

Chris H. Wilson proposes the following substitute bill:

Motor Vehicle Registration Services Amendments

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Chris H. Wilson

House Sponsor: Bridger Bolinder

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends vehicle registration fees to provide funding for Motor Vehicle Division services in counties of the third through sixth class.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- provides funding for counties that provide Motor Vehicle Division services on behalf of the division;
- modifies vehicle registration fees;
- creates the Vehicle Registration Services Expendable Special Revenue Fund; and
- allocates certain special group license plate revenue.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

This bill appropriates \$2,867,000 in operating and capital budgets for fiscal year 2027, all of which is from the General Fund.

Other Special Clauses:

This bill provides a special effective date.

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

41-1a-1201 (Effective 01/01/27) (Repealed 07/01/29), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 279

41-1a-1206 (Effective 01/01/27), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapters 215, 279

41-1a-1603 (Effective 01/01/27), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 247

ENACTS:

41-1a-124 (Effective 01/01/27), Utah Code Annotated 1953

29 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

30 Section 1. Section **41-1a-124** is enacted to read:

31 **41-1a-124 (Effective 01/01/27). Vehicle Registration Services Expendable Special**
32 **Revenue Fund.**

33 (1) There is created an expendable special revenue fund known as the "Vehicle Registration
34 Services Expendable Special Revenue Fund."

35 (2) The fund shall consist of deposits into the account from the fee described in Subsection
36 41-1a-1201(11).

37 (3) The commission shall use the fund to provide:

38 (a) \$500,000 in one-time funding to establish division services in a county that, in 2024:

39 (i) provided motor vehicle registration services in the county on behalf of the
40 division; and

41 (ii) registered the highest number of vehicles among counties that provided motor
42 vehicle registration services on behalf of the division; and

43 (b) funding to counties of the third through sixth class that provides vehicle registration
44 services on behalf of the division.

45 (4) A county described in Subsection (3)(c) is eligible each fiscal year for up to:

46 (a) \$3 per vehicle registered in the previous calendar year for a county of the third class;

47 (b) \$3.50 per vehicle registered in the previous calendar year for a county of the fourth
48 class;

49 (c) \$4 per vehicle registered in the previous calendar year for a county of the fifth class;
50 or

51 (d) \$5 per vehicle registered in the previous calendar year for a county of the sixth class.

52 (5) The distribution described in Subsection (3)(a) will not begin until:

53 (a) the fiscal year 2027;

54 (b) the fund has accrued at least \$500,000; and

55 (c) the commission has identified and secured office space.

56 (6) The distribution described in Subsection (3)(c) shall begin in fiscal year 2027.

57 (7) The commission shall provide funding in the order listed in Subsection (3).

58 (8) If there are insufficient funds for each county described in Subsection (3)(c) to receive
59 the amount described in Subsection (4), the commission shall reduce each county's
60 funding proportionally.

61 (9) Any amount remaining in the fund after the distributions described in Subsection (1)
62 shall be deposited into the Transportation Investment Fund of 2005.

63 Section 2. Section **41-1a-1201** is amended to read:

64 **41-1a-1201 (Effective 01/01/27) (Repealed 07/01/29). Disposition of fees.**

65 (1) All fees received and collected under this part shall be transmitted daily to the state
66 treasurer.

67 (2) Except as provided in Subsections (3), (5), (6), (7), (8), [~~and~~](9), and (11), and Sections
68 41-1a-1205, 41-1a-1220, 41-1a-1221, 41-1a-1222, 41-1a-1223, and 41-1a-1603, all fees
69 collected under this part shall be deposited into the Transportation Fund.

70 (3) Funds generated under Subsections 41-1a-1211(1)(b)(ii), (6)(b)(ii), (7), and (9), and
71 Section 41-1a-1212 shall be deposited into the License Plate Restricted Account created
72 in Section 41-1a-122.

73 (4)(a) Except as provided in Subsections (3) and (4)(b) and Section 41-1a-1205, the
74 expenses of the commission in enforcing and administering this part shall be
75 provided for by legislative appropriation from the revenues of the Transportation
76 Fund.

77 (b) Three dollars of the registration fees imposed under Subsections 41-1a-1206(2)(a)
78 and (b) for each vehicle registered for a six-month registration period under Section
79 41-1a-215.5 may be used by the commission to cover the costs incurred in enforcing
80 and administering this part.

81 (c) Fifty cents of the registration fee imposed under Subsection 41-1a-1206(1)(i) for
82 each vintage vehicle that has a model year of 1983 or newer may be used by the
83 commission to cover the costs incurred in enforcing and administering this part.

84 (5)(a) The following portions of the registration fees imposed under Section 41-1a-1206
85 for each vehicle shall be deposited into the Transportation Investment Fund of 2005
86 created in Section 72-2-124:

87 (i) \$30 of the registration fees imposed under Subsections 41-1a-1206(1)(a), (1)(b),
88 (1)(f), (4), and (7);

89 (ii) \$21 of the registration fees imposed under Subsections 41-1a-1206(1)(c)(i) and
90 (1)(c)(ii);

91 (iii) \$2.50 of the registration fee imposed under Subsection 41-1a-1206(1)(e)(ii);

92 (iv) \$23 of the registration fee imposed under Subsection 41-1a-1206(1)(d)(i);

93 (v) \$24.50 of the registration fee imposed under Subsection 41-1a-1206(1)(e)(i);

94 (vi) \$1 of the registration fee imposed under Subsection 41-1a-1206(1)(d)(ii); and

95 (vii) \$17 of the registration fee imposed under Subsection 41-1a-1206(1)(j).

96 (b) The following portions of the registration fees collected for each vehicle registered

- 97 for a six-month registration period under Section 41-1a-215.5 shall be deposited into
98 the Transportation Investment Fund of 2005 created in Section 72-2-124:
- 99 (i) \$23.25 of each registration fee collected under Subsection 41-1a-1206(2)(a)(i); and
100 (ii) \$23 of each registration fee collected under Subsection 41-1a-1206(2)(a)(ii).
- 101 (6)(a) Ninety-four cents of each registration fee imposed under Subsections
102 41-1a-1206(1)(a) and (b) for each vehicle shall be deposited into the Department of
103 Public Safety Restricted Account created in Section 53-3-106.
- 104 (b) Seventy-one cents of each registration fee imposed under Subsections
105 41-1a-1206(2)(a) and (b) for each vehicle registered for a six-month registration
106 period under Section 41-1a-215.5 shall be deposited into the Department of Public
107 Safety Restricted Account created in Section 53-3-106.
- 108 (7)(a) One dollar of each registration fee imposed under Subsections 41-1a-1206(1)(a)
109 and (b) for each vehicle shall be deposited into the Motor Vehicle Safety Impact
110 Restricted Account created in Section 53-8-214.
- 111 (b) One dollar of each registration fee imposed under Subsections 41-1a-1206(2)(a) and
112 (b) for each vehicle registered for a six-month registration period under Section
113 41-1a-215.5 shall be deposited into the Motor Vehicle Safety Impact Restricted
114 Account created in Section 53-8-214.
- 115 (8) Fifty cents of each registration fee imposed under Subsection 41-1a-1206(1)(a) for each
116 motorcycle shall be deposited into the Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Fund created in
117 Section 26B-1-318.
- 118 (9)(a) [~~Beginning~~] Except as provided in Subsection (11), beginning on January 1, 2024,
119 subject to Subsection (9)(b), \$2 of each registration fee imposed under Section
120 41-1a-1206 shall be deposited into the Rural Transportation Infrastructure Fund
121 created in Section 72-2-133.
- 122 (b) Beginning on January 1, 2025, and each January 1 thereafter, the amount described
123 in Subsection (9)(a) shall be annually adjusted by taking the amount deposited the
124 previous year and adding an amount equal to the greater of:
- 125 (i) an amount calculated by multiplying the amount deposited by the previous year by
126 the actual percentage change during the previous fiscal year in the Consumer Price
127 Index; and
128 (ii) 0.
- 129 (c) The amounts calculated as described in Subsection (9)(b) shall be rounded up to the
130 nearest [~~±~~] one cent.

131 (10) For a vehicle registered for a 24-month period as provided in Section 41-1a-215.5, the
 132 deposits under this section are double the amounts due for a 12-month registration of the
 133 same vehicle.

134 (11) The registration fee imposed under Subsections 41-1a-1206(3)(a)(i)(B) and
 135 41-1a-1206(3)(a)(ii)(B) shall be deposited into the Vehicle Registration Services
 136 Expendable Special Revenue Fund created in Section 41-1a-124.

137 Section 3. Section **41-1a-1206** is amended to read:

138 **41-1a-1206 (Effective 01/01/27). Registration fees -- Fees by gross laden weight.**

139 (1) Except as provided in Subsections (2) and (3), at the time application is made for
 140 registration or renewal of registration of a vehicle or combination of vehicles under this
 141 chapter, a registration fee shall be paid to the division as follows:

142 (a) \$46.00 for each motorcycle;

143 (b) \$44 for each motor vehicle of 14,000 pounds or less gross laden weight, excluding
 144 motorcycles;

145 (c) unless the semitrailer or trailer is exempt from registration under Section 41-1a-202
 146 or is registered under Section 41-1a-301:

147 (i) \$31 for each trailer or semitrailer over 750 pounds gross unladen weight; or

148 (ii) \$28.50 for each commercial trailer or commercial semitrailer of 750 pounds or
 149 less gross unladen weight;

150 (d)(i) \$53 for each farm truck over 14,000 pounds, but not exceeding 16,000 pounds
 151 gross laden weight; plus

152 (ii) \$9 for each 2,000 pounds over 16,000 pounds gross laden weight;

153 (e)(i) \$69.50 for each motor vehicle or combination of motor vehicles, excluding
 154 farm trucks, over 14,000 pounds, but not exceeding 16,000 pounds gross laden
 155 weight; plus

156 (ii) \$19 for each 2,000 pounds over 16,000 pounds gross laden weight;

157 (f)(i) \$69.50 for each park model recreational vehicle over 14,000 pounds, but not
 158 exceeding 16,000 pounds gross laden weight; plus

159 (ii) \$19 for each 2,000 pounds over 16,000 pounds gross laden weight;

160 (g) \$45 for each vintage vehicle that has a model year of 1983 or newer;

161 (h) in addition to the fee described in Subsection (1)(b):

162 (i) an amount equal to the road usage charge cap described in Section 72-1-213.1 for:

163 (A) each electric motor vehicle; and

164 (B) Each motor vehicle not described in this Subsection (1)(h) that is fueled

- 165 exclusively by a source other than motor fuel, diesel fuel, natural gas, or
 166 propane;
- 167 (ii) \$21.75 for each hybrid electric motor vehicle; and
 168 (iii) \$56.50 for each plug-in hybrid electric motor vehicle;
- 169 (i) in addition to the fee described in Subsection (1)(g), for a vintage vehicle that has a
 170 model year of 1983 or newer, 50 cents; and
- 171 (j) \$28.50 for each roadable aircraft.
- 172 (2)(a) At the time application is made for registration or renewal of registration of a
 173 vehicle under this chapter for a six-month registration period under Section
 174 41-1a-215.5, a registration fee shall be paid to the division as follows:
- 175 (i) \$34.50 for each motorcycle; and
 176 (ii) \$33.50 for each motor vehicle of 14,000 pounds or less gross laden weight,
 177 excluding motorcycles.
- 178 (b) In addition to the fee described in Subsection (2)(a)(ii), for registration or renewal of
 179 registration of a vehicle under this chapter for a six-month registration period under
 180 Section 41-1a-215.5 a registration fee shall be paid to the division as follows:
- 181 (i) an amount equal to the road usage charge cap described in Section 72-1-213.1 for:
 182 (A) each electric motor vehicle; and
 183 (B) each motor vehicle not described in this Subsection (2)(b) that is fueled
 184 exclusively by a source other than motor fuel, diesel fuel, natural gas, or
 185 propane;
- 186 (ii) \$16.50 for each hybrid electric motor vehicle; and
 187 (iii) \$43.50 for each plug-in hybrid electric motor vehicle.
- 188 (3)(a) [~~Beginning on January 1, 2024, at~~] At the time of registration:
- 189 (i) in addition to the amounts described in Subsections (1)(a), (1)(b), (1)(c)(i),
 190 (1)(c)(ii), (1)(d)(i), (1)(e)(i), (1)(f)(i), (1)(g), (1)(h), (4)(a), and (7), the individual
 191 shall also pay an additional:
 192 (A) \$7 as part of the registration fee; and
 193 (B) \$1.25 as part of the registration fee; and
- 194 (ii) in addition to the amounts described in Subsection (2)(a), the individual shall also
 195 pay an additional:
 196 (A) \$5 as part of the registration fee[-]; and
 197 (B) \$1 as part of the registration fee.
- 198 (b)[~~(i) Beginning on January 1, 2019, the~~] The commission shall, on January 1,

- 199 annually adjust the registration fees described in Subsections (1)(a), (1)(b),
 200 (1)(c)(i), (1)(c)(ii), (1)(d)(i), (1)(e)(i), (1)(f)(i), (1)(g), ~~(1)(h)(ii), (1)(h)(iii), (1)(j),~~
 201 ~~(2)(a), (2)(b)(ii), (2)(b)(iii),~~ (3)(a), (4)(a), and (7), by taking the registration fee
 202 rate for the previous year and adding an amount equal to the greater of:
- 203 ~~[(A)]~~ (i) an amount calculated by multiplying the registration fee of the previous year
 204 by the actual percentage change during the previous fiscal year in the Consumer
 205 Price Index; and
 206 ~~[(B)]~~ (ii) 0.
- 207 ~~[(ii) Beginning on January 1, 2024, the commission shall, on January 1, annually~~
 208 ~~adjust the registration fees described in Subsections (1)(h)(ii) and (iii) and~~
 209 ~~(2)(b)(ii) and (iii) by taking the registration fee rate for the previous year and~~
 210 ~~adding an amount equal to the greater of:]~~
- 211 ~~[(A) an amount calculated by multiplying the registration fee of the previous year~~
 212 ~~by the actual percentage change during the previous fiscal year in the~~
 213 ~~Consumer Price Index; and]~~
- 214 ~~[(B) 0.]~~
- 215 (c) The amounts calculated as described in Subsection (3)(b) shall be rounded up to the
 216 nearest 25 cents.
- 217 (4)(a) The initial registration fee for a vintage vehicle that has a model year of 1982 or
 218 older is \$40.
- 219 (b) A vintage vehicle that has a model year of 1982 or older is exempt from the renewal
 220 of registration fees under Subsection (1).
- 221 (c) A vehicle with a Purple Heart special group license plate issued on or before
 222 December 31, 2023, or issued in accordance with Part 16, Sponsored Special Group
 223 License Plates, is exempt from the registration fees under Subsection (1).
- 224 (d) A camper is exempt from the registration fees under Subsection (1).
- 225 (5) If a motor vehicle is operated in combination with a semitrailer or trailer, each motor
 226 vehicle shall register for the total gross laden weight of all units of the combination if the
 227 total gross laden weight of the combination exceeds 14,000 pounds.
- 228 (6)(a) Registration fee categories under this section are based on the gross laden weight
 229 declared in the licensee's application for registration.
- 230 (b) Gross laden weight shall be computed in units of 2,000 pounds. A fractional part of
 231 2,000 pounds is a full unit.
- 232 (7) The owner of a trailer described in Section 41-1a-228 may, as an alternative to

- 233 registering under Subsection (1)(c), apply for and obtain a special registration and
234 license plate, as provided in Section 41-1a-228, for a fee of \$130.
- 235 (8) For a vehicle registered for a 24-month period as provided in Section 41-1a-215.5, the
236 fee amounts are double the amounts due for a 12-month registration of the same vehicle.
- 237 (9) Except as provided in Section 41-6a-1642, a truck may not be registered as a farm truck
238 unless:
- 239 (a) the truck meets the definition of a farm truck under Section 41-1a-102; and
240 (b)(i) the truck has a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 14,000 pounds; or
241 (ii) the truck has a gross vehicle weight rating of 14,000 pounds or less and the owner
242 submits to the division a certificate of emissions inspection or a waiver in
243 compliance with Section 41-6a-1642.
- 244 (10) A violation of Subsection (9) is an infraction that shall be punished by a fine of not
245 less than \$200.
- 246 (11) A motor vehicle registered as a street-legal all-terrain vehicle is:
- 247 (a) subject to the registration and other fees described in Section 41-22-9; and
248 (b) not required to pay an additional registration fee under this section.
- 249 (12) Trucks used exclusively to pump cement, bore wells, or perform crane services with a
250 crane lift capacity of five or more tons, are exempt from 50% of the amount of the fees
251 required for those vehicles under this section.
- 252 Section 4. Section **41-1a-1603** is amended to read:
- 253 **41-1a-1603 (Effective 01/01/27). Application requirements -- Fees --**
254 **Contributions -- Rulemaking.**
- 255 (1) An applicant for a sponsored special group license plate shall submit to the division:
- 256 (a) in a form and manner that the division prescribes, a complete application;
257 (b) payment of the fee for the issuance of the sponsored special group license plate
258 established under Subsection (4)(a)(i);
259 (c) the required contribution for the sponsored special group license plate, unless the
260 applicant previously paid the required contribution as part of a preorder application
261 described in Subsection (3); and
262 (d) if the sponsoring organization elects to require verification as described in Section
263 41-1a-1604, a verification form obtained from the sponsoring organization.
- 264 (2) An applicant who owns a vehicle with the sponsoring organization's sponsored special
265 group license plate shall submit to the division the required contribution to renew the
266 sponsored special group license plate.

- 267 (3)(a) An applicant who wishes to obtain a new type of sponsored special group license
 268 plate may preorder the new type of sponsored special group license plate by:
- 269 (i) submitting to the sponsoring organization associated with the new type of
 270 sponsored special group license plate a complete preorder form created by the
 271 division; and
- 272 (ii) making the required contribution to the sponsoring organization.
- 273 (b) After the division approves the sponsoring organization's request for the new type of
 274 sponsored special group license plate under Section 41-1a-1604, an applicant who
 275 submitted a preorder in accordance with Subsection (3)(a) may apply for the
 276 sponsored special group license plate in accordance with Subsection (1).
- 277 (4)(a) The division shall, in accordance with Section 63J-1-504, establish:
- 278 (i) the fee to charge an applicant for the division's costs of issuing or renewing a
 279 sponsored special group license plate or symbol decal;
- 280 (ii) the fee to charge a sponsoring organization for the division's costs of designing
 281 and administering a new type of sponsored special group license plate, in
 282 accordance with Subsection 41-1a-1604(2)(c); and
- 283 (iii) subject to Subsections (4)(b) and (6), in an amount equal to at least \$25, the
 284 minimum annual contribution amount an applicant is required to make to obtain or
 285 renew the sponsoring organization's sponsored special group license plate.
- 286 (b) A fee paid in accordance with Subsection (4)(a)(i) shall be deposited into the License
 287 Plate Restricted Account created in Section 41-1a-122.
- 288 (c) A sponsoring organization may establish a required contribution amount for the
 289 sponsoring organization's sponsored special group license plate that is greater than
 290 the amount established by the division under Subsection (4)(a)(ii).
- 291 (5) An applicant's contribution is a voluntary contribution for funding the sponsoring
 292 organization's activities and not a motor vehicle registration fee.
- 293 (6) Beginning on ~~[July 1, 2025]~~ January 1, 2027, an applicant's voluntary contribution
 294 described in Subsection (4)(a)(iii) for the historical support special group license plate
 295 described in Section 41-1a-419 is \$25 which the division shall allocate as follows:
- 296 (a) \$2 to the Utah State Historical Society as the sponsoring organization;~~and]~~
- 297 (b) ~~[\$23]~~ \$11 into the Transportation Investment Fund of 2005, created in Section
 298 72-2-124[-] ; and
- 299 (c) \$12 into the General Fund.
- 300 (7) For a fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2025, only, the division shall transfer into the

301 General Fund \$3,500,000 from the Sponsored Special Group License Plate Fund created
302 in Section 41-1a-1610 from funds generated by the historical support special group
303 license plate.

304 (8) The division shall provide notice indicating the allocation of the voluntary contributions
305 described in Subsection (6) for the historical support special group license plate as
306 follows:

307 (a) on or before July 1, 2025, on the division website; and

308 (b) beginning on July 1, 2025, and until June 30, 2026, in any email notification of a
309 registrant's pending vehicle registration expiration described in Section 41-1a-203.

310 (9) An applicant for a historical support special group license plate for a vehicle that is a
311 vintage vehicle is not required to make the voluntary contribution to obtain the historical
312 support special group license plate.

313 (10) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the
314 commission may make rules to establish and administer the sponsored special group
315 license plate program.

316 Section 5. **FY 2027 Appropriations.**

317 The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
318 2026, and ending June 30, 2027. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for
319 fiscal year 2027.

320 Subsection 5(a). **Operating and Capital Budgets**

321 Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, the
322 Legislature appropriates the following sums of money from the funds or accounts indicated for
323 the use and support of the government of the state of Utah.

324	ITEM 1	To Utah State Tax Commission - Tax Administration	
325		From General Fund	2,867,000
326		Schedule of Programs:	
327		Motor Vehicles	2,867,000

328 Section 6. **Effective Date.**

329 This bill takes effect on January 1, 2027.