

IC 9-17-4

Chapter 4. Private Assembly of Vehicles; Engine Identification Numbers

IC 9-17-4-0.3

"Assembled vehicle"

Sec. 0.3. As used in this chapter, "assembled vehicle" means:

- (1) a motor vehicle, excluding a motorcycle, that has had the:
 - (A) frame;
 - (B) chassis;
 - (C) cab; or
 - (D) body;

modified from its original construction, replaced, or constructed; or

- (2) a motorcycle that has had the:

- (A) frame; or
- (B) engine;

modified from its original construction, replaced, or constructed.

The term includes but is not limited to glider kits, fiberglass body kits, and vehicle reproductions or replicas and includes motor vehicles that have visible and original vehicle identification numbers. *As added by P.L.268-2003, SEC.10. Amended by P.L.125-2012, SEC.85; P.L.262-2013, SEC.27.*

IC 9-17-4-0.4

"Motor vehicle part"

Sec. 0.4. As used in this chapter, "motor vehicle part" means the following:

- (1) For a motorcycle, the:
 - (A) frame; or
 - (B) engine.
- (2) For a passenger motor vehicle; the:
 - (A) frame;
 - (B) chassis; or
 - (C) body.
- (3) For a truck or tractor, the:
 - (A) frame;
 - (B) chassis;
 - (C) cab; or
 - (D) body.
- (4) For a trailer, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle, the:
 - (A) chassis; or
 - (B) body.

As added by P.L.262-2013, SEC.28.

IC 9-17-4-0.5

Special identification number

Sec. 0.5. As used in this chapter, "special identification number" means a distinguishing number assigned by the bureau to a privately

assembled motor vehicle, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle.
As added by P.L.268-2003, SEC.11. Amended by P.L.125-2012, SEC.86.

IC 9-17-4-1

Assembly of vehicle by owner; procedure

Sec. 1. If a motor vehicle, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle has been built, constructed, or assembled by the person who owns the motor vehicle, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle, the person shall:

- (1) indicate on a form provided by the bureau the major component parts that have been used to assemble the motor vehicle, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle;
- (2) make application through the bureau for a special identification number for the motor vehicle, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle;
- (3) after receipt of the special identification number described in subdivision (2), stamp or attach the special identification number received from the bureau in the manner provided in section 2(3) of this chapter; and
- (4) apply for a certificate of title for the motor vehicle, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle from the bureau.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.5. Amended by P.L.268-2003, SEC.12; P.L.125-2012, SEC.87.

IC 9-17-4-2

Special identification number; placement on vehicle

Sec. 2. A certificate of title may not be issued for a manufactured or privately assembled motor vehicle, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle that does not have a special identification number stamped on the motor vehicle, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle or permanently attached to the motor vehicle, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle until the person who owns the motor vehicle, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle has:

- (1) an inspection performed under IC 9-17-2-12;
- (2) obtained from the bureau a special identification number designated by the bureau; and
- (3) stamped or permanently attached the special identification number in a conspicuous place on the frame of the motor vehicle, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.5. Amended by P.L.268-2003, SEC.13; P.L.125-2012, SEC.88.

IC 9-17-4-3

Repealed

(Repealed by P.L.125-2012, SEC.89.)

IC 9-17-4-4

Certificate of title; description of identification of vehicle; statement of liens or encumbrances; notation of parts

Sec. 4. A certificate of title issued under this chapter must contain

the following:

- (1) A description and other evidence of identification of the motor vehicle, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle as required by the bureau.
- (2) A statement of any liens or encumbrances that the application shows to be on the certificate of title.
- (3) The appropriate notation prominently recorded on the front of the title as follows:
 - (A) For a vehicle assembled using all new or used vehicle parts, "RECONSTRUCTED VEHICLE".
 - (B) For a vehicle assembled using a salvage vehicle or parts, "REBUILT".

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.5. Amended by P.L.268-2003, SEC.14; P.L.125-2012, SEC.90; P.L.262-2013, SEC.29.

IC 9-17-4-4.5

Body change title; requirements

Sec. 4.5. (a) A person must obtain a body change title whenever a vehicle is altered so that the alteration changes the type of the vehicle, as noted on the:

- (1) current title; or
- (2) certificate of origin;

of the vehicle.

(b) To receive a body change title, an applicant must provide:

- (1) the former title or certificate of origin;
- (2) a properly completed body change affidavit using a bureau designated form; and
- (3) proof of a vehicle inspection.

(c) An assembled vehicle and a vehicle that is altered such that the vehicle type is changed must meet all applicable federal and state highway safety requirements before the vehicle may be titled and registered for operation on highways.

As added by P.L.125-2012, SEC.91.

IC 9-17-4-5

Repealed

(Repealed by P.L.268-2003, SEC.33.)

IC 9-17-4-6

Repealed

(Repealed by P.L.262-2013, SEC.30.)

IC 9-17-4-7

Special identification number; application

Sec. 7. (a) Not more than twenty (20) days after a person becomes the owner, custodian, or possessor of a motor vehicle that:

- (1) was manufactured after December 31, 1954; and
- (2) either:
 - (A) does not have a manufacturer's identification number installed on the motor vehicle; or

(B) has an original manufacturer's identification number that is altered, destroyed, obliterated, or defaced; the person shall apply to the bureau for permission to make or stamp a special identification number on the motor vehicle.

(b) The bureau shall prescribe the form of an application under subsection (a). The application must contain the following:

- (1) A description of the motor vehicle, including the make, style, and year of model of the motor vehicle.
- (2) A description of:
 - (A) the original manufacturer's identification number, if possible; or
 - (B) any distinguishing marks on the engine or body of the motor vehicle.
- (3) The name and address of the applicant.
- (4) The date on which the applicant purchased or took possession of the motor vehicle.
- (5) The name and address of the person from whom the applicant purchased or acquired the motor vehicle.
- (6) Any application fee required under IC 9-29 for a special identification number.
- (7) Any other information the bureau requires.

As added by P.L.262-2013, SEC.31.

IC 9-17-4-8

Permission for special identification number on vehicle; special identification number becomes lawful identification number

Sec. 8. (a) The bureau shall review an application submitted under section 7 of this chapter. If the bureau determines the application is complete, the bureau shall issue to the applicant written permission to make or stamp a special identification number on the motor vehicle. The bureau shall designate the special identification number and the location of the special identification number on the motor vehicle.

(b) A new special identification number may not cover or otherwise obscure an original identification number that is visible on a motor vehicle.

(c) A new special identification number that is stamped or otherwise placed on a motor vehicle under this chapter becomes the lawful identification number of the motor vehicle for all purposes, including for purposes of selling or transferring the motor vehicle.

As added by P.L.262-2013, SEC.32.

IC 9-17-4-10

Designation of special identification number; authority of manufacturer to perform numbering on vehicles or parts

Sec. 10. (a) The bureau shall designate special identification numbers under this chapter consecutively, beginning with the number one (1), preceded by the letters "MVIN", and followed by the letters "IND" in the order of the filing of applications.

(b) This chapter does not affect the authority of a manufacturer or

a manufacturer's agent, other than a dealer, to perform numbering on motor vehicles or motor vehicle parts that are removed or changed and then replaced with other numbered motor vehicle parts.

As added by P.L.262-2013, SEC.33.

IC 9-17-4-11

Bureau prohibited from registering or issuing a certificate of title for motor vehicle without identification number

Sec. 11. Except as specifically provided in this chapter, the bureau may not register or issue a certificate of title for a motor vehicle that does not have an identification number.

As added by P.L.262-2013, SEC.34.

IC 9-17-4-12

Special identification number to be made or stamped on the motor vehicle in workmanlike manner; authority of manufacturer to perform numbering on vehicle or parts

Sec. 12. (a) Before the bureau may issue a certificate of title for a vehicle that is required under this chapter to have a special identification number made or stamped on the motor vehicle, the bureau shall require the person applying for the certificate of title to sign a statement that the special identification number assigned to the motor vehicle by the bureau has been made or stamped on the motor vehicle in a workmanlike manner. The statement must also be signed by the law enforcement officer who inspected the motor vehicle and determined that the special identification number was made or stamped in a workmanlike manner.

(b) This section does not affect the authority of a manufacturer or a manufacturer's agent, other than a dealer, to perform numbering on motor vehicles or parts that are removed or changed and then replaced with other numbered motor vehicle parts.

As added by P.L.262-2013, SEC.35.

IC 9-17-4-13

Certain violations; penalty

Sec. 13. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, a person who violates this chapter commits a Class C infraction.

As added by P.L.262-2013, SEC.36.

IC 9-17-4-14

Certain violations relating to special identification numbers a Class D felony

Sec. 14. A person who owns or possesses a motor vehicle that the person knows violates section 7 or 8 of this chapter commits a Class D felony.

As added by P.L.262-2013, SEC.37.

IC 9-17-4-15

Damaging, removing, or altering an original or special identification number a Class C felony; covering an identification

number to conceal a crime a Class C felony

Sec. 15. (a) A person who knowingly:

- (1) damages;
- (2) removes; or
- (3) alters;

an original or a special identification number commits a Class C felony.

(b) A person who, with the intent to conceal evidence of the commission of a crime, covers an original or special identification number commits a Class C felony.

As added by P.L.262-2013, SEC.38.

IC 9-17-4-16

Selling or offering to sell a motor vehicle with destroyed or defaced identification number a Class C felony

Sec. 16. A person who knowingly sells or offers for sale a motor vehicle with an original or a special identification number that is:

- (1) destroyed;
- (2) removed;
- (3) altered;
- (4) covered; or
- (5) defaced;

commits a Class D felony.

As added by P.L.262-2013, SEC.39.

IC 9-17-4-17

Selling or offering to sell a motor vehicle part with an identification number that is destroyed, removed, altered, covered, or defaced a Class D felony

Sec. 17. A person who knowingly or intentionally sells or offers for sale a motor vehicle part with an identification number that is:

- (1) destroyed;
- (2) removed;
- (3) altered;
- (4) covered; or
- (5) defaced;

commits a Class D felony.

As added by P.L.262-2013, SEC.40.

IC 9-17-4-18

Violations pertaining to identification number

Sec. 18. (a) For purposes of this section, "identification number" means a set of numbers, letters, or both numbers and letters that is assigned to a motor vehicle or motor vehicle part by:

- (1) a manufacturer of motor vehicles or motor vehicle parts; or
- (2) a governmental entity to replace an original identification number that is destroyed, removed, altered, or defaced.

(b) Subsection (c) does not apply to a person who manufactures or installs a plate or label containing an identification number:

- (1) in a program authorized by a manufacturer of motor vehicles

or motor vehicle parts; or

(2) as authorized by the bureau under this chapter.

(c) A person who knowingly or intentionally possesses a plate or label that:

(1) contains an identification number; and

(2) is not attached to the motor vehicle or motor vehicle part to which the identification number was assigned by the manufacturer or a governmental entity;

commits a Class D felony.

(d) A person who knowingly or intentionally possesses a plate or label on which the identification number is altered or removed commits a Class D felony.

(e) A person who, with intent to defraud, possesses a plate or label containing a set of numbers, letters, or both numbers and letters that purports to be an identification number commits a Class D felony.

As added by P.L.262-2013, SEC.41.

IC 9-17-4-19

Operation of motor vehicle with concealed, removed, defaced, destroyed, or obliterated special identification number; confiscation and return of motor vehicle upon proof of owner's title

Sec. 19. (a) A person who:

(1) either:

(A) with the intent to conceal evidence of the commission of a crime, operates a motor vehicle with an identification number that is concealed; or

(B) operates a motor vehicle with an identification number that is removed, defaced, destroyed, or obliterated; and

(2) has not applied under section 7 of this chapter for a new special identification number;

commits a Class C infraction.

(b) If a person who violates subsection (a) cannot prove to the satisfaction of the court that the person owns the motor vehicle, the court shall confiscate and sell the motor vehicle. The proceeds from the sale shall be used to pay the fine and costs of prosecution, and the balance, if any, shall be deposited in the motor vehicle highway account fund.

(c) If the fine and costs are not paid not later than thirty (30) days after judgment is rendered under this section, the court shall proceed to advertise and sell the motor vehicle in the manner provided by law for the sale of personal property under execution.

(d) If at any time at which the motor vehicle remains in the custody of the court or the court's officers under this section, the owner appears and establishes the owner's title to the motor vehicle to the satisfaction of the court, the motor vehicle shall be returned to the owner. The owner shall then make application for and may obtain an identification number and a title as provided in this chapter. The owner may then use the motor vehicle upon proper registration.

As added by P.L.262-2013, SEC.42.