 ~~———(iv) If the application is being made for a motor vehicle sold without a manufacturer's certificate of origin,~~
 27 ~~the applicant shall:~~

28 ~~———(A) purchase and install all equipment required for the motor vehicle pursuant to Title 61, chapter 9, part~~
 29 ~~2;~~

30 ~~———(B) obtain an inspection by a law enforcement agent to verify that all required equipment is present and~~

1 operational;

2 ~~—— (C) provide a bond, in a form prescribed by the department, issued by a surety company authorized to~~
 3 ~~do business in this state, in an amount equal to the full retail price of the motor vehicle for which the application~~
 4 ~~is being made. The bond is conditioned to indemnify a prior owner, lienholder, subsequent purchaser, secured~~
 5 ~~creditor, or encumbrancer of the motor vehicle and any respective successors in interest against expenses,~~
 6 ~~losses, or damages, including reasonable attorney fees, caused by the issuance of the certificate of title or by~~
 7 ~~a defect in or undisclosed security interest upon the right, title, and interest of the applicant in the motor vehicle.~~

8 (3) Any interested person has a right of action to recover on the bond furnished under this section for
 9 a breach of its conditions, but the aggregate liability of the surety to all persons may not exceed the amount of
 10 the bond.

11 (4) Unless the department has been notified of a pending action to recover the bond furnished under this
 12 section, the department shall return the bond at the earlier of:

13 (a) 3 years from the date of issuance of the certificate of title; or

14 (b) the date of surrender of the valid certificate of title to the department if the motor vehicle, motorcycle,
 15 quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal
 16 watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile is no longer required to have a certificate of title in this state."

17

18 **Section 15.** Section 61-3-216, MCA, is amended to read:

19 **"61-3-216. Certificates of title -- application -- contents -- issuance.** (1) The owner of a motor vehicle,
 20 motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, travel trailer, camper, motorboat, personal
 21 watercraft, sailboat, snowmobile, or off-highway vehicle shall apply for a certificate of title on a form prescribed
 22 by the department or, if authorized by the department, in an electronic record provided by the department and
 23 made available to an authorized agent of the department or a county treasurer.

24 (2) The application for a certificate of title, upon completion, must include:

25 (a) the owner's name, Montana residence and, if different, mailing address, and customer identification
 26 number;

27 (b) a description of the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole
 28 trailer, travel trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, snowmobile, or off-highway vehicle,
 29 including, as available and pertinent to the vehicle:

30 (i) the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, travel trailer,

1 camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, snowmobile, or off-highway vehicle make, model,
2 manufacturer's designated model year of manufacture, vehicle identification number, and type of body and a
3 description of motive power;

4 (ii) the odometer reading, if applicable, at the time of transfer of ownership;

5 (iii) the gross vehicle weight rating, gross vehicle weight, or shipping weight, if applicable, as determined
6 by the manufacturer;

7 (iv) whether the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, travel
8 trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, snowmobile, or off-highway vehicle was new or used
9 at the time of transfer; and

10 (v) for a trailer operating intrastate, its declared weight;

11 (c) the date on which the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole
12 trailer, travel trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, snowmobile, or off-highway vehicle was
13 purchased by or was transferred to the applicant, the name and address of the person from whom the motor
14 vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, travel trailer, camper, motorboat,
15 personal watercraft, sailboat, snowmobile, or off-highway vehicle was acquired, and the names and addresses
16 of any secured parties or lienholders for whom the applicant is acknowledging a voluntary security interest;

17 (d) any other information that the department requires to identify the motor vehicle, motorcycle,
18 quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, travel trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft,
19 sailboat, snowmobile, or off-highway vehicle and to enable the department to determine whether the owner is
20 entitled to a certificate of title and to determine the existence of security interests in the motor vehicle, motorcycle,
21 quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, travel trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft,
22 sailboat, snowmobile, or off-highway vehicle;

23 (e) if applicable, an odometer statement containing the information required in 61-3-206 or, if the title
24 does not contain a space for the information, a separate document approved by the department that provides the
25 same information that is required in 61-3-206; and

26 (f) a section that gives the applicant the option to direct the department, upon examination and review
27 of the records and completion of the application process, to:

28 (i) issue a certificate of title as soon as possible; or

29 (ii) update the electronic record of title for the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer,
30 semitrailer, pole trailer, travel trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, snowmobile, or off-highway

1 vehicle, issue a transaction summary receipt, and postpone the issuance of a certificate of a title until the motor
 2 vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, travel trailer, camper, motorboat,
 3 personal watercraft, sailboat, snowmobile, or off-highway vehicle owner submits a separate request for issuance
 4 of the certificate of title.

5 (3) If the application is for a certificate of title to a new motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility
 6 vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, travel trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat,
 7 snowmobile, or off-highway vehicle, the application must be accompanied by a manufacturer's certificate of origin,
 8 properly assigned to the applicant, or if the manufacturer of an off-highway vehicle, quadricycle, or utility vehicle
 9 does not issue a manufacturer's certificate of origin for that type of vehicle, a notarized bill of sale and an invoice
 10 from the dealer who sold the vehicle to the applicant.

11 (4) Except as provided in 61-3-208 or subsection (4)(b) of this section, if the application is for a certificate
 12 of title to a used motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, travel trailer,
 13 camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, snowmobile, or off-highway vehicle, the application must be:

14 (a) accompanied by a certificate of title that is properly assigned by the prior owner to the applicant; or

15 (b) acknowledged by the prior owner if the prior owner's interest in the motor vehicle, motorcycle,
 16 quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, travel trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft,
 17 sailboat, snowmobile, or off-highway vehicle was assigned to the applicant by means of a transfer on the
 18 electronic record of title entered by an authorized agent of the department or a county treasurer.

19 (5) ~~If the application is for a certificate of title to a camper and if an applicant cannot provide a certificate~~
 20 ~~of title properly assigned by the prior owner is not available, the application must be accompanied by a notarized~~
 21 ~~bill of sale or a conditional sales contract as required in subsection (4)(a), the application for certificate of title~~
 22 ~~must be made under 61-3-208.~~

23 ~~————(6) If the application is for a certificate of title to a motorboat, a personal watercraft, a sailboat that is 12~~
 24 ~~feet in length or longer, or a snowmobile and a certificate of title properly assigned by the prior owner is not~~
 25 ~~available, the application must be accompanied by a notarized bill of sale, an invoice, the current registration~~
 26 ~~receipt for the motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile, or a certificate of number showing the~~
 27 ~~transfer of ownership, which may be used to show the transfer of ownership for a motorboat, personal watercraft,~~
 28 ~~sailboat, or snowmobile from the immediate prior owner to the applicant."~~

29

30 **Section 16.** Section 61-3-217, MCA, is amended to read:

1 **"61-3-217. Certificate of title -- duties -- examination of application -- records check -- incomplete**
2 **application.** (1) (a) Upon receipt of an application for a certificate of title and any supporting documents, an
3 authorized agent of the department or a county treasurer shall:

4 (i) review the application and documents;

5 (ii) complete the records check required in subsection (2); and

6 (iii) if an authorized agent of the department or the county treasurer is satisfied as to the genuineness
7 and regularity of the application and satisfied that the applicant is entitled to the issuance of a certificate of title,
8 enter the transfer of interest on the electronic record of title.

9 (b) If an authorized agent of the department or the county treasurer is not satisfied as to the genuineness
10 and regularity of the application or is not satisfied that the applicant is entitled to the issuance of a certificate of
11 title, the authorized agent or the county treasurer may not enter the transfer of interest on the electronic record
12 of title.

13 (c) If an authorized agent of the department or the county treasurer enters the transfer of interest on the
14 electronic record of title, an authorized agent or the county treasurer shall:

15 (i) issue a transaction summary receipt to the applicant and, if requested, to any secured party or
16 lienholder with a perfected security interest; and

17 (ii) as prescribed by the department, forward to the department the application, the assigned certificate
18 of title, and any other documents provided in support of the application.

19 (2) The department, its authorized agent, or a county treasurer who first receives an application for a
20 certificate of title shall check the vehicle identification number shown on the application against:

21 (a) the records of motor vehicles, motorcycles, quadricycles, off-highway vehicles, utility vehicles, trailers,
22 semitrailers, pole trailers, campers, motorboats, personal watercraft, sailboats, or snowmobiles maintained by
23 the department under 61-3-101;

24 (b) the reported stolen motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer,
25 semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile databases maintained
26 on the state's criminal justice information network and by the national crime information center; and

27 (c) any other records or databases prescribed by the department.

28 (3) (a) Upon receipt of an application for a certificate of title and supporting documents that have been
29 processed by an authorized agent of the department or a county treasurer, the department shall review the
30 documents to determine if the application is complete. If the department determines that the application is

1 incomplete, the department shall enter the incomplete status of the application on the electronic record of title
2 for the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer,
3 camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile and return to the applicant, by first-class mail,
4 the application and all supporting documents. The department shall provide a statement with a specific
5 description of the additional information or documents that must be supplied by the applicant to complete the
6 application process.

7 (b) The department may not complete the application process, remove the incomplete status notation
8 on the electronic record of title, or issue a certificate of title until the applicant returns the completed application,
9 including any supporting additional information or documents, to the department."
10

11 **Section 17.** Section 61-3-218, MCA, is amended to read:

12 **"61-3-218. Certificate of title -- issuance -- delivery.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), if a
13 person who applied for a certificate of title also requested the issuance of the certificate of title as provided in
14 61-3-216(2)(f)(i), upon receipt of the application and all supporting documents and after an examination and
15 determination that the application is complete and regular, the department shall issue a certificate of title of the
16 motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper,
17 motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile and shall mail the certificate of title to the owner.

18 (2) If a person to whom a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle,
19 trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile was transferred
20 has not satisfied the titling and registration provisions of this chapter or, if applicable, the registration provisions
21 of Title 23, chapter 2, part 5 or 6, within the 40-day period provided in 61-3-220(3) and the secured party or
22 lienholder pays the title fee required in 61-3-203, the department may mail a certificate of title to the secured party
23 or lienholder upon request of the secured party or lienholder.

24 (3) (a) A motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer,
25 pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile owner who requested the delayed
26 issuance of a certificate of title under 61-3-216(2)(f)(ii), in the initial application for a certificate of title, may submit
27 a request for the issuance of the certificate of title to the department, its authorized agent, or a county treasurer
28 in a manner prescribed by the department. Upon receipt, the department shall issue a certificate of title for the
29 motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper,
30 motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile and mail the certificate of title to the owner.

1 (b) A title fee may not be demanded from the owner or collected by the department, its authorized agent,
2 or a county treasurer for a certificate of title requested or issued under subsection (3)(a)."

3

4 **Section 18.** Section 61-3-219, MCA, is amended to read:

5 **"61-3-219. Refusal to issue certificate of title.** The department may refuse to issue a certificate of title
6 if any required fee is not paid or if the department has reasonable grounds to believe that:

7 (1) the applicant is not the owner of the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility
8 vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile;

9 (2) the application contains a false or fraudulent statement;

10 (3) the applicant failed to furnish any information or document required by the department; or

11 (4) based on the check performed under 61-3-217(2), the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle,
12 off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft,
13 sailboat, or snowmobile has been reported as stolen."

14

15 **Section 19.** Section 61-3-220, MCA, is amended to read:

16 **"61-3-220. Certificate of title -- voluntary transfer -- duties.** (1) Upon the voluntary transfer of any
17 interest in a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole
18 trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile for which a certificate of title was issued
19 under the provisions of this chapter, the owner whose interest is to be transferred shall:

20 (a) authorize, in writing and on a form prescribed by the department, an authorized agent, or a county
21 treasurer, to enter the transfer of the owner's interest in the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway
22 vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or
23 snowmobile to the transferee on the electronic record of title maintained under 61-3-101; or

24 (b) execute a transfer in the appropriate space provided on the certificate of title issued to the owner and
25 deliver the assigned certificate of title to:

26 (i) the transferee at the time of delivery of the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle,
27 utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile;

28 or

29 (ii) the department, its authorized agent, or a county treasurer if an application for a certificate of title has
30 been completed by the transferee and accompanies the assigned certificate of title.

1 (2) The transferor's signature on the certificate of title, or the form authorizing transfer of interest upon
2 the electronic record of title, must be acknowledged before the county treasurer, a deputy county treasurer, an
3 elected official authorized to acknowledge signatures, an employee or authorized agent of the department, or a
4 notary public.

5 (3) Except as provided in 61-4-111, the person to whom an interest in a motor vehicle has been
6 transferred shall:

7 (a) execute an application for a certificate of title in the space provided on the assigned certificate of title
8 or as prescribed by the department; and

9 (b) within 40 days after the interest in the motor vehicle, motorcycle, QUADRICYCLE, OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE,
10 UTILITY VEHICLE, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile
11 was transferred to the person, either:

12 (i) apply for a certificate of title under 61-3-216 and register the motor vehicle, motorcycle, QUADRICYCLE,
13 OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE, UTILITY VEHICLE, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft,
14 sailboat, or snowmobile under 61-3-303; ~~or~~

15 (ii) subject to the limitations of 61-3-312, register the motor vehicle, motorcycle, QUADRICYCLE,
16 OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE, UTILITY VEHICLE, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft,
17 sailboat, or snowmobile without the surrender of a previously assigned certificate of title and application for
18 certificate of title under 61-3-303; or

19 (iii) if the motor vehicle is a motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, or utility vehicle that will be
20 operated only on private property, apply for a certificate of title under 61-3-216.

21 (4) If the person to whom an interest in a motor vehicle, motorcycle, QUADRICYCLE, OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE,
22 UTILITY VEHICLE, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile
23 has been transferred fails to comply with the requirements described in subsection (3) within the 40-day grace
24 period, a late penalty of \$10 must be imposed against the transferee. The penalty must be paid before the
25 transferee registers the motor vehicle, motorcycle, QUADRICYCLE, OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE, UTILITY VEHICLE, trailer,
26 semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile in this state, with or
27 without the surrender of an assigned certificate of title. The penalty is in addition to the fees otherwise provided
28 by law.

29 (5) If the transferee does not comply with the requirements of subsection (3) within the 40-day grace
30 period, a secured party or lienholder of record may pay the fees for the transfer of title and for filing a voluntary

1 security interest or lien. The secured party or lienholder is not liable for the late penalty imposed in subsection
2 (4) or for registration fees, taxes, or fees in lieu of tax on the motor vehicle, motorcycle, QUADRICYCLE,
3 OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE, UTILITY VEHICLE, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft,
4 sailboat, or snowmobile."

5

6 **Section 20.** Section 61-3-221, MCA, is amended to read:

7 **"61-3-221. Involuntary transfer.** (1) (a) An involuntary transfer of title to or any interest in a motor
8 vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper,
9 motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile may occur by operation of law through inheritance,
10 devise, bequest, order in bankruptcy or insolvency, execution sale, or repossession upon default in the
11 performance of the terms of a lease, executory sales contract, or security agreement or in any other manner other
12 than by voluntary act of the person whose title or interest is transferred. Upon the involuntary transfer, the
13 executor, administrator, receiver, trustee, sheriff, secured party, or other representative or successor in interest
14 of the person whose interest is transferred shall send to the department:

15 (i) an application for a certificate of title; and

16 (ii) a verified or certified statement of the transfer of interest or a transfer statement, as defined in
17 30-9A-619.

18 (b) The statement of transfer of interest must state the reason for the involuntary transfer, the interest
19 transferred, the name of the person to whom the interest is to be transferred, the process or procedure creating
20 the transfer, and other information requested by the department. A transfer statement submitted under this
21 section must meet the requirements of 30-9A-619. Evidence and instruments that are required by law in order
22 to effect a transfer of legal or equitable title to or an interest in chattels must be submitted with the statement.

23 (c) Except as provided in subsection (2), if the department determines that the transfer is regular and
24 that all legal requirements have been complied with, the department shall send notice of the intended transfer
25 to the owner, conditional sales vendor, lessor, mortgagee, and other lienholder, as shown in the department's
26 records. Deposit in the U.S. mail of the notice, postage prepaid, addressed to the person at the respective
27 address shown in the department's records satisfies the notice required by this section. Not less than 5 days after
28 sending the notice, the department shall issue a new certificate of title to the transferee.

29 (2) (a) Except as provided in subsection (2)(b), if an interest in a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle,
30 off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft,

1 sailboat, or snowmobile that is not registered in this state is involuntarily transferred to a person in this state, the
2 person to whom the interest is transferred shall follow the procedure provided in subsection (1).

3 (b) In lieu of the statement required in subsection (1), the department may accept an affidavit of
4 repossession as executed by the person seeking the involuntary transfer.

5 (3) The department is not required to send notice for a transfer of interest occurring under subsection
6 (2)."

7

8 **Section 21.** Section 61-3-222, MCA, is amended to read:

9 **"61-3-222. Surviving spouse or heir -- small estates.** (1) Subject to the requirements of Title 72,
10 chapter 3, part 11, the surviving spouse or other heir may secure transfer of a decedent's ownership interests
11 in one or more motor vehicles, motorcycles, quadricycles, off-highway vehicles, utility vehicles, trailers,
12 semitrailers, pole trailers, campers, motorboats, personal watercraft, sailboats, or snowmobiles for which a
13 certificate of title was issued under this chapter if:

14 (a) the value of the entire estate, including any vehicles, vessels, or snowmobiles for which transfer of
15 ownership is sought, less liens and encumbrances, does not exceed the limit set forth in 72-3-1101;

16 (b) the decedent did not leave other property that requires the procuring of letters of administration or
17 letters testamentary; and

18 (c) the decedent did not by execution of a will otherwise bequeath the property.

19 (2) The person seeking transfer of the decedent's interests under this section shall file an affidavit with
20 the department setting forth the fact of survivorship, the name and address of any other heirs, and any other facts
21 determined necessary to entitle the person to the transfer.

22 (3) If the department determines that the transfer is regular and that all legal requirements have been
23 met, the department shall issue a certificate of title, subject to any security interests shown by the department's
24 records, to the surviving spouse or other heir."

25

26 **Section 22.** Section 61-3-224, MCA, is amended to read:

27 **"61-3-224. Temporary registration permit -- authority to adopt rules -- issuance -- placement --**
28 **fees.** (1) The department may adopt rules governing the issuance of temporary registration permits. The rules
29 must specify the purposes for which a temporary registration permit may be issued, including but not limited to
30 issuance to:

1 (a) a Montana resident who acquires a new or used motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle,
 2 trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, motorboat, sailboat that is 12 feet in length or longer, snowmobile, or off-highway
 3 vehicle for operation of the vehicle or vessel prior to titling and registration of the vehicle or vessel under this
 4 chapter;

5 (b) a Montana resident whose motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer,
 6 pole trailer, motorboat, sailboat that is 12 feet in length or longer, snowmobile, or off-highway vehicle is titled in
 7 the Montana resident's name in another jurisdiction, prior to titling and registration of the vehicle in this state under
 8 this chapter;

9 ~~(b)~~(c) the owner of a salvage vehicle or a vehicle requiring a state-assigned vehicle identification number
 10 in order to move the vehicle to and from a designated inspection site prior to applying for a new certificate of title
 11 under 61-3-107 or 61-3-212;

12 ~~(c)~~(d) the owner of a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer,
 13 semitrailer, or pole trailer registered in this state for operation of the vehicle while awaiting production and receipt
 14 of special or duplicate license plates ordered for the vehicle under this chapter;

15 ~~(d)~~(e) a nonresident of this state who acquires a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway
 16 vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer in this state for operation of the vehicle prior to its titling
 17 and registration under the laws of the nonresident's jurisdiction of residence;

18 ~~(e)~~(f) a dealer licensed in another state who brings a motor vehicle or trailer designed and used to apply
 19 fertilizer to agricultural lands into the state for special demonstration in this state;

20 ~~(f)~~(g) a financial institution located in Montana for a prospective purchaser to demonstrate a motor
 21 vehicle that the financial institution has obtained following repossession; ~~or~~

22 ~~(g)~~(h) an insurer or its agent to move a motor vehicle or trailer to auction following acquisition of the
 23 vehicle by the insurer as a result of the settlement of an insurance claim; or

24 (i) a nonresident owner to temporarily operate a quadricycle or utility vehicle on the highways of this state
 25 when the quadricycle or utility vehicle is equipped for use on the highways as prescribed in chapter 9 but the
 26 quadricycle or utility vehicle is not registered or is only registered for off-road use in the nonresident's home state.

27 (2) (a) The department, an authorized agent, or a county treasurer may issue a temporary registration
 28 permit for any purpose authorized under the rules adopted by the department.

29 (b) An authorized agent or a county treasurer may issue a temporary registration permit without use of
 30 the department-approved electronic interface only if authorized by the department.

1 (3) A person, using a department-approved electronic interface, may issue a temporary registration
2 permit for any purpose authorized under the rules adopted by the department.

3 (4) A temporary registration permit issued under this section must contain the following information:

4 (a) a temporary plate number as prescribed by the department;

5 (b) the expiration date of the temporary registration permit; and

6 (c) if required by the department, a description of the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway
7 vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile,
8 including year, make, model, and vehicle identification number, the name of the person from whom ownership
9 of the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer,
10 motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile was transferred, the name, mailing address, and
11 residence address of the ~~person to whom ownership~~ OWNER of the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle,
12 off-highway vehicle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or
13 snowmobile ~~has been transferred~~, and the date of issuance.

14 (5) A temporary registration permit for:

15 (a) a motor vehicle, motorcycle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer must be plainly visible and firmly
16 attached to the rear exterior of the vehicle where a license plate is required to be displayed; and

17 (b) a motorboat, a sailboat that is 12 feet in length or longer, a quadricycle, a utility vehicle, a
18 snowmobile, or an off-highway vehicle must be plainly visible and firmly attached to the vehicle or vessel.

19 (6) (a) Except as provided in 61-3-431 and subsection (6)(b) of this section, a \$3 fee is imposed upon
20 issuance of a temporary registration permit by the department, an authorized agent, or a county treasurer. The
21 fee must be paid by the owner of the vehicle or vessel and collected by the department, the authorized agent,
22 or a county treasurer when the vehicle is registered.

23 (b) Except as provided in 61-3-431, a fee of \$8 is imposed and must be paid upon issuance of a
24 temporary registration permit by:

25 (i) the department, an authorized agent, or a county treasurer to a nonresident of this state who acquires
26 a vehicle or vessel in this state or who registers a quadricycle or utility vehicle for temporary use in this state; or

27 (ii) a person who issued a temporary registration permit using a department-approved electronic interface.

28 (7) The fees imposed under this section, upon collection, must be forwarded to the state and deposited
29 in the motor vehicle electronic commerce operating account provided for in 61-3-118.

30 (8) If a temporary registration permit is issued under this section to a person to whom ownership of a

1 vehicle or vessel has been transferred, the permitholder shall title and register the vehicle or vessel in this or
2 another jurisdiction before the ownership of the vehicle or vessel may be transferred to another person."

3

4 **Section 23.** Section 61-3-301, MCA, is amended to read:

5 **"61-3-301. Registration -- license plate required -- display.** (1) (a) Except as provided in 61-4-120,
6 61-4-129, and subsection (1)(b) of this section, a person may not operate a motor vehicle, motorcycle,
7 quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer upon the public highways of Montana
8 unless the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer
9 is properly registered and has the proper license plates conspicuously displayed on the motor vehicle, motorcycle,
10 quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer. A license plate must be securely
11 fastened to prevent it from swinging and may not be obstructed from plain view.

12 (b) A motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer must have
13 a single license plate displayed on the rear of the vehicle. A custom vehicle or street rod registered under
14 61-3-320(1)(b) or (1)(c)(iii) may display a single license plate firmly attached to the rear exterior of the custom
15 vehicle or street rod. All other motor vehicles must have one license plate displayed on the front and one license
16 plate displayed on the rear of the motor vehicle.

17 (c) A person may not display on a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer,
18 semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer at the same time a number assigned to it under any motor vehicle law
19 except as provided in this chapter.

20 (2) A person may not purchase or display on a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle,
21 trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer a license plate bearing the number assigned to any county, as
22 provided in 61-3-332, other than the county where the vehicle is domiciled or the county where the trailer,
23 semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer is domiciled at the time of application for registration.

24 (3) It is unlawful to:

25 (a) display license plates issued to one motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer,
26 semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer on any other motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer,
27 semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer unless legally transferred as provided by statute;

28 (b) repaint old license plates to resemble current license plates; or

29 (c) display a prior design of standard license plates including military, veteran, and amateur radio license
30 plates, or any license plates that have been issued for 5 or more years after the replacement of the license plates

1 is required under 61-3-332(3)(a), except as provided in 61-3-332(3)(c) and (3)(d), 61-3-448, or 61-3-468.

2 (4) For the purposes of this section, "conspicuously displayed" means that the required license plates
3 are obviously visible and firmly attached to:

4 (a) the front bumper and the rear bumper of a motor vehicle equipped with front and rear bumpers,
5 except for a custom vehicle or street rod as provided in subsection (1)(b); or

6 (b) a clearly visible location on the rear of a trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer."
7

8 **Section 24.** Section 61-3-303, MCA, is amended to read:

9 **"61-3-303. Original registration -- process -- fees.** (1) Except as provided in 61-3-324, a Montana
10 resident who owns a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer
11 operated or driven upon the public highways of this state shall register the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle,
12 utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer in the office of the county treasurer in the county where the owner
13 is domiciled.

14 (2) Except as provided in ~~subsection (3) and subsection (11)~~ SUBSECTIONS (3), (11), AND (12), the county
15 treasurer shall register any vehicle for which:

16 (a) as of the date that the motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole
17 trailer is to be registered, the owner delivers an application for a certificate of title to the department, its authorized
18 agent, or a county treasurer; or

19 (b) the county treasurer confirms that the department has an electronic record of title for the motor
20 vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer as provided under 61-3-101.

21 (3) (a) A county treasurer may register a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer,
22 semitrailer, or pole trailer for which a certificate of title and registration were issued in another jurisdiction and for
23 which registration is required under 61-3-701 after the county treasurer examines the current out-of-jurisdiction
24 registration certificate or receipt and receives payment of the fees required in 61-3-701. The county treasurer may
25 ask the owner of a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer ~~owner~~
26 to provide additional information, prescribed by the department, to ensure that the electronic record of registration
27 maintained by the department is complete.

28 (b) A county treasurer may register a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer,
29 semitrailer, or pole trailer for which the new owner cannot, due to circumstances beyond the new owner's control,
30 surrender a previously assigned certificate of title. The new owner may submit an application for certificate of title,

1 subject to the registration renewal limitations of 61-3-312.

2 (4) Upon registering a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole
3 trailer for the first time in this state, the county treasurer shall:

4 (a) update the electronic record of title, if any, maintained for the vehicle by the department under
5 61-3-101;

6 (b) assign a registration period for the vehicle under 61-3-311;

7 (c) determine the vehicle's age, if required, under 61-3-501;

8 (d) determine the amount of fees, including local option taxes or fees, to be paid under subsection (5);

9 and

10 (e) assign and issue license plates for the vehicle under 61-3-331.

11 (5) Unless otherwise provided by law, a person registering a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle,
12 utility vehicle, shall pay to the county treasurer:

13 (a) the fees in lieu of tax or registration fees as required for:

14 (i) a light vehicle under 61-3-321 or 61-3-562, in addition to, if applicable, any local option tax or fee
15 under 61-3-537 or 61-3-570;

16 (ii) a motor home under 61-3-321;

17 (iii) a travel trailer under 61-3-321;

18 (iv) a motorcycle, utility vehicle, or quadricycle under 61-3-321;

19 (v) a bus, a truck having a manufacturer's rated capacity of more than 1 ton, or a truck tractor under
20 61-3-321 and 61-3-529; or

21 (vi) a trailer under 61-3-321;

22 (b) a donation of \$1 or more if the person indicates that the person wishes to donate to promote
23 awareness and education efforts for procurement of organ and tissue donations in Montana to favorably impact
24 anatomical gifts; and

25 (c) a donation of \$1 or more if the person indicates that the person wishes to donate to promote
26 education on, support for, and awareness of traumatic brain injury.

27 (6) The county treasurer may not issue a registration receipt or license plates for the motor vehicle,
28 motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer to the owner unless the owner makes the
29 payments required by subsection (5).

30 (7) The department may make full and complete investigation of the registration status of the motor

1 vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer. A person seeking to register a
2 motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer under this section shall
3 provide additional information to support the registration to the department if requested.

4 (8) Revenue that accrues from the voluntary donation provided in subsection (5)(b) must be forwarded
5 by the respective county treasurer to the department for deposit in the state special revenue fund to the credit
6 of an account established by the department of public health and human services to support activities related to
7 awareness and education efforts for procurement of organ and tissue donations for anatomical gifts.

8 (9) (a) Except as provided in subsection (9)(b), the fees in lieu of tax, taxes, and fees imposed on or
9 collected from the registration of a travel trailer, motorcycle, utility vehicle, or quadricycle or a trailer, semitrailer,
10 or pole trailer that has a declared weight of less than 26,000 pounds are required to be paid only once during the
11 time that the travel trailer, motorcycle, utility vehicle, quadricycle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer is owned by
12 the same person who registered the travel trailer, motorcycle, utility vehicle, quadricycle, trailer, semitrailer, or
13 pole trailer. Once registered, a travel trailer, motorcycle, utility vehicle, quadricycle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole
14 trailer is registered permanently unless ownership is transferred.

15 (b) Whenever ownership of a travel trailer, motorcycle, utility vehicle, quadricycle, trailer, semitrailer, or
16 pole trailer is transferred, the new owner is required to register the travel trailer, motorcycle, utility vehicle,
17 quadricycle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer as if it were being registered for the first time, including paying all
18 of the required fees in lieu of tax, taxes, and fees.

19 (10) Revenue that accrues from the voluntary donation provided in subsection (5)(c) must be forwarded
20 by the respective county treasurer to the department for deposit in the state special revenue fund to the credit
21 of the account established in 2-15-2218 to support activities related to education regarding prevention of traumatic
22 brain injury.

23 (11) Beginning July 1, 2011, the county treasurer shall use the online motor vehicle liability insurance
24 verification system provided in 61-6-157 to verify that the vehicle owner has complied with the requirements of
25 61-6-301. Unless the verification system is temporarily unavailable, the county treasurer may not issue license
26 plates to a motor vehicle when compliance with 61-6-301 cannot be verified.

27 (12) If a motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, off-highway vehicle, or snowmobile will not be operated
28 on public highways or public lands, the owner is not required to register the motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle,
29 off-highway vehicle, or snowmobile under Title 23, chapter 2, part 6 or 8, or under this part."

30

1 **Section 25.** Section 61-3-312, MCA, is amended to read:

2 **"61-3-312. Renewal of registration -- exceptions -- grace period.** (1) Except as provided in 61-3-313
3 and 61-3-721, the registration of a motor vehicle under this chapter must be renewed on or before the last day
4 of the month of the motor vehicle's registration period following the expiration of the motor vehicle's registration.

5 (2) Except as provided in subsection (4), a person may renew a motor vehicle's registration by submitting
6 full payment for the fees or taxes required under 61-3-303 and ~~61-3-321(12)~~ 61-3-321(13) to the department, an
7 authorized agent, or a county treasurer in any county of this state.

8 (3) The department, an authorized agent, or a county treasurer may use the online motor vehicle liability
9 insurance verification system provided in 61-6-157 to verify proof of compliance with 61-6-301.

10 (4) Beginning July 1, 2011, and except when the verification system is temporarily unavailable, a
11 registration may not be renewed when compliance with 61-6-301 cannot be determined using the verification
12 system.

13 (5) Except as provided in 61-3-315, the registration period originally assigned under 61-3-311 must be
14 retained and the duration of the renewed registration is determined in accordance with 61-3-311. A registration
15 receipt is valid for the registration period for which it is issued.

16 (6) The owner of a motor vehicle subject to registration renewal under the provisions of this section is
17 considered to have renewed the motor vehicle's registration in a timely manner if the owner submits full payment
18 for the required fees or taxes, as prescribed in the mail renewal notice from the department, to the department,
19 an authorized agent, or a county treasurer on or before the last day of the month of the motor vehicle's
20 registration period and if, beginning July 1, 2011, the department, authorized agent, or county treasurer
21 determines the owner is in compliance with 61-6-301 using the verification system provided in 61-6-157.

22 (7) The department, an authorized agent, or a county treasurer may not renew the registration of a motor
23 vehicle for which ownership has been transferred and that was originally registered without being titled under the
24 provisions of 61-3-303(3)(b) unless:

25 (a) the previously issued certificate of title has been surrendered to the department, an authorized agent,
26 or the county treasurer and the process for issuing a certificate of title has been completed; or

27 (b) the person to whom ownership of the motor vehicle has been transferred presents an affidavit and
28 bond in support of the application for a certificate of title as permitted in 61-3-208."

29

30 **Section 26.** Section 61-3-313, MCA, is amended to read:

1 **"61-3-313. Motor vehicles exempt from registration renewal.** (1) The following motor vehicles are
 2 exempt from the registration renewal requirements of 61-3-312:

- 3 (a) motor vehicles owned or leased and operated by the government of the United States or by the state
 4 of Montana or a political subdivision of the state;
 5 (b) motor vehicles registered as part of a fleet under 61-3-318; and
 6 (c) apportionable motor vehicles registered as part of a fleet, as defined in 61-3-712, that is subject to
 7 the provisions of 61-3-711 through 61-3-733.

8 (2) Unless a transfer of ownership occurs, a travel trailer, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, motorcycle, utility
 9 vehicle, or quadricycle, including a motorcycle, utility vehicle, or quadricycle registered only for off-highway use
 10 under Title 23, chapter 2, part 8, is permanently registered."
 11

12 **Section 27.** Section 61-3-321, MCA, is amended to read:

13 **"61-3-321. Registration fees of vehicles and vessels -- certain vehicles exempt from registration**
 14 **fees -- disposition of fees.** (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, registration fees must be paid upon
 15 registration or, if applicable, renewal of registration of motor vehicles, snowmobiles, watercraft, trailers,
 16 semitrailers, and pole trailers as provided in subsections (2) through ~~(19)~~ (20):

17 (2) Unless a light vehicle is permanently registered under 61-3-562, the annual registration fee for light
 18 vehicles, trucks and buses under 1 ton, and logging trucks less than 1 ton is as follows:

- 19 (a) if the vehicle is 4 or less years old, \$217;
 20 (b) if the vehicle is 5 through 10 years old, \$87; and
 21 (c) if the vehicle is 11 or more years old, \$28.

22 (3) Except as provided in subsection ~~(14)~~ (15), the one-time registration fee based on the declared
 23 weight of a trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer is as follows:

- 24 (a) if the declared weight is less than 6,000 pounds, \$61.25; or
 25 (b) if the declared weight is 6,000 pounds or more, \$148.25.

26 (4) Except as provided in subsection ~~(14)~~ (15), the one-time registration fee for motor vehicles owned
 27 and operated solely as collector's items pursuant to 61-3-411, based on the weight of the vehicle, is as follows:

- 28 (a) 2,850 pounds and over, \$10; and
 29 (b) under 2,850 pounds, \$5.

30 (5) Except as provided in subsection ~~(14)~~ (15), the one-time registration fee for off-highway vehicles ~~other~~

1 ~~than a quadricycle or motorcycle~~ is \$61.25.

2 (6) The annual registration fee for heavy trucks, buses, and logging trucks in excess of 1 ton is \$22.75.

3 (7) (a) The annual registration fee for a motor home, based on the age of the motor home, is as follows:

4 (i) less than 2 years old, \$282.50;

5 (ii) 2 years old and less than 5 years old, \$224.25;

6 (iii) 5 years old and less than 8 years old, \$132.50; and

7 (iv) 8 years old and older, \$97.50.

8 (b) The owner of a motor home that is 11 years old or older and that is subject to the registration fee
9 under this section may permanently register the motor home upon payment of:

10 (i) a one-time registration fee of \$237.50;

11 (ii) unless a new set of license plates is being issued, an insurance verification fee of \$5, which must be
12 deposited in the account established under 61-6-158; and

13 (iii) if applicable, five times the renewal fees for personalized license plates under 61-3-406.

14 (8) (a) Except as provided in subsection ~~(14)~~ (15), the one-time registration fee for motorcycles, utility
15 vehicles, and quadricycles registered for use on public highways is \$53.25, and the one-time registration fee for
16 motorcycles, utility vehicles, and quadricycles registered for both off-road use and for use on the public highways
17 is \$114.50.

18 (b) An additional fee of \$16 must be collected for the registration of each motorcycle, utility vehicle, or
19 quadricycle as a safety fee, which must be deposited in the state motorcycle safety account provided for in
20 20-25-1002.

21 (9) Except as provided in subsection ~~(14)~~ (15), the one-time registration fee for travel trailers, based on
22 the length of the travel trailer, is as follows:

23 (a) under 16 feet in length, \$72; and

24 (b) 16 feet in length or longer, \$152.

25 (10) Except as provided in subsection ~~(14)~~ (15), the one-time registration fee for a motorboat, sailboat,
26 personal watercraft, or motorized pontoon required to be numbered under 23-2-512 is as follows:

27 (a) for a personal watercraft or a motorboat, sailboat, or motorized pontoon less than 16 feet in length,
28 \$65.50;

29 (b) for a motorboat, sailboat, or motorized pontoon at least 16 feet in length but less than 19 feet in
30 length, \$125.50; and

1 (c) for a motorboat, sailboat, or motorized pontoon 19 feet in length or longer, \$295.50.

2 (11) (a) Except as provided in subsections (11)(b) and ~~(14)~~ (15), the one-time registration fee for a
3 snowmobile is \$60.50.

4 (b) (i) A snowmobile that is licensed by a Montana business and is owned exclusively for the purpose
5 of daily rental to customers is assessed:

6 (A) a fee of \$40.50 in the first year of registration; and

7 (B) if the business reregisters the snowmobile for a second year, a fee of \$20.

8 (ii) If the business reregisters the snowmobile for a third year, the snowmobile must be permanently
9 registered and the business is assessed the registration fee imposed in subsection (11)(a).

10 (12) The one-time registration fee for a low-speed electric vehicle is \$25.

11 ~~(12)~~(13) (a) Except as provided in subsection ~~(12)(b)~~ (13)(b), a fee of \$10 must be collected when a new
12 set of standard license plates, a new single standard license plate, or a replacement set of special license plates
13 required under 61-3-332 is issued. The \$10 fee imposed under this subsection does not apply when previously
14 issued license plates are transferred under 61-3-335. All registration fees imposed under this section must be
15 paid if the vehicle to which the plates are transferred is not currently registered.

16 (b) Until January 1, 2015, an additional fee of \$15 must be collected if a vehicle owner elects to keep
17 the same license plate number from license plates issued on or after January 1, 2006, but before January 1,
18 2010, when replacement of those plates is required under 61-3-332(3).

19 (c) The fees imposed in this subsection ~~(12)~~ (13) must be deposited in the account established under
20 61-6-158, except that \$2 of the fee imposed in subsection ~~(12)(a)~~ (13)(a) must be deposited in the state general
21 fund.

22 ~~(13)~~(14) The provisions of this part with respect to the payment of registration fees do not apply to and
23 are not binding upon motor vehicles, motorcycles, quadricycles, utility vehicles, trailers, semitrailers,
24 snowmobiles, watercraft, or tractors owned or controlled by the United States of America or any state, county,
25 city, or special district, as defined in 18-8-202, or to a vehicle or vessel that meets the description of property
26 exempt from taxation under 15-6-201(1)(a), (1)(c), (1)(d), (1)(e), (1)(f), (1)(g), (1)(i), (1)(j), (1)(l), or (1)(m),
27 15-6-203, or 15-6-215, except as provided in 61-3-520.

28 ~~(14)~~(15) Whenever ownership of a trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, off-highway vehicle, motorcycle,
29 quadricycle, UTILITY VEHICLE, travel trailer, motor home, motorboat, sailboat, personal watercraft, motorized
30 pontoon, snowmobile, or motor vehicle owned and operated solely as a collector's item pursuant to 61-3-411 or

1 of a low-speed electric vehicle is transferred, the new owner shall title and register the vehicle or vessel as
2 required by this chapter and pay the fees imposed under this section.

3 ~~(15)~~(16) A person eligible for a waiver under 61-3-460 is exempt from the fees required under this
4 section.

5 ~~(16)~~(17) Except as otherwise provided in this section, revenue collected under this section must be
6 deposited in the state general fund.

7 ~~(17)~~(18) The fees imposed by subsections (2) through (11) are not required to be paid by a dealer for the
8 enumerated vehicles or vessels that constitute inventory of the dealership.

9 ~~(18)~~(19) (a) Unless a person exercises the option in subsection ~~(18)~~(19)~~(b)~~ (b), an additional fee of \$4
10 must be collected for each light vehicle registered under this part. This fee must be accounted for and transmitted
11 separately from the registration fee. The fee must be deposited in an account in the state special revenue fund
12 to be used for state parks, for fishing access sites, and for the operation of state-owned facilities. Of the \$4 fee,
13 the department of fish, wildlife, and parks shall use \$3.50 for state parks, 25 cents for fishing access sites, and
14 25 cents for the operation of state-owned facilities at Virginia City and Nevada City.

15 (b) A person who registers a light vehicle may, at the time of annual registration, certify that the person
16 does not intend to use the vehicle to visit state parks and fishing access sites and may make a written election
17 not to pay the additional \$4 fee provided for in subsection ~~(18)~~(19)~~(a)~~ (a). If a written election is made, the fee may
18 not be collected.

19 ~~(19)~~(20) For each light vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, heavy truck, motor home, motorcycle,
20 quadricycle, and travel trailer subject to a registration fee under this section, an additional fee of \$5 must be
21 collected and forwarded to the state for deposit in the account established in 44-1-504.

22 ~~(20)~~(21) This section does not apply to a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer that is governed
23 by 61-3-721."

24

25 **Section 28.** Section 61-3-332, MCA, is amended to read:

26 **"61-3-332. Standard license plates.** (1) In addition to special license plates, collegiate license plates,
27 generic specialty license plates, and fleet license plates authorized under this chapter, a separate series of
28 standard license plates must be issued for motor vehicles, motorcycles, utility vehicles, quadricycles, travel
29 trailers, trailers, semitrailers, and pole trailers registered in this state or offered for sale by a vehicle dealer
30 licensed in this state. Standard license plates issued to licensed vehicle dealers must be readily distinguishable

1 from license plates issued to vehicles owned by other persons.

2 (2) (a) Except as provided in 61-3-479 and subsections (2)(b), (3)(b), and (3)(c) of this section, all
3 standard license plates for motor vehicles, motorcycles, quadricycles, utility vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or pole
4 trailers must bear a distinctive marking, as determined by the department, and be furnished by the department.
5 In years when standard license plates are not reissued for a vehicle, the department shall provide a registration
6 decal that must be affixed to the rear license plate of the vehicle.

7 (b) For light vehicles that are permanently registered as provided in 61-3-562 and motor vehicles
8 described in 61-3-303(9) that are permanently registered, the department shall provide a distinctive registration
9 decal indicating that the motor vehicle is permanently registered. The registration decal must be affixed to the rear
10 license plate of the permanently registered motor vehicle.

11 (c) For a travel trailer, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer that is
12 permanently registered as provided in 61-3-313(2), the department may use the word or an abbreviation for the
13 word "permanent" on the plate in lieu of issuing a registration decal for the plate.

14 (3) (a) (i) Beginning January 1, 2010, and every 5 years after that date, the department shall design
15 standard license plates to replace previously issued standard license plates. For the purposes of this subsection
16 (3), all military, veteran, and amateur radio license plates and any license plate with a wheelchair design,
17 excluding collegiate or generic specialty plates with a wheelchair design, are treated as standard license plates.

18 (ii) License plates issued on or after January 1, 2010, must be replaced with the most recent design of
19 standard license plates or a new replacement collegiate or generic speciality license plate if, upon renewal of
20 registration under ~~61-3-332~~ this section, the license plates are 5 or more years old or will become older than 5
21 years during the registration period.

22 (iii) License plates issued on or before January 1, 2010, must be replaced with the most recent design
23 of standard license plates or a new replacement collegiate or generic specialty license plate in accordance with
24 the implementation schedule adopted by the department under 61-3-315. Until January 1, 2015, and upon
25 payment of the fee required in ~~61-3-321(12)(b)~~ 61-3-321(13)(b), a vehicle owner may elect to keep the same
26 license plate number from license plates issued on or after January 1, 2006, but before January 1, 2010, when
27 replacement of those plates is required under this subsection.

28 (b) A motor vehicle that is registered for a 13-month to a 24-month period, as provided in 61-3-311, may
29 display the license plate and plate design in effect at the time of registration for the entire registration period.

30 (c) A light vehicle described in subsection (2)(b) or a motor home that is permanently registered may

1 display the license plate and plate design in effect at the time of registration for the entire period that the light
2 vehicle or motor home is permanently registered.

3 (d) The provisions of this subsection (3) do not apply to a travel trailer, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility
4 vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer.

5 (e) The requirements of this subsection (3) apply to collegiate license plates authorized under 61-3-461
6 through 61-3-468, generic specialty license plates authorized under 61-3-472 through 61-3-481, commemorative
7 centennial license plates authorized under 61-3-448, and special military or veteran license plates authorized
8 under 61-3-458.

9 (4) For trailers and motor vehicles, other than motorcycles, utility vehicles, and quadricycles, plates must
10 be of metal 6 inches wide and 12 inches in length. Except for generic specialty license plates, the outline of the
11 state of Montana must be used as a distinctive border on all license plates, and the word "Montana" must be
12 placed on each license plate. All license plates must be treated with a reflectorized background material
13 according to specifications prescribed by the department.

14 (5) The distinctive registration numbers for standard license plates must begin with a number one or with
15 a letter-number combination, such as "A 1" or "AA 1", or any other similar combination of letters and numbers.
16 Except for special license plates, collegiate license plates, generic specialty license plates, and fleet license
17 plates, the distinctive registration number or letter-number combination assigned to the motor vehicle must appear
18 on the plate preceded by the number of the county and appearing in horizontal order on the same horizontal
19 baseline. The county number must be separated from the distinctive registration number by a separation mark
20 unless a letter-number combination is used. The dimensions of the numerals and letters must be determined by
21 the department, and all county and registration numbers must be of equal height.

22 (6) For the use of exempt motor vehicles, motorcycles, quadricycles, utility vehicles, trailers, semitrailers,
23 or pole trailers and motor vehicles, motorcycles, quadricycles, utility vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers
24 that are exempt from the registration fee as provided in 61-3-321, in addition to the markings provided in this
25 section, standard license plates must bear the following distinctive markings:

26 (a) For motor vehicles, motorcycles, quadricycles, utility vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers
27 owned by the state, the department may designate the prefix number for the various state departments. All
28 numbered plates issued to state departments must bear the words "State Owned", and a year number may not
29 be indicated on the plates because these numbered plates are of a permanent nature and will be replaced by the
30 department only when the physical condition of numbered plates requires it.

1 (b) For motor vehicles, motorcycles, quadricycles, utility vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers
2 that are owned by the counties, municipalities, and special districts, as defined in 18-8-202, organized under the
3 laws of Montana and not operating for profit, and that are used and operated by officials and employees in the
4 line of duty and for motor vehicles on loan from the United States government or the state of Montana to, or
5 owned by, the civil air patrol and used and operated by officials and employees in the line of duty, there must be
6 placed on the standard license plates assigned, in a position that the department may designate, the letter "X"
7 or the word "EXEMPT". Distinctive registration numbers for plates assigned to motor vehicles, motorcycles,
8 quadricycles, utility vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers of each of the counties in the state and those
9 of the municipalities and special districts that obtain plates within each county must begin with number one and
10 be numbered consecutively. Because these standard license plates are of a permanent nature, they are subject
11 to replacement by the department only when the physical condition of the license plates requires it and a year
12 number may not be displayed on the plates.

13 (7) For the purpose of this chapter, the several counties of the state are assigned numbers as follows:
14 Silver Bow, 1; Cascade, 2; Yellowstone, 3; Missoula, 4; Lewis and Clark, 5; Gallatin, 6; Flathead, 7; Fergus, 8;
15 Powder River, 9; Carbon, 10; Phillips, 11; Hill, 12; Ravalli, 13; Custer, 14; Lake, 15; Dawson, 16; Roosevelt, 17;
16 Beaverhead, 18; Chouteau, 19; Valley, 20; Toole, 21; Big Horn, 22; Musselshell, 23; Blaine, 24; Madison, 25;
17 Pondera, 26; Richland, 27; Powell, 28; Rosebud, 29; Deer Lodge, 30; Teton, 31; Stillwater, 32; Treasure, 33;
18 Sheridan, 34; Sanders, 35; Judith Basin, 36; Daniels, 37; Glacier, 38; Fallon, 39; Sweet Grass, 40; McCone, 41;
19 Carter, 42; Broadwater, 43; Wheatland, 44; Prairie, 45; Granite, 46; Meagher, 47; Liberty, 48; Park, 49; Garfield,
20 50; Jefferson, 51; Wibaux, 52; Golden Valley, 53; Mineral, 54; Petroleum, 55; Lincoln, 56. Any new counties must
21 be assigned numbers by the department as they are formed, beginning with the number 57.

22 (8) Each type of special license plate approved by the legislature, except collegiate license plates
23 authorized in 61-3-463 and generic specialty license plates authorized in 61-3-472 through 61-3-481, must be
24 a separate series of plates, numbered as provided in subsection (5), except that the county number must be
25 replaced by a design that distinguishes each separate plate series. Unless otherwise specifically stated in this
26 section, the special plates are subject to the same rules and laws as govern the issuance of standard license
27 plates, must be placed or mounted on a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer owned by the person who
28 is eligible to receive them, with the registration decal affixed to the rear license plate of the motor vehicle, trailer,
29 semitrailer, or pole trailer, and must be removed upon sale or other disposition of the motor vehicle, trailer,
30 semitrailer, or pole trailer.

1 (9) (a) A Montana resident who is eligible to receive a special parking permit under 49-4-301 may, upon
2 written application on a form prescribed by the department, be issued a special license plate with a design or
3 decal bearing a representation of a wheelchair as the symbol of a person with a disability.

4 (b) If the motor vehicle to which the license plate is attached is permanently registered, the owner of the
5 motor vehicle shall provide, upon request of a person authorized to enforce special parking laws or ordinances
6 in this or any state, evidence of continued eligibility to use the license plate in the form of a valid special parking
7 permit issued to or renewed by the vehicle owner under 49-4-304 and 49-4-305.

8 (c) A person with a permanent condition, as provided in 49-4-301(2)(b), who has been issued a special
9 license plate upon written application, as provided in this subsection (9), is not required to reapply upon
10 reregistration of the motor vehicle.

11 (10) The provisions of this section do not apply to a motor vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle,
12 trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer that is registered as part of a fleet, as defined in 61-3-712, and that is subject
13 to the provisions of 61-3-711 through 61-3-733."
14

15 **Section 29.** Section 61-3-333, MCA, is amended to read:

16 **"61-3-333. Replacing license plates or decals.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), if one or both
17 license plates registered to a motor vehicle, motorcycle, utility vehicle, quadricycle, travel trailer, trailer,
18 semitrailer, or pole trailer or the registration decal for the motor vehicle, motorcycle, utility vehicle, quadricycle,
19 travel trailer, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer is mutilated or destroyed, the owner of the registered motor vehicle
20 or trailer may obtain a set of replacement license plates, a replacement license plate, or a duplicate registration
21 decal upon filing a sworn declaration stating that fact and payment of a fee of \$10.

22 (2) If the owner requests that the replacement license plate or plates bear the same background and
23 license plate number as the plate or plates that were destroyed or mutilated, the duplicate license plate or plates
24 may be issued upon payment of a fee of \$15.

25 (3) The fees imposed in this section must be deposited in the account established in 61-6-158, except
26 that \$2 of the fee imposed in subsection (1) must be deposited in the state general fund."
27

28 **Section 30.** Section 61-3-458, MCA, is amended to read:

29 **"61-3-458. Special plates for military personnel, veterans, spouses, and gold star families.** (1) (a)
30 Active military personnel, veterans, or the surviving spouse of an eligible veteran, if the spouse has not remarried,

1 may be issued special military or veteran license plates as provided in this section.

2 (b) Family members of a member of the U.S. armed forces who are eligible for a "Gold Star Lapel Button"
3 may be issued special gold star family license plates as provided in subsection (3).

4 (c) Subject to the provisions of 61-3-332 and except as otherwise provided in this chapter, special license
5 plates issued pursuant to this section must be numbered in sets of two with a different number on each set and
6 must be properly displayed as provided in 61-3-301. ~~Special military, veteran, or gold star family license plates~~
7 ~~may not be issued for a quadricycle, semitrailer, or pole trailer.~~ Special military, veteran, or gold star family license
8 plates bearing a wheelchair as the symbol of a person with a disability may be issued to a person who meets the
9 qualifications under 61-3-332(9) and this section. Special military or veteran license plates may be issued for a
10 motorcycle pursuant to 61-3-414 or a quadricycle or utility vehicle registered for use on public highways.

11 (2) (a) Upon application, after paying all applicable motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer
12 registration fees and special license plate fees and providing an official certificate from the applicant's unit
13 commander verifying the individual's eligibility and authorizing the department to issue the plates to the individual,
14 eligible military personnel may be issued one set of special military license plates as provided in this subsection
15 (2).

16 (b) A member of the Montana national guard who is a state resident may be issued special license plates
17 with a design or decal displaying the letters "NG". However, the member shall surrender the plates to the
18 department when the member becomes ineligible.

19 (c) A member of the reserve armed forces of the United States who is a state resident may be issued
20 special license plates according to the member's branch of service verified in the application with a design or
21 decal displaying one of the following: United States army reserve, AR (symbol); United States naval reserve, NR
22 (anchor); United States air force reserve, AFR (symbol); or United States marine corps reserve, MCR (globe and
23 anchor). However, the member shall surrender the plates to the department when the member becomes
24 ineligible.

25 (d) An active member of the regular armed forces of the United States who is a state resident may be
26 issued special license plates inscribed with a symbol signifying the United States army, United States navy,
27 United States air force, United States marine corps, or United States coast guard, according to the member's
28 branch of service verified in the application. However, the member shall surrender the plates to the department
29 upon becoming ineligible.

30 (3) Upon application, after paying all applicable motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer

1 registration fees and special license plate fees and providing a department of defense form 3 (DD Form 3) or its
2 successor or documents showing the person's eligibility for a "Gold Star Lapel Button", a family member of a
3 member of the U.S. armed services who is eligible to receive a "Gold Star Lapel Button" as provided in Public
4 Law 534, 89th congress, may be issued special license plates inscribed with a blue-bordered gold star with the
5 words "Gold Star Family" inscribed beneath the registration number.

6 (4) (a) Upon application, after presenting proper identification and a department of defense form 214
7 (DD-214) or its successor or documents showing an other-than-dishonorable discharge or a reenlistment verifying
8 the applicant's eligibility and paying the veterans' cemetery fee specified in 61-3-459 and all applicable motor
9 vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer registration fees under this chapter, subject to the provisions of 61-3-460,
10 an eligible veteran must be issued any set and more than one set of the special license plates provided for in this
11 subsection (4) that the member requests and is eligible to receive.

12 (b) A veteran may be issued special license plates displaying the letters "DV", which entitles the veteran
13 to the parking privileges allowed to a person with a special parking permit issued under Title 49, chapter 4, part
14 3, if the veteran:

15 (i) has been awarded the purple heart and has been rated by the U.S. department of veterans affairs as
16 50% or more disabled because of a service-connected injury; or

17 (ii) is currently rated 100% disabled or is paid at the 100% disabled rate by the U.S. department of
18 veterans affairs for a service-connected disability.

19 (c) A veteran who has been awarded the purple heart may be issued special license plates with the
20 purple heart decal displaying the words "combat wounded".

21 (d) A veteran who was captured and held prisoner by the military force of a foreign nation may be issued
22 special license plates with a design or decal displaying the words "ex-prisoner of war" or an abbreviation that the
23 department considers appropriate.

24 (e) If the veteran was a member of the United States armed forces on December 7, 1941, and during
25 the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. (Hawaii time) was on station at Pearl Harbor on the island of Oahu or was
26 offshore from Pearl Harbor at a distance of not more than 3 miles, the veteran may be issued special license
27 plates designed to show that the veteran is a survivor of the Pearl Harbor attack.

28 (f) A person who is a member of the legion of valor may be issued special plates displaying a design or
29 decal depicting the recognized legion of valor medallion.

30 (g) A veteran may be issued special license plates displaying the word "VETERAN" and a symbol

1 signifying the United States army, United States navy, United States air force, United States marine corps, or
 2 United States coast guard, according to the veteran's service record verified in the application.

3 (h) A member or a former member of the Montana national guard eligible to receive a military retirement
 4 may be issued special license plates displaying the Montana national guard insignia and the words "National
 5 Guard veteran".

6 (i) A veteran who qualifies under subsections (4)(b) and (4)(c) may be issued special combination license
 7 plates displaying the letters "DV" and displaying a purple heart decal with the words "combat wounded". A person
 8 who receives the combination plates is entitled to the same parking privileges as provided in subsection (4)(b).

9 (5) Upon request, after paying the veterans' cemetery fee provided in 61-3-459 and all applicable vehicle
 10 registration fees under this chapter, subject to the provisions of 61-3-460, the surviving spouse of an eligible
 11 veteran, if the spouse has not remarried, may retain the special license plates issued to the deceased veteran,
 12 except the special "DV" plates provided for under subsection (4)(b) or the combination plates provided for in
 13 subsection (4)(i).

14 (6) For purposes of this section, "veteran" has the meaning provided in 10-2-101."
 15

16 **Section 31.** Section 61-3-506, MCA, is amended to read:

17 **"61-3-506. Rules.** The department may adopt rules:

18 (1) for the assessment and collection of registration fees under 61-3-321 and 61-3-562, including the
 19 proration of fees under 61-3-520, on light vehicles, including criteria for determining the motor vehicle's age;

20 (2) for the imposition and collection of fees in lieu of tax, including the proration of fees in lieu of tax under
 21 61-3-520, on buses, trucks having a manufacturer's rated capacity of more than 1 ton, and truck tractors,
 22 including criteria for determining the motor vehicle's age and manufacturer's rated capacity; ~~and~~

23 (3) for the administration of fees for trailers, semitrailers, and pole trailers, including criteria for
 24 determining a trailer's age and weight; and

25 (4) for the titling and registration of a motorboat, personal watercraft, or sailboat owned by a nonresident
 26 when Montana is the state of principal use, as that phrase is defined in 33 CFR 173.3, for that motorboat,
 27 personal watercraft, or sailboat. The department shall consult with the department of fish, wildlife, and parks in
 28 the development of rules under this subsection."
 29

30 **Section 32.** Section 61-3-509, MCA, is amended to read:

1 **"61-3-509. Disposition of fees -- responsibility for dishonored payments.** (1) All registration fees
2 imposed by 61-3-321 on light vehicles, motor homes, motorcycles, quadricycles, utility vehicles, buses, motor
3 vehicles having a manufacturer's rated capacity of more than 1 ton, and truck tractors for which a license is
4 sought and an original application for title that includes a manufacturer's statement of origin is made must be
5 remitted to the state as provided in 15-1-504 every 30 days. The payments must be deposited in the state general
6 fund.

7 (2) (a) The department, its authorized agent, or a county treasurer is responsible for pursuing remedies
8 available under 27-1-717 or otherwise provided by law when a check, draft, converted check, electronic funds
9 transfer, or order for the payment of money is dishonored:

10 (i) for lack of funds or credit;

11 (ii) because the issuer does not have an account with the entity from which the funds are to be drawn;

12 or

13 (iii) because the issuer stops payment with the intent to defraud the payee of the check or the payee
14 named on the issued check, draft, converted check, electronic funds transfer, or order for the payment of money.

15 (b) Once fees have been remitted to the state under this section, adjustments may be made only for
16 dishonored instruments if less than 1 year has elapsed from the date of remittance."

17

18 **Section 33.** Section 61-4-101, MCA, is amended to read:

19 **"61-4-101. Types of licenses and terms -- common application -- bonds -- zoning.** (1) Except as
20 provided in 61-4-120 and 61-4-125, a person may not engage in the business of buying, selling, exchanging,
21 accepting on consignment, or acting as a broker of a motor vehicle, trailer, travel trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer,
22 motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, motorboat, personal watercraft, snowmobile, off-highway vehicle, or
23 special mobile equipment that is not registered in the person's name unless the person is the holder of a license
24 issued by the department under this part.

25 (2) (a) The department may issue a new dealer's license, a used dealer's license, a broker's license, an
26 auto auction license, or a wholesaler license to any person it determines is qualified to hold the license under the
27 provisions of this section.

28 (b) A new dealer's license authorizes the holder to sell:

29 (i) any new motor vehicle, new power sports vehicle, or new trailer that is covered under a franchise
30 agreement between the holder and the manufacturer, importer, or distributor of the line of vehicle or trailer offered

1 for sale; and

2 (ii) any used motor vehicle, used power sports vehicle, or used trailer.

3 (c) A used dealer license authorizes the holder to sell any used motor vehicle, used power sports vehicle,
4 or used trailer.

5 (d) A broker's license authorizes the holder to negotiate the purchase, sale, or exchange of a motor
6 vehicle, power sports vehicle, or trailer from a dealer or another person upon behalf of a client when the broker
7 does not store, display, or take ownership of the motor vehicle, power sports vehicle, or trailer being purchased,
8 sold, or exchanged.

9 (e) Except as provided in 61-4-120, an auto auction license authorizes the holder to take possession of
10 a used vehicle owned by another person through consignment, bailment, or any other arrangement and to sell
11 to the highest bidder when all bidders are licensed vehicle dealers, wholesalers, or wrecking facilities.

12 (f) A wholesaler license authorizes the holder to sell used vehicles to a new or used vehicle dealer, an
13 auto auction, or another wholesaler.

14 (3) Subject to the provisions of 61-4-120, 61-4-124, and 61-4-125, a license issued by the department
15 is valid until:

16 (a) voluntarily returned to the department for surrender and cancellation upon the cessation of the
17 licensee's business operations; or

18 (b) suspended or revoked for a violation of this chapter or any other laws relating to the sale of motor
19 vehicles, power sports vehicles, or trailers.

20 (4) (a) An applicant for a new dealer's license, a used dealer's license, a broker's license, an auto auction
21 license, or a wholesaler license shall submit a written application to the department. The application must be
22 signed by the applicant and contain a verification by the applicant, under penalty of law, that the information
23 contained in the application is true and correct. Any information provided in the license application process is
24 subject to independent verification by the department or an authorized representative of the department.

25 (b) After examining a license application and conducting an investigation necessary to verify the
26 information contained in the application and if the department is satisfied that the applicant qualifies for the
27 issuance of a license under the provisions of this chapter, the department may issue the license. The department
28 may refuse, after examination and investigation, to issue a license to an applicant who is not qualified for
29 licensure or whose prior financial or other activities or criminal record, as determined by the department:

30 (i) poses a threat to the effective regulation of dealers, wholesalers, or auto auctions;

- 1 (ii) poses a threat to the public interest of the state; or
- 2 (iii) creates a danger of illegal or deceptive practices being used in the conduct of the proposed
- 3 dealership, wholesaler, or auto auction.
- 4 (5) To be qualified for licensure, an applicant shall provide to the department the following information:
- 5 (a) the name under which the applicant intends to conduct business and the applicant's name, the street
- 6 address and, if different, mailing address for the business, and customer identification number;
- 7 (b) the name, date of birth, and social security number of any person who:
- 8 (i) possesses or will possess an ownership interest in the business for which the license is sought;
- 9 (ii) is a corporate officer or the managing member of a business entity applying for the license; or
- 10 (iii) is or will be designated by the applicant to manage or oversee the applicant's business;
- 11 (c) for each person subject to the provisions of subsection (5)(b), information concerning whether the
- 12 person has:
- 13 (i) an ownership interest in a vehicle dealership, an auto auction, or a wholesaler business in Montana
- 14 or any other state and, if so, the name and address of each dealership, auto auction, or wholesaler; and
- 15 (ii) been found guilty of, or pleaded guilty to, a felony in this or any other jurisdiction and, if so, shall
- 16 provide a summary of the conduct resulting in the felony charge, including the dates of the conduct and any court
- 17 proceedings pertaining to the conduct and the name and address of any court in which the matter was heard;
- 18 (d) the name, address, and telephone number of the insurance carrier from whom the applicant has
- 19 acquired general liability insurance, naming the department as a certificate holder of the policy, and the name,
- 20 address, and telephone number of the local insurance agent for the carrier and the applicant's policy number.
- 21 The insurance must cover any motor vehicle bearing dealer or demonstrator license plates and any motorboat,
- 22 snowmobile, or off-highway vehicle displaying a dealer's identification card that is offered for demonstration or
- 23 loan to a customer or otherwise operated by a customer in the regular course of the applicant's business and
- 24 must be for a minimum of 1 year;
- 25 (e) the geographic location of the physical lot or lots upon which vehicles will be displayed for sale, if
- 26 applicable, and of a permanent nonresidential building that will be maintained to store the actual physical or
- 27 electronic records resulting from the purchase, sale, trade, or consignment of vehicles for which licensure is
- 28 sought. An applicant may use more than one location to display vehicles for sale if the maximum distance
- 29 between each display lot does not exceed 200 feet and if the distance between a display lot and the building in
- 30 which vehicle sales records are stored does not exceed 1,000 feet.

1 (f) for each geographic location specified in the application, evidence of the applicant's compliance with
2 applicable local land use planning, zoning, and business permitting requirements, if any. Evidence of compliance
3 may be documented by means of a written verification of compliance signed by the authorized representative of
4 the local land use planning or zoning board or the local business-permitting agency.

5 (g) a diagram or plat showing the geographic location, lot dimensions, if applicable, and building and sign
6 placement for the applicant's proposed established place of business, along with two or more photographs of the
7 geographic location, building premises, and sign, as prescribed by the department;

8 (h) if the applicant is seeking a new motor vehicle dealer's license:

9 (i) the name and address of the manufacturer, importer, or distributor with whom the applicant has a
10 written new motor vehicle, power sports vehicle, or trailer franchise or sales agreement, the term of the
11 agreement, and the name and make of all motor vehicles, power sports vehicles, or trailers to be handled by the
12 applicant;

13 (ii) the geographic location or locations, specified in writing, upon which the applicant will provide and
14 maintain a permanent building to display and sell new motor vehicles, power sports vehicles, or trailers and offer
15 and maintain a bona fide service department for the repair, service, and maintenance of the motor vehicles,
16 power sports vehicles, or trailers; and

17 (iii) verification that the applicant otherwise meets the requirements of part 2 of this chapter.

18 (6) If an applicant wants to maintain more than one established place of business, the applicant shall
19 file a separate license application for each proposed place of business and otherwise qualify for licensure at each
20 place separately.

21 (7) Each application under this section must be accompanied by the following fees:

22 (a) for a new or used dealer's license, a broker's license, or a wholesaler's license, \$30; and

23 (b) for an auto auction license, the fee provided for in 61-4-120.

24 (8) (a) Except as provided in subsection (8)(b), an applicant for a dealer's license, broker's license,
25 wholesaler's license, or auto auction license shall also file with the application a bond of \$50,000.

26 (b) An applicant whose business will be restricted to the sale of motorcycles, utility vehicles, or
27 quadricycles shall file a bond of \$15,000. An applicant whose business will be restricted to the sale of motorboats,
28 personal watercraft, snowmobiles, or off-highway vehicles, other than motorcycles originally equipped for use on
29 the highway, shall file a bond of \$5,000.

30 (c) All bonds must be conditioned that the applicant shall conduct the business in accordance with the

1 requirements of the law. All bonds must be approved by the department, must be filed in its office, and must be
2 renewed annually."

3

4 **Section 34.** Section 61-4-108, MCA, is amended to read:

5 **"61-4-108. Exemptions.** (1) This part does not require licensure of, or restrict or prohibit a financial
6 institution, as defined in 32-6-103:

7 (a) in the selling of collateral repossessed on default of a loan made by the financial institution;

8 (b) in the conduct of a motor vehicle sales promotion in affiliation with one or more licensed dealers; or

9 (c) in the conduct of a motor vehicle sales promotion in affiliation with a person regularly engaged in a
10 bona fide vehicle rental business if the purpose of the sale is to dispose of used motor vehicles used in the rental
11 business.

12 (2) This part does not require licensure of an auctioneer whose business consists primarily of the sale
13 of personal property other than motor vehicles.

14 (3) This part does not require licensure of a licensed real estate broker or agent lawfully buying, selling,
15 exchanging, taking on consignment, or acting as a broker of mobile homes.

16 (4) This part does not apply to the sale of a utility vehicle by a dealer of farm implements as defined in
17 30-11-801."

18

19 **Section 35.** Section 61-4-131, MCA, is amended to read:

20 **"61-4-131. Definitions.** As used in this part, the following definitions apply:

21 (1) "Broker" means a person:

22 (a) who engages in the business of offering to procure or procuring a motor vehicle, a trailer, a
23 semitrailer, a pole trailer, a travel trailer, a motorboat, a personal watercraft, a snowmobile, or an off-highway
24 vehicle on behalf of another; or

25 (b) who represents to the public through solicitation, advertisement, or otherwise that the person is one
26 who offers to procure or procures a motor vehicle, a trailer, a semitrailer, a pole trailer, a travel trailer, a
27 motorboat, a personal watercraft, a snowmobile, or an off-highway vehicle by negotiating purchases, contracts,
28 sales, or exchanges on behalf of another and who does not store, display, or take ownership of a motor vehicle,
29 a trailer, a semitrailer, a pole trailer, a travel trailer, a motorboat, a personal watercraft, a snowmobile, or an
30 off-highway vehicle.

1 (2) (a) "Dealer", except as provided in subsection (2)(b), includes a new dealer or a used dealer licensed
2 under this part.

3 (b) For purposes of 61-4-132 through 61-4-135, 61-4-137, 61-4-141, and 61-4-150, the term is limited
4 to a new motor vehicle dealer as defined in 61-4-201.

5 (3) (a) "Designated family member" means the spouse, child, grandchild, parent, brother, or sister of a
6 new motor vehicle dealer, as defined in 61-4-201, who:

7 (i) in the case of a deceased dealer:

8 (A) is entitled to inherit the dealer's ownership interest in the dealership under the terms of the dealer's
9 will or under the laws of intestate succession of this state; or

10 (B) has otherwise been designated in writing by a deceased dealer to succeed the deceased in the motor
11 vehicle dealership; or

12 (ii) in the case of an incapacitated dealer, has been appointed by a court as the legal representative of
13 the dealer's property.

14 (b) The term includes the appointed and qualified personal representative and the testamentary trustee
15 of a deceased dealer.

16 (4) (a) "Established place of business" means the geographic location upon which a permanent building
17 is located that is actually occupied either continuously or at regular periods by a person licensed under this part.
18 A building is actually occupied if the licensee's books and records are kept in the building and, except for
19 approved off-premises sales, the licensee's business is transacted within the building.

20 (b) A licensee's established place of business may also include the geographic location of one or more
21 physical lots upon which vehicles are displayed for sale, as long as the requirements of 61-4-101(5)(e) regulating
22 the distance between display lots and the recordkeeping building are met.

23 (c) The geographic location of the permanent building actually occupied by the licensee or the
24 geographic location of the physical lots upon which vehicles are displayed for sale may be identified by street
25 address, legal description, or other reasonably identifiable description, as prescribed by the department.

26 (5) "New", when describing a motor vehicle, power sports vehicle, or trailer, means that the motor
27 vehicle, power sports vehicle, or trailer has not been the subject of a retail sale.

28 (6) "Parking", when prohibited, means the standing of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, otherwise than
29 temporarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading.

30 (7) (a) "Power sports vehicle" includes a motorboat, a personal watercraft, a snowmobile, or an

1 off-highway vehicle.

2 (b) A motorcycle, utility vehicle, or quadricycle must be treated as an off-highway vehicle if the
3 motorcycle, utility vehicle, or quadricycle is not originally equipped for use on a highway.

4 (c) A sailboat that is 12 feet in length or longer is treated as a motorboat.

5 (8) (a) "Trailer" has the meaning provided in 61-1-101, but does not include a trailer that has an unloaded
6 weight of less than 500 pounds.

7 (b) A travel trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer is treated as a trailer under this part.

8 (9) "Used", when describing a motor vehicle, power sports vehicle, or trailer, means that title to the motor
9 vehicle, power sports vehicle, or trailer has been transferred because of a prior retail sale."

10

11 **Section 36.** Section 61-5-102, MCA, is amended to read:

12 **"61-5-102. Drivers to be licensed -- penalties.** (1) (a) Except as provided in 61-5-104, a person may
13 not drive a motor vehicle upon a highway in this state unless the person has a valid Montana driver's license. A
14 person may not receive a Montana driver's license until the person surrenders to the department all valid driver's
15 licenses issued by any other jurisdiction. A person may not have in the person's possession or under the person's
16 control more than one valid Montana driver's license at any time.

17 (b) Except as provided in subsection (1)(c), the penalty for a first violation of this section is a fine of not
18 more than \$500, imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both a fine and imprisonment. The penalty for
19 second and subsequent violations of this section is a fine of not more than \$500 and imprisonment for not less
20 than 2 days or more than 6 months.

21 (c) A person who is eligible to hold a driver's license and has obtained a valid driver's license but has
22 not renewed the license as provided in 61-5-111(3)(c) is not subject to the penalties in subsection (1)(b).

23 (2) (a) (i) Except as provided in subsection (2)(a)(ii), a license is not valid for the operation of a
24 motorcycle unless the holder of the license has completed the requirements of 61-5-110 and the license has been
25 clearly marked with the words "motorcycle endorsement".

26 (ii) A motorcycle endorsement is not required for the operation of a low-speed electric vehicle or a
27 motorcycle that is propelled by an electric motor or other device that transforms stored electrical energy into the
28 motion of the vehicle, has a fully enclosed cab, is equipped with three wheels in contact with the ground, and is
29 equipped with a seat and seatbelts.

30 (b) A license is not valid for the operation of a commercial motor vehicle unless the holder of the license

1 has completed the requirements of 61-5-110, the license has been clearly marked with the words "commercial
2 driver's license", and the license bears the proper endorsement for:

- 3 (i) the specific vehicle type or types being operated; or
4 (ii) the passengers or type or types of cargo being transported.

5 (3) When a city or town requires a licensed driver to obtain a local driving license or permit, a license or
6 permit may not be issued unless the applicant presents a state driver's license valid under the provisions of this
7 chapter."

8

9 **Section 37.** Section 61-5-301, MCA, is amended to read:

10 **"61-5-301. Indication on driver's license of intent to make anatomical gift or of living will**
11 **declaration.** (1) ~~The department of justice shall provide on each~~ An application furnished by the department for
12 issuance or renewal of a driver's license under authority of this chapter or for issuance of an identification card
13 under authority of Title 61, chapter 12, part 5, must include spaces for indicating when the licensee has:

14 (a) executed a document under 72-17-201 of intent to make a gift of all or part of the driver's body under
15 the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act; or

16 (b) executed a declaration under 50-9-103 relating to the use of life-sustaining treatment.

17 (2) The department shall provide each applicant, ~~at the time of application for a new~~ when applying for
18 or renewing a driver's license or for a renewal applying for an identification card, printed information calling the
19 applicant's attention to the provisions of this section. Each applicant must be asked orally if the applicant wishes
20 to make an anatomical gift and if the applicant has executed the declaration under 50-9-103 relating to the use
21 of life-sustaining treatment.

22 (3) Each applicant must be given an opportunity to indicate in the spaces provided under subsection (1)
23 the applicant's intent to make an anatomical gift or that the applicant has executed the declaration under 50-9-103
24 relating to the use of life-sustaining treatment.

25 (4) The department shall issue to each applicant who indicates an intent to make an anatomical gift a
26 statement that, when signed by the licensee in the manner prescribed in 72-17-201, constitutes a document of
27 anatomical gift. ~~This statement must be printed on a sticker that the donor may attach permanently to the back~~
28 When the applicant executes a statement under this subsection, a symbol indicating that the donor has made
29 an anatomical gift must be imprinted on the face of the donor's driver's license or identification card.

30 (5) The department shall electronically transfer the information of all persons who volunteer, upon

1 application for a driver's license or an identification card, to donate organs or tissue to the organ and tissue
2 donation registry created in 72-17-105 and 72-17-106 and any subsequent changes to the applicant's donor
3 status."

4

5 **Section 38.** Section 61-6-158, MCA, is amended to read:

6 **"61-6-158. Vehicle insurance verification and license plate operating account.** (1) There is a vehicle
7 insurance verification and license plate operating account in the state special revenue fund type as provided in
8 17-2-102.

9 (2) Fees imposed under 61-3-321(7)(b)(ii) and ~~(12)~~ (13), 61-3-333, 61-3-465(1)(b)(i), 61-3-480(2)(c)(i),
10 or 61-3-562(1)(a)(ii) or established and collected under 61-6-105 must be deposited in the account.

11 (3) The money in the vehicle insurance verification and license plate operating account must be used
12 by the department to pay costs incurred in or associated with the operation, maintenance, and enhancement of
13 the system established under 61-6-157 and the contract required in 61-3-338 for the manufacture and distribution
14 of license plates by Montana correctional enterprises."

15

16 **Section 39.** Section 61-6-303, MCA, is amended to read:

17 **"61-6-303. Exempt vehicles.** The following vehicles and their drivers are exempt from the provisions
18 of 61-6-301:

19 (1) a vehicle owned by the United States government or any state or political subdivision;

20 (2) a vehicle for which cash, securities, or a bond has been deposited or filed with the department upon
21 terms and conditions providing the same benefits available under a required motor vehicle liability insurance
22 policy;

23 (3) a vehicle owned by a self-insurer certified as provided in 61-6-143;

24 (4) an implement of husbandry or special mobile equipment that is only incidentally operated on a
25 highway or property open to use by the public;

26 (5) a vehicle operated upon a highway only for the purpose of crossing the highway from one property
27 to another;

28 (6) a commercial vehicle registered or proportionally registered in this and any other jurisdiction if the
29 vehicle is covered by a motor vehicle liability insurance policy complying with the laws of another jurisdiction in
30 which it is registered;

- 1 (7) a motorcycle, utility vehicle or quadricycle;
- 2 (8) a vehicle moved solely by human or animal power;
- 3 (9) a vehicle owned by a nonresident if it is currently registered in the owner's resident jurisdiction and
- 4 the owner is in compliance with the motor vehicle liability insurance requirements, if any, of that jurisdiction."
- 5

6 **Section 40.** Section 61-8-359, MCA, is amended to read:

7 **"61-8-359. Riding on motorcycles or quadricycles.** (1) A person operating a motorcycle or quadricycle

8 on public streets or highways may ride only upon the permanent and regular seat attached to the motorcycle or

9 quadricycle. The operator may not carry any other person and another person may not ride on a motorcycle or

10 quadricycle unless the motorcycle or quadricycle is designed to carry more than one person, in which event a

11 passenger may ride upon the permanent and regular seat if designed for two persons or upon another seat firmly

12 attached to the rear or side of the operator.

13 (2) A passenger may not be carried in a position that will interfere with the operation of the motorcycle

14 or quadricycle or the view of the operator.

15 (3) A person operating a motorcycle or quadricycle may not carry any packages, bundles, or articles that

16 would prevent the operator from keeping both hands on the handlebars or that would interfere with the operation

17 of the vehicle in a safe and prudent manner.

18 (4) A person may ride upon a motorcycle or quadricycle only while sitting astride the seat, facing forward,

19 with one leg on each side of the motorcycle or quadricycle.

20 (5) Except as provided in subsections (5)(a) and (5)(b), motorcycles, utility vehicles and quadricycles

21 must be operated with lights on at all times when operated on any public roadway. A motorcycle, utility vehicle,

22 or quadricycle may be operated without lights from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset if:

23 (a) the motorcycle is registered under 61-3-411 as a collector's item and if persons and vehicles are

24 clearly discernible at a distance of 500 feet; or

25 (b) the motorcycle, utility vehicle, or quadricycle is being driven to the nearest repair facility for headlamp

26 repair.

27 (6) No more than two motorcycles may be operated side by side in a single traffic lane.

28 (7) All motor vehicles, including motorcycles, utility vehicles, and quadricycles, are entitled to the full use

29 of a traffic lane, and a vehicle may not be driven or operated in a manner that deprives any other vehicle of the

30 full use of a traffic lane, except that motorcycles may, with the consent of both drivers, be operated no more than

1 two abreast in a single traffic lane.

2 (8) Every person riding a motorcycle, utility vehicle, or quadricycle upon a roadway is granted all of the
3 rights and is subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a motor vehicle except for those provisions
4 which, by their nature, can have no application."

5

6 **Section 41.** Section 61-9-203, MCA, is amended to read:

7 **"61-9-203. Headlamps on motor vehicles.** (1) A motor vehicle other than a motorcycle, quadricycle,
8 utility vehicle, or motor-driven cycle must be equipped with at least two headlamps, with at least one on each side
9 of the front of the motor vehicle, that comply with the requirements and limitations set forth in this chapter.

10 (2) A motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, or motor-driven cycle must be equipped with at least one
11 and not more than two headlamps that comply with the requirements and limitations of this chapter. If a
12 motorcycle is registered under 61-3-411 as a collector's item, it need not be equipped with headlamps; however,
13 if it is not equipped with headlamps, it may not be operated upon a highway or street from one-half hour after
14 sunset to one-half hour before sunrise or if persons and vehicles are not clearly discernible at a distance of 500
15 feet. A motorcycle may be equipped with a means of modulating the high beam of its headlamps between high
16 and low beam at a rate of 200 to 280 flashes a minute; however, an operator may not modulate the headlamps
17 at that rate during periods when headlamps are required to be lighted by 61-9-201.

18 (3) A headlamp upon a motor vehicle, including a motorcycle, quadricycle, utility vehicle, and
19 motor-driven cycle, must be located at a height, measured from the center of the headlamp, of not more than 54
20 inches or less than 22 inches, to be measured as provided in 61-9-202(2).

21 (4) When headlamps are required to be lighted by 61-9-201, a person may not operate a motor vehicle
22 on a highway with headlamps that are composed of, covered by, or treated with a tinted or colored material,
23 substance, system, or component that obscures the headlamps or diminishes the distance of visibility required
24 by this section.

25 (5) This section does not prohibit the operation or sale of a motor vehicle the headlamps of which are
26 composed of, covered by, or treated with a tinted or colored material, substance, system, or component with
27 which the vehicle was sold or could have been equipped for sale when new as standard or optional equipment
28 in compliance with federal statute or regulation governing the sale at the time of manufacture."

29

30 **Section 42.** Section 61-9-206, MCA, is amended to read:

1 **"61-9-206. Stop lamps -- when required.** (1) A person may not sell a new motor vehicle in this state
 2 or drive a vehicle on the highways unless it is equipped with at least two properly functioning stop lamps. A
 3 vehicle manufactured before January 1, 1956, and all motorcycles, quadricycles, utility vehicles, and motor-driven
 4 cycles must be equipped with at least one properly functioning stop lamp.

5 (2) The stop lamp or lamps on the rear of a vehicle must display a red light that is actuated upon
 6 application of the service (foot) brake and, in a vehicle manufactured or assembled on or after January 1, 1964,
 7 must be visible from a distance of not less than 300 feet to the rear in normal sunlight. In a vehicle manufactured
 8 or assembled before January 1, 1964, the stop lamp or lamps must be visible from a distance of not less than
 9 100 feet. The stop lamp may be incorporated with one or more other rear lamps.

10 (3) A stop lamp may not project a glaring light."
 11

12 **Section 43.** Section 61-9-220, MCA, is amended to read:

13 **"61-9-220. Multiple-beam road-lighting equipment.** Except as provided in this part, the headlamps
 14 or the auxiliary driving lamps or combination of both on a motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle, quadricycle, or
 15 motor-driven cycle, utility vehicle, or low-speed electric vehicle, must be ~~so~~ arranged so that the driver may select
 16 between distributions of light projected to different elevations. The selection can be made automatically, subject
 17 to the following limitations:

18 (1) There must be an uppermost distribution of light, or composite beam, capable of revealing persons
 19 and vehicles at a distance of at least 350 feet ahead for all conditions of loading.

20 (2) There must be a lowermost distribution of light, or composite beam, capable of revealing persons and
 21 vehicles at a distance of at least 100 feet ahead. On a straight level road under any condition of loading the
 22 high-intensity portion of the beam may not be directed to strike the eyes of an approaching driver.

23 (3) A motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle, quadricycle, or motor-driven cycle, utility vehicle, or
 24 low-speed electric vehicle, manufactured after January 1, 1956, that has multiple-beam road-lighting equipment
 25 must be equipped with a beam indicator that must be lighted whenever the uppermost distribution of light from
 26 the headlamps is in use, and may not otherwise be lighted. The indicator must be readily visible without glare to
 27 the driver of the vehicle."
 28

29 **Section 44.** Section 61-9-303, MCA, is amended to read:

30 **"61-9-303. Parking brakes -- adequacy.** ~~Every such~~ A vehicle and or combination of vehicles, except

1 motorcycles, quadricycles, utility vehicles, and motor-driven cycles, ~~shall~~ must be equipped with parking brakes
 2 adequate to hold the vehicle on any grade on which it is operated, under all conditions of loading, on a surface
 3 free from snow, ice, or loose material. The parking brakes ~~shall~~ must be capable of being applied in conformance
 4 with the foregoing requirements by the driver's muscular effort or by spring action or by equivalent means. Their
 5 operation may be assisted by the service brakes or other source of power, provided that failure of the service
 6 brake actuation system or other power assisting mechanism will not prevent the parking brakes from being
 7 applied in conformance with the ~~foregoing~~ requirements of this section. The parking brakes ~~shall~~ must be ~~so~~
 8 designed so that when once applied they ~~shall~~ remain applied with the required effectiveness despite exhaustion
 9 of any source of energy or leakage of any kind. The same brake drums, brake shoes and lining assemblies, brake
 10 shoe anchors, and mechanical brake shoe actuation mechanism normally associated with the wheel brake
 11 assemblies may be used for both the service brakes and the parking brakes. If the means of applying the parking
 12 brakes and the service brakes are connected in any way, they ~~shall~~ must be ~~so~~ constructed so that failure of any
 13 one part ~~shall~~ does not leave the vehicle without operative brakes."
 14

15 **Section 45.** Section 61-9-304, MCA, is amended to read:

16 **"61-9-304. Brakes required on all wheels -- exceptions.** Every vehicle must be equipped with brakes
 17 acting on all wheels except:

18 (1) trailers, semitrailers, pole trailers of a gross weight not exceeding 3,000 pounds, provided that:

19 (a) the total weight on and including the wheels of the trailer or trailers may not exceed 40% of the gross
 20 weight of the towing vehicle when connected to the trailer or trailers; and

21 (b) the combination of vehicles consisting of the towing vehicle and its total towed load is capable of
 22 complying with the performance requirements of 61-9-312;

23 (2) any vehicle being towed in driveaway or towaway operations, provided the combination of vehicles
 24 is capable of complying with the performance requirements of 61-9-312;

25 (3) trucks and truck tractors having three or more axles need not have brakes on the front wheels, if the
 26 vehicle was manufactured before July 25, 1980. However, the trucks and truck tractors must be capable of
 27 complying with the performance requirements of 61-9-312.

28 (4) special mobile equipment;

29 (5) the wheel of a sidecar attached to a motorcycle or to a motor-driven cycle, or the front wheel of a
 30 motor-driven cycle need not be equipped with brakes. However, a quadricycle, motorcycle, utility vehicle, or

1 motor-driven cycle must be capable of complying with the performance requirements of 61-9-312."

2

3 **Section 46.** Section 61-9-312, MCA, is amended to read:

4 **"61-9-312. Performance ability of brakes.** On a dry, hard, approximately level stretch of highway free
5 from loose material, a motor vehicle or combination of vehicles, upon application of the service brake, must be
6 capable of stopping at a speed of 20 miles an hour within the following distances:

7 (1) 25 feet for passenger motor vehicles, except buses and pioneer vehicles;

8 (2) 40 feet for buses, trucks, and tractor trucks;

9 (3) 45 feet for motor vehicles registered or qualified to be registered as pioneer vehicles under
10 61-3-411(2)(a) when equipped with two-wheel brakes or 25 feet when equipped with four-wheel brakes;

11 (4) 40 feet for all combinations of vehicles; and

12 (5) 30 feet for motorcycles, quadricycles, utility vehicles, and motor-driven cycles."

13

14 **Section 47.** Section 61-9-417, MCA, is amended to read:

15 **"61-9-417. Headgear required for minor motorcycle riders.** (1) An operator ~~and passenger under 18~~
16 ~~years of age~~ of a motorcycle, utility vehicle, or quadricycle operated upon the streets or highways of this state who
17 is under 18 years of age or a passenger who is under 18 years of age shall wear protective headgear upon the
18 head. The headgear must meet standards established by the department of justice.

19 (2) A person may not operate a motorcycle upon a street or highway in of the state unless all passengers
20 under 18 years of age are in compliance with subsection (1)."

21

22 **Section 48.** Section 61-9-418, MCA, is amended to read:

23 **"61-9-418. Motorcycle and quadricycle noise suppression devices -- motorcycle and quadricycle**
24 **spark arrester.** (1) All motorcycles, utility vehicles, or quadricycles operated on the streets and highways of this
25 state must be equipped at all times with noise suppression devices, including an exhaust muffler, in good working
26 order and in constant operation. In addition, all motorcycles, utility vehicles, and quadricycles operating on streets
27 and highways must meet the following noise decibel limitations, on the standard A scale, to be measured at 50
28 feet from the closest point to the motorcycle, utility vehicle, or quadricycle:

29 (a) any cycle or utility vehicle manufactured prior to 1970.....92 db(A)

30 (b) any cycle or utility vehicle manufactured after 1969 but prior to 1973.....88 db(A)

1 (c) any cycle or utility vehicle manufactured after 1972 but prior to 1975.....86 db(A)

2 (d) any cycle or utility vehicle manufactured after 1974 but prior to 1978.....80 db(A)

3 (e) any cycle or utility vehicle manufactured after 1977 but prior to 1988.....75 db(A)

4 (f) any cycle or utility vehicle manufactured after 1987.....70 db(A)

5 (2) (a) Except as provided in subsection (2)(b), a motorcycle, utility vehicle, or quadricycle may be
6 operated off of a highway on public lands only if the motorcycle's, utility vehicle's, or quadricycle's noise emissions
7 do not exceed 96 db(A), using test procedures established by the society of automotive engineers under standard
8 J-1287.

9 (b) The noise limitations in subsection (2)(a) do not apply to motorcycles, utility vehicles, or quadricycles
10 that are operated for special events permitted on closed courses by a state entity or local government.

11 (c) A motorcycle, utility vehicle, or quadricycle may not be operated off of a highway unless it is equipped
12 with an adequate spark arrester to prevent the escape of sparks or other burning material from the motorcycle's
13 or quadricycle's engine."
14

15 **Section 49.** Section 61-9-421, MCA, is amended to read:

16 **"61-9-421. Certain vehicles exempt.** Section 61-9-420 is not applicable to a vehicle that:

17 (1) is a motorbus, schoolbus, taxicab, moped, quadricycle, utility vehicle, or motorcycle or is not required
18 to be equipped with safety belts under 49 CFR 571 as it reads on January 1, 1984; or

19 (2) has a seating capacity as designated by the manufacturer of two persons and there are two persons
20 4 years of age or older in the vehicle."
21

22 **Section 50.** Section 61-9-432, MCA, is amended to read:

23 **"61-9-432. ~~Medium-speed~~ Low-speed and medium-speed electric vehicles -- required equipment.**

24 ~~A medium-speed electric vehicle~~ (1) Low-speed electric vehicles and medium-speed electric vehicles, as defined
25 in 61-1-101, must be equipped with:

26 (1)(a) headlamps, front and rear turn signal lamps, taillamps, and stop lamps;

27 (2)(b) three red reflectors, two of which must be placed on each side as far to the rear of the vehicle as
28 practicable, and one of which must be placed on the rear of the vehicle;

29 (3)(c) an exterior mirror mounted on the driver's side of the vehicle and either an exterior mirror mounted
30 on the passenger's side of the vehicle or an interior mirror;

1 ~~(4)(d)~~ a parking brake;

2 ~~(5)(e)~~ a windshield that conforms to the federal motor vehicle safety standard provided in 49 CFR
3 571.205; and

4 ~~(6)(f)~~ a seatbelt assembly that conforms to the federal motor vehicle safety standard provided in 49 CFR
5 571.209; and

6 ~~(7)(2)~~ A medium speed-electric vehicle must be equipped with a roll bar, roll cage, or crush-proof body
7 design."

8

9 **Section 51.** Section 61-9-435, MCA, is amended to read:

10 **"61-9-435. Exhaust noise limitation.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (3), a person may not
11 operate a motor vehicle with an exhaust system that emits a noise in excess of 95 decibels, as measured by the
12 society of automotive engineers' standard j1169 (May 1998).

13 (2) A person charged with violating this section may not be convicted if the person had reasonable
14 grounds to believe that the vehicle was not operated in violation of the standard in subsection (1).

15 (3) This section does not apply to a motorcycle, utility vehicle, or quadricycle that is subject to 61-9-418."

16

17 **Section 52.** Section 61-13-103, MCA, is amended to read:

18 **"61-13-103. Seatbelt use required -- exceptions.** (1) A driver may not operate a motor vehicle upon
19 a highway of the state of Montana unless each occupant of a designated seating position is wearing a properly
20 adjusted and fastened seatbelt or, if 61-9-420 applies, is properly restrained in a child safety restraint.

21 (2) The provisions of this section do not apply to:

22 (a) an occupant of a motor vehicle who possesses a written statement from a licensed physician,
23 licensed physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse, as defined in 37-8-102, that the occupant
24 is unable to wear a seatbelt for medical reasons;

25 (b) an occupant of a motor vehicle in which all seatbelts are being used by other occupants;

26 (c) an operator of a motorcycle, a quadricycle, a utility vehicle, or a motor-driven cycle;

27 (d) an occupant of a vehicle licensed as special mobile equipment; or

28 (e) an occupant who makes frequent stops with a motor vehicle during official job duties and who may
29 be exempted by the department.

30 (3) The department may adopt rules to implement subsection (2)(e).

