

**MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION AMENDMENTS**

2018 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Wayne A. Harper**

House Sponsor: Eric K. Hutchings

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill requires a waiver of a fine for a violation for failure to display the decals if the vehicle was properly registered at the time of the citation.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

► requires a waiver of a fine for a violation for failure to display license plates or registration decals if:

- the vehicle was properly registered at the time of the citation; and
- the person cited provides evidence, within 21 business days, that the license plates and decals have been properly displayed; and

► allows a year decal to be displayed over or in place of the previous year sticker.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**41-1a-402**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2016, Chapter 102

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

Section 1. Section **41-1a-402** is amended to read:

**41-1a-402. Required colors, numerals, and letters -- Expiration.**

- 30 (1) Each license plate shall have displayed on it:
- 31 (a) the registration number assigned to the vehicle for which it is issued;
- 32 (b) the name of the state; and
- 33 (c) a registration decal showing the date of expiration displayed in accordance with
- 34 Subsection (6).
- 35 (2) If registration is extended by affixing a registration decal to the license plate, the
- 36 expiration date of the decal governs the expiration date of the license plate.
- 37 (3) Except as provided in Subsection (4), each original license plate that is not one of
- 38 the special group license plates issued under Section 41-1a-418 shall be:
- 39 (a) a statehood centennial license plate with the same color, design, and slogan as the
- 40 plates issued in conjunction with the statehood centennial;
- 41 (b) a Ski Utah license plate; or
- 42 (c) an In God We Trust license plate.
- 43 (4) Beginning on the date that the division determines the existing inventories of
- 44 statehood centennial license plates and Ski Utah license plates are exhausted, each license plate
- 45 that is not one of the special group license plates issued under Section 41-1a-418 shall:
- 46 (a) (i) display the "Life Elevated" slogan; and
- 47 (ii) have a color and design approved by the 57th Legislature in the 2007 General
- 48 Session that features:
- 49 (A) a skier with the "Greatest Snow on Earth" slogan; or
- 50 (B) Delicate Arch; or
- 51 (b) be an In God We Trust license plate.
- 52 (5) (a) Except as provided under Subsection 41-1a-215(2), license plates shall be
- 53 renewed annually.
- 54 (b) (i) The division shall issue the vehicle owner a month decal and a year decal upon
- 55 the vehicle's first registration with the division.
- 56 (ii) The division shall issue the vehicle owner only a year decal upon subsequent
- 57 renewals of registration to validate registration renewal.

58 (6) The decals issued in accordance with Subsection (5) shall be applied as follows:

59 (a) for license plates issued beginning in 1974 through 1985, decals displayed on  
60 license plates with black lettering on a white background shall be applied to the lower left-hand  
61 corner of the rear of the license plate vehicles;

62 (b) decals displayed on statehood centennial license plates and on Ski Utah license  
63 plates issued in accordance with Subsection (3) shall be applied to the upper left-hand corner of  
64 the rear license plate;

65 (c) decals displayed on special group license plates issued in accordance with Section  
66 41-1a-418 shall be applied to the upper right-hand corner of the license plate unless there is a  
67 plate indentation on the upper left-hand corner of the license plate;

68 (d) decals displayed on license plates with the "Life Elevated" slogan issued in  
69 accordance with Subsection (4) shall be applied in the upper left-hand corner for the month  
70 decal and the upper right-hand corner for the year decal;

71 (e) decals displayed on license plates with the "In God We Trust" slogan issued in  
72 accordance with Subsection (4)(b) shall be applied in the upper right-hand corner of the rear  
73 license plate unless there is a plate indentation on the upper left-hand corner of the license  
74 plate;

75 (f) decals issued for truck tractors shall be applied to the front license plate in the  
76 position described in Subsection (6)(a), (b), or (d);

77 (g) decals issued for motorcycles shall be applied to the upper corner of the license  
78 plate opposite the word "Utah"; and

79 (h) decals displayed on license plates issued under Section 41-1a-416 shall be applied  
80 as appropriate for the year of the plate.

81 (7) (a) The month decal issued in accordance with Subsection (5) shall be displayed on  
82 the license plate in the left position.

83 (b) The year decal issued in accordance with Subsection (5) shall be displayed on the  
84 license plate in the right position.

85 (8) The current year decal issued in accordance with Subsection (5) shall be placed

86 over or in place of the previous year decal.

87 (9) If a license plate, month decal, or year decal is lost or destroyed, a replacement shall  
88 be issued upon application and payment of the fees required under Section 41-1a-1211 or  
89 41-1a-1212.

90 (10) (a) A violation of this section is an infraction.

91 (b) A court shall waive a fine for a violation under this section if:

92 (i) the registration for the vehicle was current at the time of the citation; and

93 (ii) the person to whom the citation was issued provides, within 21 business days,  
94 evidence that the license plate and decals are properly displayed in compliance with this  
95 section.