

IC 9-18-2

Chapter 2. General Procedures for Registering Motor Vehicles and Obtaining License Plates

IC 9-18-2-0.5

Registration

Sec. 0.5. After December 31, 2013, the registration of off-road vehicles and snowmobiles shall be performed by the bureau under IC 9-18-2.5.

As added by P.L.259-2013, SEC.12.

IC 9-18-2-1

Registration; state residents; violation

Sec. 1. (a) A person must register all motor vehicles owned by the person that:

- (1) are subject to the motor vehicle excise tax under IC 6-6-5; and
- (2) will be operated in Indiana.

(b) A person must register all commercial vehicles owned by the person that:

- (1) are subject to the commercial vehicle excise tax under IC 6-6-5.5;
- (2) are not subject to proportional registration under the International Registration Plan; and
- (3) will be operated in Indiana.

(c) A person must register all recreational vehicles owned by the person that:

- (1) are subject to the excise tax imposed under IC 6-6-5.1; and
- (2) will be operated in Indiana.

(d) A person must register all vehicles owned by the person not later than sixty (60) days after becoming an Indiana resident.

(e) Except as provided in subsection (f), an Indiana resident must register all motor vehicles operated in Indiana.

(f) An Indiana resident who has a legal residence in a state that is not contiguous to Indiana may operate a motor vehicle in Indiana for not more than sixty (60) days without registering the motor vehicle in Indiana.

(g) An Indiana resident who has registered a motor vehicle in Indiana in any previous registration year is not required to register the motor vehicle, is not required to pay motor vehicle excise tax under IC 6-6-5 or the commercial vehicle excise tax under IC 6-6-5.5 on the motor vehicle, and is exempt from property tax on the motor vehicle for any registration year in which:

- (1) the Indiana resident is:
 - (A) an active member of the armed forces of the United States; and
 - (B) assigned to a duty station outside Indiana; and
- (2) the motor vehicle is not operated inside or outside Indiana.

This subsection may not be construed as granting the bureau authority to require the registration of any vehicle that is not operated in Indiana.

(h) When an Indiana resident registers a motor vehicle in Indiana after the period of exemption described in subsection (g), the Indiana resident may submit an affidavit that:

- (1) states facts demonstrating that the motor vehicle is a motor vehicle described in subsection (g); and
- (2) is signed by the owner of the motor vehicle under penalties of perjury;

as sufficient proof that the owner of the motor vehicle is not required to register the motor vehicle during a registration year described in subsection (g). The commission or bureau may not require the Indiana resident to pay any civil penalty or any reinstatement or other fee that is not also charged to other motor vehicles being registered in the same registration year.

(i) Notwithstanding IC 9-18-1-1(a)(7), a person shall register all motor driven cycles owned by the person that:

- (1) are subject to the motor vehicle excise tax under IC 6-6-5; and
- (2) will be operated in Indiana.

(j) A person who fails to register a motor vehicle as required under:

- (1) subsections (a) through (e); or
- (2) subsection (i);

commits a Class C infraction.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.90-1996, SEC.1; P.L.181-1999, SEC.11; P.L.3-2008, SEC.76; P.L.131-2008, SEC.46; P.L.1-2009, SEC.80; P.L.125-2012, SEC.96; P.L.221-2014, SEC.18; P.L.188-2015, SEC.18.

IC 9-18-2-2

Registration; nonresidents

Sec. 2. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a nonresident who owns a vehicle required to be registered under this article may:

- (1) operate; or
- (2) permit the operation of;

the vehicle in Indiana without registering the vehicle or paying any fees if the vehicle is properly registered in the jurisdiction in which the nonresident is a resident.

(b) An exemption granted to nonresident owners under this section applies only to the extent that Indiana residents are granted exemptions in the jurisdiction that is the residence of the nonresident.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6.

IC 9-18-2-3

Reciprocity

Sec. 3. An officer of the state charged with the enforcement of this article shall grant to a person who is a nonresident owner of a vehicle privileges of vehicle operation in Indiana equal to the privileges granted to an Indiana resident who owns or operates a vehicle in the person's state of residence.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6.

IC 9-18-2-4

Commercial vehicles

Sec. 4. A person who owns a vehicle that is required to be registered under this article and that is:

- (1) operated upon the highways for the transportation of persons or property for compensation; or
- (2) carrying on intrastate business within Indiana and owning and regularly operating in the business a vehicle:
 - (A) required to be registered under this article in Indiana; or
 - (B) operated over a regularly scheduled route or having a fixed terminus;

shall register the vehicle and pay the same fees required by this chapter and IC 9-29.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6.

IC 9-18-2-4.5

Expired

(As added by P.L.150-2001, SEC.4. Amended by P.L.293-2013(ts), SEC.38; P.L.212-2014, SEC.11. Expired 1-1-2016 by P.L.212-2014, SEC.11.)

IC 9-18-2-4.6

License plates and registration for a commercial vehicle fleet of at least 25 commercial vehicles

Sec. 4.6. (a) This section applies to registrations in a calendar year beginning after December 31, 2015.

(b) Upon payment of the annual registration fee under IC 9-29-5 and any applicable commercial vehicle excise tax under IC 6-6-5.5, the department of state revenue may issue a license plate for each commercial vehicle registered to the owner of at least twenty-five (25) commercial vehicles. The license plate issued under this section for a commercial vehicle is permanently valid.

(c) The application of registration for the commercial vehicles must be on an aggregate basis by electronic means. If the application is approved, the department of state revenue shall issue a certificate of registration that shall be carried at all times in the vehicle for which it is issued.

(d) The registration for a commercial vehicle is void when the registered owner:

- (1) sells (and does not replace);

(2) disposes of; or
(3) does not renew the registration of;
the commercial vehicle or the commercial vehicle is destroyed.

(e) This section does not relieve the owner of a vehicle from payment of any applicable commercial vehicle excise tax under IC 6-6-5.5 on a yearly basis.

(f) A registered license plate issued under subsection (b) may be transferred to another vehicle in a fleet of the same weight and plate type, with a new certificate of registration issued under subsection (c), upon application to the department of state revenue. A commercial vehicle excise tax credit may be applied to any plate transfer of the same vehicle type and same weight category.

(g) The department of state revenue shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 necessary to administer this section.

(h) The following apply to rules adopted by the bureau before January 1, 2014, under section 4.5(f) of this chapter (before its expiration):

(1) The rules are transferred to the department of state revenue and are considered rules of the department of state revenue.

(2) The rules are treated as if they had been adopted by the department of state revenue.

(i) Upon qualification under this section, a vehicle subject to the commercial vehicle excise tax under IC 6-6-5.5, including trailers and semi-trailers, must be registered with the department of state revenue and issued a permanent license plate.

(j) A registered owner may continue to register commercial vehicles under this section even after a reduction in the registered owner's fleet to fewer than twenty-five (25) commercial vehicles.

As added by P.L.212-2014, SEC.12.

IC 9-18-2-5

Trailers and semitrailers

Sec. 5. A person may operate intrastate, or combined interstate and intrastate, in Indiana a trailer or semitrailer that is properly registered and licensed in another state if the trailer or semitrailer:

(1) does not have a fixed terminus or permanent base in Indiana; and

(2) is at the time being drawn or propelled by a tractor or truck that is properly registered and licensed in Indiana if the trailer or semitrailer is:

(A) properly registered and licensed in a jurisdiction other than Indiana; and

(B) is exempt from registration under this chapter if the owner has complied with the laws of the jurisdiction in which the trailer or semitrailer is registered to the extent that the jurisdiction in which the vehicle is registered grants the exemptions and privileges to vehicles owned by Indiana residents and registered under Indiana law.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.198-2016, SEC.263.

IC 9-18-2-6

Repealed

(As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.188-2015, SEC.19. Repealed by P.L.198-2016, SEC.264.)

IC 9-18-2-7

Registration; unregistered operation prohibited; fee collection; staggered registration

Sec. 7. (a) A person that owns a vehicle that is operated on a highway and subject to registration shall register each vehicle owned by the person as follows:

(1) A vehicle subject to section 8 of this chapter shall be registered under section 8 of this chapter.

(2) Subject to subsection (e) or (f), a vehicle not subject to section 8 or 8.5 of this chapter or to the International Registration Plan shall be registered before:

(A) March 1 of each year;

(B) February 1 or later dates each year, if:

(i) the vehicle is being registered with the department of state revenue; and

(ii) staggered registration has been adopted by the department of state revenue; or

(C) an earlier date subsequent to January 1 of each year as set by the bureau, if the vehicle is being registered with the bureau.

(3) School and special purpose buses owned by a school corporation are exempt from annual registration but are subject to registration under IC 20-27-7.

(4) A school or special purpose bus not owned by a school corporation shall be registered subject to section 8.5 of this chapter.

(b) Except as provided in IC 9-18-12-2.5, a person that owns or operates a vehicle may not operate or permit the operation of a vehicle that:

(1) is required to be registered under this chapter; and

(2) has expired license plates.

(c) If a vehicle that is required to be registered under this chapter has:

(1) been operated on the highways; and

(2) not been properly registered under this chapter;

the bureau shall, before the vehicle is reregistered, collect the registration fee that the owner of the vehicle would have paid if the vehicle had been properly registered.

(d) The department of state revenue may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to issue staggered registration to motor vehicles subject to

registration under any of the following:

- (1) The International Registration Plan.
- (2) IC 9-18-2-4.6.
- (3) IC 9-18.1-13-3.

(e) Except as provided in section 8.5 of this chapter, the bureau may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to issue staggered registration to motor vehicles described in subsection (a)(2).

(f) The registration of a vehicle to:

- (1) a member of the general assembly;
- (2) the spouse of a member of the general assembly; or
- (3) a state official who receives a special license plate on an annual basis;

expires on December 14 of each year.

(g) A person that fails to register or reregister a motor vehicle as required under subsection (a) or (b) commits a Class C infraction.

(h) A person that operates or permits the operation of a motor vehicle in violation of subsection (b) commits a Class C infraction.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.125-1995, SEC.1; P.L.93-1997, SEC.3; P.L.1-2005, SEC.99; P.L.147-2005, SEC.1; P.L.79-2006, SEC.1; P.L.31-2008, SEC.1; P.L.26-2011, SEC.1; P.L.262-2013, SEC.48; P.L.203-2013, SEC.17; P.L.293-2013(ts), SEC.39; P.L.2-2014, SEC.37; P.L.149-2015, SEC.34; P.L.188-2015, SEC.20; P.L.198-2016, SEC.265.

IC 9-18-2-8

Registration schedule; license plate or renewal sticker; certificate of inspection of private bus

Sec. 8. (a) Except as provided in section 7(f) of this chapter, the bureau shall determine the schedule for registration for the following categories of vehicles:

- (1) Passenger motor vehicles.
- (2) Recreational vehicles.
- (3) Motorcycles.
- (4) Trucks that:
 - (A) are regularly rented to others for not more than twenty-nine (29) days in the regular course of the corporation's business; and
 - (B) have a declared gross weight of not more than eleven thousand (11,000) pounds.
- (5) Motor driven cycles.
- (6) Trailers that have a declared gross weight of not more than three thousand (3,000) pounds.

(b) Except as provided in IC 9-18-12-2.5, a person that owns a vehicle shall receive a license plate, renewal sticker, or other proof upon registration of the vehicle. The bureau may determine the proof of registration required to be displayed.

(c) A corporation that owns a vehicle that is regularly rented to others for periods of not more than twenty-nine (29) days in the

regular course of the corporation's business must register the vehicle on the date prescribed by the bureau.

(d) A person that owns a vehicle in a category required to be registered under this section and desires to register the vehicle for the first time must apply to the bureau for a certificate of registration. The bureau shall do the following:

- (1) Administer the certificate of registration.
- (2) Issue the license plate according to the bureau's central fulfillment processes.
- (3) Collect the proper fee in accordance with the procedure established by the bureau.

(e) Except as provided in IC 9-18-12-2.5, the bureau shall issue a semipermanent plate under section 30 of this chapter, or:

- (1) an annual renewal sticker; or
- (2) other indicia;

to be affixed on the semipermanent plate.

(f) A person that:

- (1) owns a private bus; and
- (2) desires to:
 - (A) register for the first time; or
 - (B) reregister;

the private bus;

must present to the bureau an unexpired certificate indicating compliance with an inspection program established under IC 9-19-22-3, in addition to any other information required by the bureau.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.125-1995, SEC.2; P.L.176-2001, SEC.3; P.L.210-2005, SEC.21; P.L.79-2006, SEC.2; P.L.107-2008, SEC.12; P.L.26-2011, SEC.2; P.L.262-2013, SEC.49; P.L.160-2014, SEC.1; P.L.221-2014, SEC.19; P.L.216-2014, SEC.32; P.L.149-2015, SEC.35; P.L.198-2016, SEC.266.

IC 9-18-2-8.5

Registration of school or special purpose buses owned by a person other than a school corporation

Sec. 8.5. (a) Notwithstanding section 8 of this chapter, a school bus or a special purpose bus owned by a person other than a school corporation shall be registered before September 28 of each year.

(b) Registration and reregistration for a school or special purpose bus under this section is for one (1) year.

(c) A certificate of inspection as described under IC 20-27-7-3 must accompany a registration and reregistration application of a school or special purpose bus under this section.

(d) A person registering a school bus or a special purpose bus under this section shall pay the annual registration fee required under IC 9-29-5-8 and any other applicable fees.

(e) Upon registration of a school or special purpose bus under this section, the bureau shall issue a license plate under section 30 of this

chapter, including:

- (1) an annual renewal sticker; or
- (2) other indicia;

to be attached on the semipermanent plate.

(f) A license plate with a renewal sticker or other indicia of registration issued under this section may be displayed during:

- (1) the calendar year for which the school or special purpose bus is registered; and
- (2) the period:
 - (A) after the calendar year; and
 - (B) before September 28 of the subsequent year.

As added by P.L.31-2008, SEC.2. Amended by P.L.286-2013, SEC.7; P.L.216-2014, SEC.33; P.L.149-2015, SEC.36.

IC 9-18-2-9

Applications; determination of genuineness, regularity, and legality; rejection

Sec. 9. (a) The bureau shall use due diligence in examining and determining the genuineness, regularity, and legality of the following:

- (1) Information provided by a person as part of a request for the registration of a vehicle.
- (2) A request for any type of license plate required under this title for the operation of a vehicle upon the highways.
- (3) Any other application or request made to the bureau under this article.

(b) The bureau may:

- (1) make investigations or require additional information; and
- (2) reject an application or request;

if the bureau is not satisfied of the genuineness, regularity, or legality of an application or the truth of a statement contained in an application or request, or for any other reason.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.262-2013, SEC.50.

IC 9-18-2-10

Certificate of title required for registration; exception

Sec. 10. (a) Except as provided in sections 18, 23, and 29.5 of this chapter, a certificate of registration of a motor vehicle, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle and a license plate for a motor vehicle, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle, whether original issues or duplicates, may not be issued or furnished by the bureau unless the person applying for the certificate of registration:

- (1) applies at the same time for and is granted a certificate of title for the motor vehicle, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle; or
- (2) presents satisfactory evidence that a certificate of title has been previously issued to the person that covers the motor vehicle, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle.

(b) If the bureau at any time determines that a certificate of title for a motor vehicle cannot be issued or is invalid, the bureau:

- (1) shall not issue or furnish; or
- (2) may invalidate;

the certificate of registration for the vehicle.

(c) This section does not apply to a vehicle for which a certificate of title is not required under IC 9-17.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.262-2013, SEC.51; P.L.149-2015, SEC.37.

IC 9-18-2-11

Proof of financial responsibility required

Sec. 11. A person registering a motor vehicle in Indiana must have proof of financial responsibility that is in effect in the amounts specified in IC 9-25 available for inspection at the time the person's application for registration is made.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.125-2012, SEC.97.

IC 9-18-2-12

Air emission control inspection and certification required for registration; motor vehicle equipment required for registration

Sec. 12. The bureau may not register the following motor vehicles:

- (1) A motor vehicle that:
 - (A) is subject under rules adopted under air pollution control laws (as defined in IC 13-11-2-6) to:
 - (i) inspection of vehicle air pollution control equipment; and
 - (ii) testing of emission characteristics; and
 - (B) has not been:
 - (i) inspected; and
 - (ii) certified by an inspection station under IC 13-17-5-5.1(b) that the air pollution equipment is not in a tampered condition and the vehicle meets air emission control standards.
- (2) A motor vehicle that does not comply with applicable motor vehicle equipment requirements under IC 9-19.
- (3) A motor vehicle that does not comply with applicable operational and equipment specifications described in 49 CFR 571.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.1-1996, SEC.59; P.L.229-1999, SEC.1; P.L.262-2013, SEC.52; P.L.221-2014, SEC.20.

IC 9-18-2-13

Applications; leased and privately owned vehicles

Sec. 13. Except as provided in sections 14 and 15 of this chapter, a person who:

(1) has leased; or
(2) is the owner of;
a vehicle that is required to be registered under this chapter may apply for and obtain the registration in any county.
As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.62-1996, SEC.8; P.L.176-2001, SEC.4.

IC 9-18-2-14

Applications; buses; International Registration Plan registrants

Sec. 14. (a) A:

- (1) government agency, dealer, or person who owns a bus shall apply directly to the bureau in the state central office to register a vehicle; and
- (2) person who is registered under the International Registration Plan shall apply to the department of state revenue under rules adopted under IC 4-22-2.

(b) A person who registers a vehicle under subsection (a)(1) shall file with the bureau or a license branch an application for the registration of the vehicle upon an appropriate form furnished by the bureau.

(c) A person who registers a vehicle under subsection (a)(2) shall file electronically with the department of state revenue an application for the registration of the vehicle.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.61-1996, SEC.14; P.L.293-2013(ts), SEC.40.

IC 9-18-2-15

Registration sites

Sec. 15. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), a person who:

- (1) owns a vehicle that is subject to the motor vehicle excise tax under IC 6-6-5 or the commercial vehicle excise tax under IC 6-6-5.5;
 - (2) is leasing the vehicle to another person; and
 - (3) has agreed to register the vehicle as a condition of the lease;
- may apply for and obtain the registration in any county.

(b) If a vehicle is being registered subject to the International Registration Plan, the vehicle shall be registered at the department of state revenue under rules adopted under IC 4-22-2.

(c) A vehicle that is being leased and is not subject to the motor vehicle excise tax under IC 6-6-5 may be registered in any county.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.62-1996, SEC.9; P.L.61-1996, SEC.15; P.L.181-1999, SEC.12; P.L.176-2001, SEC.5.

IC 9-18-2-16

Applications; content; audits

Sec. 16. (a) A person that desires to register a vehicle with the bureau must provide the following:

- (1) The:

(A) name, bona fide residence, and mailing address, including the name of the county, of the person that owns the vehicle; or

(B) business address, including the name of the county, of the person that owns the vehicle if the person is a firm, a partnership, an association, a corporation, a limited liability company, or a unit of government.

If the vehicle that is being registered has been leased and is subject to the motor vehicle excise tax under IC 6-6-5 or the commercial vehicle excise tax under IC 6-6-5.5, the address of the person that is leasing the vehicle must be provided. If the vehicle that is being registered has been leased and is not subject to the motor vehicle excise tax under IC 6-6-5 or the commercial vehicle excise tax under IC 6-6-5.5, the address of the person that owns the vehicle, the person that is the lessor of the vehicle, or the person that is the lessee of the vehicle must be provided. If a leased vehicle is to be registered under the International Registration Plan, the registration procedures are governed by the terms of the plan.

(2) A brief description of the vehicle to be registered, including the following information if available:

(A) The name of the manufacturer of the vehicle.

(B) The vehicle or special identification number.

(C) The manufacturer's rated capacity if the vehicle is a truck, tractor, trailer, or semitrailer.

(D) The type of body of the vehicle.

(E) The model year of the vehicle.

(F) The color of the vehicle.

(G) Any other information reasonably required by the bureau to enable the bureau to determine if the vehicle may be registered. The bureau may request the person applying for registration to provide the vehicle's odometer reading.

(3) The person registering the vehicle may indicate the person's desire to donate money to organizations that promote the procurement of organs for anatomical gifts. The bureau must:

(A) allow the person registering the vehicle to indicate the amount the person desires to donate; and

(B) provide that the minimum amount a person may donate is one dollar (\$1).

Funds collected under this subdivision shall be deposited with the treasurer of state in a special account. The bureau shall monthly distribute the money in the special account to the anatomical gift promotion fund established by IC 16-19-3-26. The bureau may deduct from the funds collected under this subdivision the costs incurred by the bureau in implementing and administering this subdivision.

(b) The department of state revenue may audit records of persons that register trucks, trailers, semitrailers, buses, and rental cars under

the International Registration Plan, IC 9-18-2-4.6, or IC 9-18.1-13-3 to verify the accuracy of the application and collect or refund fees due.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.8-1993, SEC.172; P.L.125-1995, SEC.3; P.L.61-1996, SEC.16; P.L.96-1997, SEC.1; P.L.5-1999, SEC.1; P.L.181-1999, SEC.13; P.L.63-2000, SEC.1; P.L.125-2012, SEC.98; P.L.149-2015, SEC.38; P.L.198-2016, SEC.267.

IC 9-18-2-17

Records; withholding of registration; rules

Sec. 17. (a) Upon receiving the information under section 16 of this chapter, the bureau shall:

- (1) determine:
 - (A) the genuineness and regularity of the information; and
 - (B) that the person applying for registration is entitled to register the vehicle;
- (2) subject to subsection (b), register the vehicle described in the application; and
- (3) keep a record of the registration of the vehicle under a distinctive registration number assigned to the vehicle in a manner the bureau considers desirable for the convenience of the bureau.

(b) Upon receiving notice, as described in IC 9-21-3.5-10(c), of the failure of an owner of a vehicle to pay a fine, charge, or other assessment for a toll violation documented under IC 9-21-3.5-12, the bureau shall withhold the annual registration of the vehicle that was used in the commission of the toll violation until the owner pays the fine, charge, or other assessment, plus any applicable fees, to:

- (1) the bureau; or
- (2) the appropriate authority under IC 9-21-3.5 that is responsible for the collection of fines, charges, or other assessments for toll violations under IC 9-21-3.5.

If the owner pays the fine, charge, or assessment, plus any applicable fees, to the bureau as described in subdivision (1), the bureau shall remit the appropriate amount to the appropriate authority under IC 9-21-3.5 that is responsible for the collection of fines, charges, assessments, or fees for toll violations under IC 9-21-3.5.

(c) Upon receiving notice, as described in IC 9-21-3.5-15(d), of the failure of an owner of a vehicle to pay a fine, charge, or other assessment for a toll violation documented under IC 9-21-3.5-12 or IC 9-21-3.5-14, the bureau shall withhold the annual registration of the vehicle that was used in the commission of the toll violation until the owner pays the fine, charge, or other assessment, plus any applicable fees, to:

- (1) the operator of the private toll facility; or
- (2) a person designated by the operator of the private toll facility to collect fines, charges, or other assessments for toll

violations under IC 9-21-3.5;
as applicable. The bureau may impose a fee to reinstate an annual registration that was withheld under this subsection.

(d) Not later than July 1, 2016, the bureau shall adopt emergency rules in the manner provided under IC 4-22-2-37.1 or rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this section, including a rule to establish the amount of any fee imposed under subsection (c).

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.163-2011, SEC.19; P.L.125-2012, SEC.99; P.L.152-2015, SEC.1.

IC 9-18-2-18

International Registration Plan vehicles; certificates of registration and plates; issuance for out-of-state vehicles

Sec. 18. The department of state revenue may issue a certificate of registration or a license plate for a vehicle that is:

- (1) subject to registration under apportioned registration of the International Registration Plan; and
- (2) based and titled in a state other than Indiana subject to the conditions of the plan.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.61-1996, SEC.17.

IC 9-18-2-19

International Registration Plan vehicles; apportioned plates and cab cards

Sec. 19. (a) A person who owns or leases a vehicle required to be registered under the International Registration Plan shall receive an apportioned plate and cab card as determined by the department of state revenue. The department of state revenue may accept applications on a schedule to be set under rules adopted under IC 4-22-2.

(b) A distinctive cab card:

- (1) shall be issued for a vehicle registered under the International Registration Plan; and
- (2) must be carried in the vehicle.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.61-1996, SEC.18.

IC 9-18-2-20

Certificates of registration; issuance; contents; duplicates

Sec. 20. (a) The bureau, upon registering a vehicle required to be registered by this chapter, shall issue a certificate of registration.

(b) The certificate of registration shall be delivered to the person leasing the vehicle or to the person who owns the vehicle and shall contain upon the face of the card the following information:

- (1) The name and address of the person leasing the vehicle or the person who owns the vehicle.
- (2) The date the card was issued.
- (3) The registration number assigned to the vehicle.
- (4) A description of the vehicle as determined by the bureau.

If any of the information on the card is or becomes incorrect or obsolete, the person to whom the certificate of registration was delivered shall apply for an amended certificate of registration within thirty (30) days after the information becomes incorrect or obsolete. The application must contain the correct or new information and must be accompanied by the fee prescribed under IC 9-29-5.

(c) If a certificate of registration is mutilated, destroyed, or lost, a duplicate certificate of registration must be purchased. The application for a duplicate certificate of registration must be accompanied by the fee prescribed under IC 9-29.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.216-2014, SEC.34; P.L.149-2015, SEC.39.

IC 9-18-2-21

Certificate of registration; possession required; violation

Sec. 21. (a) A certificate of registration or a legible reproduction of the certificate of registration must be carried:

- (1) in the vehicle to which the registration refers; or
- (2) by the person driving or in control of the vehicle, who shall display the registration upon the demand of a police officer.

(b) A person who fails to carry a certificate of registration or a legible reproduction of a certificate of registration as required under subsection (a) commits a Class C infraction.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.125-2012, SEC.100; P.L.37-2013, SEC.1; P.L.262-2013, SEC.53; P.L.188-2015, SEC.21.

IC 9-18-2-22

Additional fees, licenses, permits, and numbers prohibited; exception

Sec. 22. A person that:

- (1) owns a motor vehicle, except a person that owns a truck or motor vehicle used in transporting passengers or property for hire; and
- (2) has obtained a certificate of registration under this title;

is not required to pay another license fee, obtain any other license or permit to use or operate the motor vehicle on the highways, or display upon the motor vehicle any other number other than the number issued by the bureau.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.198-2016, SEC.268.

IC 9-18-2-23

Transport operators

Sec. 23. (a) This section does not apply to a vehicle registered as a recovery vehicle under IC 9-18-13.

(b) A transport operator may, instead of registering each motor vehicle transported, make a verified application upon a form

prescribed by the bureau and furnished by the bureau for a general distinctive registration number for all motor vehicles transported by the transport operator and used and operated for the purposes provided. The application must contain the following:

- (1) A brief description of each style or type of motor vehicle transported.
 - (2) The name and address, including the county of residence, of the transport operator.
 - (3) Any other information the bureau requires.
- (c) The bureau, upon receiving:
- (1) an application for a transport operator license plate; and
 - (2) the proper fee;

shall issue to the person who submitted the application and fee two (2) certificates of registration and the license plates with numbers corresponding to the numbers of the certificates of registration. A transport operator may obtain as many additional pairs of license plates as desired upon application and the payment to the bureau of the fee prescribed under IC 9-29 for each pair of additional license plates.

(d) A license plate or sign other than those furnished and approved by the bureau may not be used.

(e) A transport operator license plate may not be used on a vehicle used or operated on a highway, except for the purpose of transporting vehicles in transit. A person may haul other vehicles or parts of vehicles in transit in the same combination.

(f) A transport operator may not operate a vehicle or any combination of vehicles in excess of the size and weight limits specified by law.

(g) A license plate shall be displayed on the front and rear of each combination, and if only one (1) motor vehicle is transported, a license plate shall be displayed on both the front and rear of the motor vehicle.

(h) The bureau may not issue transport operator license plates to a transport operator who has been convicted of violating this section until the bureau is satisfied that the transport operator is able to comply with the requirements of this section.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.262-2013, SEC.54.

IC 9-18-2-24

Repealed

(As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Repealed by P.L.125-2012, SEC.101.)

IC 9-18-2-25

Alternate plates

Sec. 25. (a) If the bureau is not able to comply with the provisions of this title relating to the furnishing of license plates because of a:

- (1) materials shortage; or

(2) regulation of a board or an agency of the United States government;
the bureau may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to provide the type and number of license plates that will be furnished and displayed and the manner in which the plates must be displayed.

(b) Compliance with a rule adopted under this section satisfies the provisions of this chapter relating to the display of license plates.
As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.176-2001, SEC.6.

IC 9-18-2-26

License plates; display; violation

Sec. 26. (a) License plates, including temporary license plates, shall be displayed as follows:

- (1) For a motorcycle, motor driven cycle, trailer, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle, upon the rear of the vehicle, except as provided in subdivision (4).
- (2) For a tractor or dump truck, upon the front of the vehicle.
- (3) For every other vehicle, upon the rear of the vehicle, except as provided in subdivision (4).
- (4) For a truck with a rear mounted forklift or a mechanism to carry a rear mounted forklift or implement, upon the front of the vehicle.

(b) A license plate shall be securely fastened, in a horizontal position, to the vehicle for which the plate is issued:

- (1) to prevent the license plate from swinging;
- (2) at a height of at least twelve (12) inches from the ground, measuring from the bottom of the license plate;
- (3) in a place and position that are clearly visible;
- (4) maintained free from foreign materials and in a condition to be clearly legible; and
- (5) not obstructed or obscured by tires, bumpers, accessories, or other opaque objects.

(c) An interim license plate must be displayed in the manner required by IC 9-32-6-11(f).

(d) The bureau may adopt rules the bureau considers advisable to enforce the proper mounting and securing of license plates on vehicles consistent with this chapter.

(e) A person who fails to display:

- (1) a license plate as specified under subsection (a) or (b); or
- (2) an interim license plate as required by IC 9-32-6-11(f);

commits a Class C infraction.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.210-2005, SEC.22; P.L.42-2007, SEC.18; P.L.184-2011, SEC.1; P.L.92-2013, SEC.45; P.L.262-2013, SEC.55; P.L.221-2014, SEC.21; P.L.188-2015, SEC.22.

IC 9-18-2-27

Prohibited displays; display of lawful additional information;

violation

Sec. 27. (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c), a vehicle required to be registered under this chapter may not be used or operated upon the highways if the motor vehicle displays any of the following:

- (1) A registration number belonging to any other vehicle.
- (2) A fictitious registration number.
- (3) A sign or placard bearing the words "license applied for" or "in transit" or other similar signs.

(b) Any other number may be displayed for any lawful purpose upon a:

- (1) motor vehicle;
- (2) trailer;
- (3) semitrailer; or
- (4) recreational vehicle;

in addition to the license plates issued by the bureau under this chapter.

(c) After December 31, 2007, if a vehicle is registered as an antique motor vehicle under IC 9-18-12, an authentic Indiana license plate from the antique vehicle's model year may be displayed on the vehicle under IC 9-18-12-2.5.

(d) A person who operates a motor vehicle in violation of subsection (a) commits a Class C infraction.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.79-2006, SEC.3; P.L.188-2015, SEC.23.

IC 9-18-2-28

Repealed

(As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.210-2005, SEC.23; P.L.103-2006, SEC.2; P.L.87-2010, SEC.7. Repealed by P.L.262-2013, SEC.56.)

IC 9-18-2-29

Vehicles subject to registration; violation

Sec. 29. (a) Except as otherwise provided, before:

- (1) a motor vehicle;
- (2) a motorcycle;
- (3) a truck;
- (4) a trailer;
- (5) a semitrailer;
- (6) a tractor;
- (7) a bus;
- (8) a school bus;
- (9) a recreational vehicle;
- (10) special machinery; or
- (11) a motor driven cycle;

is operated or driven on a highway, the person who owns the vehicle must register the vehicle with the bureau and pay the applicable

registration fee.

(b) A person who operates a motor vehicle in violation of subsection (a) commits a Class C infraction.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.210-2005, SEC.24; P.L.221-2014, SEC.22; P.L.188-2015, SEC.24.

IC 9-18-2-29.5

Registration of special machinery; violation

Sec. 29.5. (a) Before a piece of special machinery is operated off a highway or in a farm field, the person who owns the piece of special machinery must:

- (1) register the piece of special machinery with the bureau; and
- (2) pay the applicable special machinery registration fee.

(b) A person who operates a piece of special machinery off a highway or in a farm field without first:

- (1) registering the piece of special machinery with the bureau; or
- (2) paying any applicable registration fees;

commits a Class C infraction.

As added by P.L.210-2005, SEC.25. Amended by P.L.125-2012, SEC.102; P.L.188-2015, SEC.25.

IC 9-18-2-30

License plates; issuance

Sec. 30. Except as otherwise provided, the bureau shall issue to the owner of each vehicle subject to registration one (1) license plate upon the registration of the vehicle.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.262-2013, SEC.57.

IC 9-18-2-31

License plates; revocation, cancellation, and repossession

Sec. 31. A license plate issued by the bureau under section 30 of this chapter:

- (1) remains the property of the bureau; and
- (2) may be revoked, canceled, or repossessed as provided by law.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6.

IC 9-18-2-32

License plates; specifications

Sec. 32. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), a license plate issued under section 30 of this chapter:

- (1) must be six (6) inches wide and twelve (12) inches long;
- (2) must display the registration number assigned to the vehicle for which the plate is issued;
- (3) may have a prefix of at least one (1) letter of the alphabet to designate the type of vehicle registered; and
- (4) shall be treated with special reflective material designed to

increase the visibility and legibility of the license plate.

(b) The bureau may issue license plates in a different size or character if the bureau determines that the change is appropriate to effect the proper display of the license plates.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.262-2013, SEC.58.

IC 9-18-2-33

License plates; trucks and trailers; classification designations

Sec. 33. (a) When issuing a license plate for a truck or trailer, the bureau shall issue a letter or other suitable designation as determined by the bureau to each applicant for registration of the truck or trailer that indicates the following:

(1) The type of vehicle that is registered.

(2) The gross weight of the load that may be hauled by the vehicle, including the unladen weight of the vehicle fully equipped for service.

(b) The letter or other designation shall be displayed on the license plate or on the truck or trailer, as determined by the bureau, in accordance with the display of license plates as provided in this chapter.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6.

IC 9-18-2-34

Repealed

(Repealed by P.L.125-1995, SEC.12.)

IC 9-18-2-34.1

Identification number for motor vehicle required for registration or certificate of title

Sec. 34.1. Except as provided in IC 9-17-4, the bureau may not register or issue a certificate of title for the operation of a motor vehicle that does not have an identification number.

As added by P.L.262-2013, SEC.59.

IC 9-18-2-35

Repealed

(As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Repealed by P.L.262-2013, SEC.60.)

IC 9-18-2-36

License plates; passenger cars; county of registration; display

Sec. 36. A license plate issued for a passenger car must display a numeral that indicates the county in which the passenger car was registered.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.115-1993, SEC.2.

IC 9-18-2-37

Repealed

(Repealed by P.L.115-1993, SEC.9.)

IC 9-18-2-38

License plates; change of residence

Sec. 38. A license plate issued under this chapter remains valid if the person who registered the passenger motor vehicle or recreational vehicle changes the person's county of residence during the term of the license plate. A person who registers a passenger motor vehicle or recreational vehicle and who changes the person's county of residence may, at the time of reregistration:

- (1) retain the license plate originally issued; or
- (2) request a new license plate indicating the person's new county of residence.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.115-1993, SEC.3; P.L.262-2013, SEC.61.

IC 9-18-2-39

Suspension of registration

Sec. 39. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), upon receipt of written notice under IC 13-17-5-8 of a violation of IC 13-17-5-1, IC 13-17-5-2, IC 13-17-5-3, or IC 13-17-5-4, the bureau shall suspend the registration of the vehicle identified in the notice.

(b) The bureau may decline to suspend the registration of the vehicle pending verification of the statements set forth in the written notice.

(c) The bureau shall promptly notify a vehicle's owner of the suspension of the vehicle's registration under this section.

(d) Except as provided in subsection (e), upon the:

- (1) receipt of written notice under IC 13-17-5-8 that the violation of IC 13-17-5-1, IC 13-17-5-2, IC 13-17-5-3, or IC 13-17-5-4 has been corrected; or
- (2) presentation of evidence to the bureau establishing that the violation of IC 13-17-5-1, IC 13-17-5-2, IC 13-17-5-3, or IC 13-17-5-4 has been corrected;

the bureau shall reinstate the registration of the vehicle.

(e) The bureau may decline to reinstate the registration of the vehicle pending verification of the statements set forth in a written notice provided under subsection (d)(1).

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.1-1996, SEC.60; P.L.149-2015, SEC.40.

IC 9-18-2-40

Repealed

(As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Repealed by P.L.188-2015, SEC.26.)

IC 9-18-2-41

Judgments; distribution

Sec. 41. (a) In addition to:

- (1) the penalty described under sections 1, 7, 21, 26, 27, 29, and 29.5 of this chapter; and
- (2) any judgment assessed under IC 34-28-5 (or IC 34-4-32 before its repeal);

a person that violates section 1 of this chapter shall be assessed a judgment equal to the amount of excise tax due under IC 6-6-5 or IC 6-6-5.5 on the vehicle involved in the violation.

(b) The clerk of the court shall do the following:

- (1) Collect the additional judgment described under subsection (a) in an amount specified by a court order.
- (2) Transfer the additional judgment to the county auditor on a calendar year basis.

(c) The auditor shall distribute the judgments described under subsection (b) to law enforcement agencies, including the state police department, responsible for issuing citations to enforce section 1 of this chapter.

(d) The percentage of funds distributed to a law enforcement agency under subsection (c):

- (1) must equal the percentage of the total number of citations issued by the law enforcement agency for the purpose of enforcing section 1 of this chapter during the applicable year; and
- (2) may be used for the following:
 - (A) Any law enforcement purpose.
 - (B) Contributions to the pension fund of the law enforcement agency.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.4-1994, SEC.3; P.L.1-1998, SEC.94; P.L.181-1999, SEC.14; P.L.188-2015, SEC.27; P.L.198-2016, SEC.269.

IC 9-18-2-42

Repealed

(As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Repealed by P.L.217-2014, SEC.24.)

IC 9-18-2-43

Impounding vehicles; improper certificates of registration and plates

Sec. 43. (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary but except as provided in subsection (b), a law enforcement officer authorized to enforce motor vehicle laws who discovers a vehicle required to be registered under this article that does not have the proper certificate of registration or license plate:

- (1) shall take the vehicle into the officer's custody; and
- (2) may cause the vehicle to be taken to and stored in a suitable place until:
 - (A) the legal owner of the vehicle can be found; or

(B) the proper certificate of registration and license plates have been procured.

(b) Except as provided in IC 9-21-21-7(b), a law enforcement officer who discovers a vehicle in violation of the registration provisions of this article has discretion in the impoundment of any of the following:

- (1) Perishable commodities.
- (2) Livestock.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.81-1991, SEC.5; P.L.210-2005, SEC.26.

IC 9-18-2-44

Certificates of registration; sale of false certificates; misdemeanor

Sec. 44. A person who knowingly sells, offers to sell, buys, possesses, or offers as genuine a certificate of registration for a motor vehicle, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle that is required to be issued by the bureau and has not been issued by the:

- (1) bureau under this article; or
- (2) appropriate governmental authority of another state;

commits a Class C misdemeanor.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6.

IC 9-18-2-45

Improperly registered vehicles; misdemeanor

Sec. 45. A person who knowingly or intentionally owns a motor vehicle that is registered outside Indiana but that is required to be registered in Indiana commits a Class B misdemeanor.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6.

IC 9-18-2-47

Rules for issuance and replacement of license plates

Sec. 47. (a) The bureau shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 prescribing the cycle for the issuance and replacement of license plates under this article. The rules adopted under this section shall provide that a license plate for a vehicle issued under this article is valid for:

- (1) not less than five (5) years; and
- (2) not more than ten (10) years.

(b) The rules adopted under this section do not apply to:

- (1) truck license plates issued under section 4.5 (before its expiration), 4.6, or 18 of this chapter; and
- (2) general assembly and other state official license plates issued under IC 9-18-16 (before its expiration) or IC 9-18.5-3.

As added by P.L.115-1993, SEC.4. Amended by P.L.125-1995, SEC.4; P.L.150-2001, SEC.5; P.L.182-2002, SEC.1; P.L.103-2006, SEC.3; P.L.87-2010, SEC.8; P.L.262-2013, SEC.62; P.L.212-2014, SEC.13; P.L.26-2015, SEC.1; P.L.198-2016, SEC.270.

IC 9-18-2-48

License plate reproductions

Sec. 48. (a) The commissioner may enter into a contract or an agreement authorizing a person to create and use a reproduction of a license plate issued under this article.

(b) A person may not create or use a reproduction of a license plate issued under this article unless the creation or use of the reproduction is expressly authorized in writing by the commissioner. The commissioner may impose under IC 4-21.5 a civil penalty upon a person who violates this subsection. The amount of a civil penalty imposed under this subsection:

- (1) shall be determined by the commissioner; and
- (2) may not exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

(c) Money paid to the bureau as:

- (1) compensation to the state under a contract or an agreement entered into under subsection (a); or
- (2) a civil penalty imposed under subsection (b);

shall be collected and deposited in the motor vehicle highway account.

As added by P.L.115-1993, SEC.5. Amended by P.L.216-2014, SEC.35.

IC 9-18-2-49

Temporary license plates

Sec. 49. (a) Notwithstanding section 32 of this chapter, if a person is:

- (1) initially registering a motor vehicle; or
- (2) renewing the registration for a motor vehicle that needs a new license plate;

the bureau may issue a temporary paper or cardboard license plate to the person for use on the motor vehicle.

(b) A temporary license plate issued under subsection (a) is valid for thirty (30) days after the date of its issuance.

As added by P.L.97-1997, SEC.1. Amended by P.L.262-2013, SEC.63.

IC 9-18-2-50

Expiration date of registration if all license branches are closed

Sec. 50. If the date on which the registration of a vehicle expires is a day on which all license branches located in the county in which the vehicle is registered are closed, including:

- (1) a Sunday; or
- (2) a legal holiday listed in IC 1-1-9-1;

the registration expires at midnight on the date following the next day on which a license branch located in the county in which the vehicle is registered is open for business.

As added by P.L.149-2015, SEC.41.