

**Representative Stephanie Pitcher** proposes the following substitute bill:

**VEHICLE REGISTRATION MODIFICATIONS**

2022 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Stephanie Pitcher**

Senate Sponsor: Todd D. Weiler

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill allows revocation of vehicle registration and the possibility of a fine for a person who provides an improper address to register a vehicle.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ allows a county to provide information and evidence to the Motor Vehicle Division regarding a person who is suspected of providing an improper address to register a vehicle;
- ▶ allows the Motor Vehicle Division to require a person to verify the proper address relevant to a vehicle registration;
- ▶ allows the Motor Vehicle Division to revoke registration and impose a fine if a person fails to provide proper verification of the bona fide residence and mailing address relevant to the vehicle in question; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

This bill provides a special effective date.



## Utah Code Sections Affected:

## AMENDS:

**41-1a-110**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 461

**41-6a-1642**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 322

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

Section 1. Section **41-1a-110** is amended to read:

**41-1a-110. Authority of division to suspend or revoke registration, certificate of title, license plate, or permit.**

(1) Except as provided in Subsections (3) and (4), the division may suspend or revoke a registration, certificate of title, license plate, or permit if:

(a) the division is satisfied that a registration, certificate of title, license plate, or permit was fraudulently procured or erroneously issued;

(b) the division determines that a registered vehicle is mechanically unfit or unsafe to be operated or moved upon the highways;

(c) a registered vehicle has been dismantled;

(d) the division determines that the required fee has not been paid and the fee is not paid upon reasonable notice and demand;

(e) a registration decal, license plate, or permit is knowingly displayed upon a vehicle other than the one for which issued;

(f) the division determines that the owner has committed any offense under this chapter involving the registration, certificate of title, registration card, license plate, registration decal, or permit; or

(g) the division receives notification by the Department of Transportation that the owner has committed any offence under Title 72, Chapter 9, Motor Carrier Safety Act.

(2) (a) The division shall revoke the registration of a vehicle if the division receives notification by the:

(i) Department of Public Safety that a person:

(A) has been convicted of operating a registered motor vehicle in violation of Section **41-12a-301** or **41-12a-303.2**; or

(B) is under an administrative action taken by the Department of Public Safety for

operating a registered motor vehicle in violation of Section 41-12a-301; or

(ii) designated agent that the owner of a motor vehicle:

(A) has failed to provide satisfactory proof of owner's or operator's security to the designated agent after the second notice provided under Section 41-12a-804; or

(B) provided a false or fraudulent statement to the designated agent.

(b) The division shall notify the Driver License Division if the division revokes the registration of a vehicle under Subsection (2)(a)(ii)(A).

(3) The division may not suspend or revoke the registration of a vessel or outboard motor unless authorized under Section 73-18-7.3.

(4) The division may not suspend or revoke the registration of an off-highway vehicle unless authorized under Section 41-22-17.

(5) The division shall charge a registration reinstatement fee under Section 41-1a-1220, if the registration is revoked under Subsection (1)(f).

(6) (a) Except as provided in Subsections (3), (4), and (7), the division may suspend or revoke a registered vehicle's registration if the division is notified by a local health department, as defined in Section 26A-1-102, that the registered vehicle is unable to meet state or local air emissions standards pursuant to Section 41-6a-1642 or violates Subsection 41-6a-1626(2)(a) or (b).

(b) If the division receives information as described in Subsection 41-6a-1642(14) regarding a claim of a possible address discrepancy, the division shall:

(i) notify the owner of the vehicle of the possible address discrepancy;

(ii) require the owner to verify the bona fide residence and mailing address for the owner of the vehicle in question; and

(iii) if the owner fails to verify the bona fide residence and mailing address as required in Section 41-1a-209 within 30 days of the notification described in Subsection (6)(b)(i), revoke the registration of the vehicle.

(c) (i) If a vehicle owner receives a notification described in Subsection (6)(b)(i), the vehicle owner shall provide verification of the bona fide residence and mailing address relevant to the vehicle in question.

(ii) To provide verification of a bona fide address of a motor vehicle, an owner shall provide to the division:

(A) at least three pieces of mail sent to the bona fide residence and mailing address; or

(B) other evidence that the vehicle in question is located and operated primarily from the provided bona fide address.

(d) A person who provides false identification or registers a vehicle with a false residential address as described in this Subsection (6) is guilty of an infraction and shall pay a fine of \$1,000.

(e) A dealer is not liable or guilty of an infraction as described in this Subsection (6) for actions related to the registration of a vehicle that the dealer has assisted in registering as part of a sale or other business service.

(7) The division may not suspend or revoke a registered vehicle's registration under Subsection (6) if the registered vehicle has a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating that is greater than 26,000 pounds.

Section 2. Section **41-6a-1642** is amended to read:

**41-6a-1642. Emissions inspection -- County program.**

(1) The legislative body of each county required under federal law to utilize a motor vehicle emissions inspection and maintenance program or in which an emissions inspection and maintenance program is necessary to attain or maintain any national ambient air quality standard shall require:

(a) a certificate of emissions inspection, a waiver, or other evidence the motor vehicle is exempt from emissions inspection and maintenance program requirements be presented:

(i) as a condition of registration or renewal of registration; and

(ii) at other times as the county legislative body may require to enforce inspection requirements for individual motor vehicles, except that the county legislative body may not routinely require a certificate of emissions inspection, or waiver of the certificate, more often than required under Subsection (9); and

(b) compliance with this section for a motor vehicle registered or principally operated in the county and owned by or being used by a department, division, instrumentality, agency, or employee of:

(i) the federal government;

(ii) the state and any of its agencies; or

(iii) a political subdivision of the state, including school districts.

(2) A vehicle owner subject to Subsection (1) shall obtain a motor vehicle emissions inspection and maintenance program certificate of emissions inspection as described in Subsection (1), but the program may not deny vehicle registration based solely on the presence of a defeat device covered in the Volkswagen partial consent decrees or a United States Environmental Protection Agency-approved vehicle modification in the following vehicles:

(a) a 2.0-liter diesel engine motor vehicle in which its lifetime nitrogen oxide emissions are mitigated in the state pursuant to a partial consent decree, including:

(i) Volkswagen Jetta, model years 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015;

(ii) Volkswagen Jetta Sportwagen, model years 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014;

(iii) Volkswagen Golf, model years 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015;

(iv) Volkswagen Golf Sportwagen, model year 2015;

(v) Volkswagen Passat, model years 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015;

(vi) Volkswagen Beetle, model years 2013, 2014, and 2015;

(vii) Volkswagen Beetle Convertible, model years 2013, 2014, and 2015; and

(viii) Audi A3, model years 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2015; and

(b) a 3.0-liter diesel engine motor vehicle in which its lifetime nitrogen oxide emissions are mitigated in the state to a settlement, including:

(i) Volkswagen Touareg, model years 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016;

(ii) Audi Q7, model years 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016;

(iii) Audi A6 Quattro, model years 2014, 2015, and 2016;

(iv) Audi A7 Quattro, model years 2014, 2015, and 2016;

(v) Audi A8, model years 2014, 2015, and 2016;

(vi) Audi A8L, model years 2014, 2015, and 2016;

(vii) Audi Q5, model years 2014, 2015, and 2016; and

(viii) Porsche Cayenne Diesel, model years 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016.

(3) (a) The legislative body of a county identified in Subsection (1), in consultation with the Air Quality Board created under Section 19-1-106, shall make regulations or ordinances regarding:

(i) emissions standards;

- 150 (ii) test procedures;
- 151 (iii) inspections stations;
- 152 (iv) repair requirements and dollar limits for correction of deficiencies; and
- 153 (v) certificates of emissions inspections.
- 154 (b) In accordance with Subsection (3)(a), a county legislative body:
- 155 (i) shall make regulations or ordinances to attain or maintain ambient air quality
- 156 standards in the county, consistent with the state implementation plan and federal
- 157 requirements;
- 158 (ii) may allow for a phase-in of the program by geographical area; and
- 159 (iii) shall comply with the analyzer design and certification requirements contained in
- 160 the state implementation plan prepared under Title 19, Chapter 2, Air Conservation Act.
- 161 (c) The county legislative body and the Air Quality Board shall give preference to an
- 162 inspection and maintenance program that:
- 163 (i) is decentralized, to the extent the decentralized program will attain and maintain
- 164 ambient air quality standards and meet federal requirements;
- 165 (ii) is the most cost effective means to achieve and maintain the maximum benefit with
- 166 regard to ambient air quality standards and to meet federal air quality requirements as related to
- 167 vehicle emissions; and
- 168 (iii) provides a reasonable phase-out period for replacement of air pollution emission
- 169 testing equipment made obsolete by the program.
- 170 (d) The provisions of Subsection (3)(c)(iii) apply only to the extent the phase-out:
- 171 (i) may be accomplished in accordance with applicable federal requirements; and
- 172 (ii) does not otherwise interfere with the attainment and maintenance of ambient air
- 173 quality standards.
- 174 (4) The following vehicles are exempt from an emissions inspection program and the
- 175 provisions of this section:
- 176 (a) an implement of husbandry as defined in Section [41-1a-102](#);
- 177 (b) a motor vehicle that:
- 178 (i) meets the definition of a farm truck under Section [41-1a-102](#); and
- 179 (ii) has a gross vehicle weight rating of 12,001 pounds or more;
- 180 (c) a vintage vehicle as defined in Section [41-21-1](#);

(d) a custom vehicle as defined in Section 41-6a-1507;

(e) to the extent allowed under the current federally approved state implementation plan, in accordance with the federal Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 7401, et seq., a motor vehicle that is less than two years old on January 1 based on the age of the vehicle as determined by the model year identified by the manufacturer;

(f) a pickup truck, as defined in Section 41-1a-102, with a gross vehicle weight rating of 12,000 pounds or less, if the registered owner of the pickup truck provides a signed statement to the legislative body stating the truck is used:

(i) by the owner or operator of a farm located on property that qualifies as land in agricultural use under Sections 59-2-502 and 59-2-503; and

(ii) exclusively for the following purposes in operating the farm:

(A) for the transportation of farm products, including livestock and its products, poultry and its products, floricultural and horticultural products; and

(B) in the transportation of farm supplies, including tile, fence, and every other thing or commodity used in agricultural, floricultural, horticultural, livestock, and poultry production and maintenance;

(g) a motorcycle as defined in Section 41-1a-102;

(h) an electric motor vehicle as defined in Section 41-1a-102; and

(i) a motor vehicle with a model year of 1967 or older.

(5) The county shall issue to the registered owner who signs and submits a signed statement under Subsection (4)(f) a certificate of exemption from emissions inspection requirements for purposes of registering the exempt vehicle.

(6) A legislative body of a county described in Subsection (1) may exempt from an emissions inspection program a diesel-powered motor vehicle with a:

(a) gross vehicle weight rating of more than 14,000 pounds; or

(b) model year of 1997 or older.

(7) The legislative body of a county required under federal law to utilize a motor vehicle emissions inspection program shall require:

(a) a computerized emissions inspection for a diesel-powered motor vehicle that has:

(i) a model year of 2007 or newer;

(ii) a gross vehicle weight rating of 14,000 pounds or less; and

(iii) a model year that is five years old or older; and

(b) a visual inspection of emissions equipment for a diesel-powered motor vehicle:

(i) with a gross vehicle weight rating of 14,000 pounds or less;

(ii) that has a model year of 1998 or newer; and

(iii) that has a model year that is five years old or older.

(8) (a) Subject to Subsection (8)(c), the legislative body of each county required under federal law to utilize a motor vehicle emissions inspection and maintenance program or in which an emissions inspection and maintenance program is necessary to attain or maintain any national ambient air quality standard may require each college or university located in a county subject to this section to require its students and employees who park a motor vehicle not registered in a county subject to this section to provide proof of compliance with an emissions inspection accepted by the county legislative body if the motor vehicle is parked on the college or university campus or property.

(b) College or university parking areas that are metered or for which payment is required per use are not subject to the requirements of this Subsection (8).

(c) The legislative body of a county shall make the reasons for implementing the provisions of this Subsection (8) part of the record at the time that the county legislative body takes its official action to implement the provisions of this Subsection (8).

(9) (a) An emissions inspection station shall issue a certificate of emissions inspection for each motor vehicle that meets the inspection and maintenance program requirements established in rules made under Subsection (3).

(b) The frequency of the emissions inspection shall be determined based on the age of the vehicle as determined by model year and shall be required annually subject to the provisions of Subsection (9)(c).

(c) (i) To the extent allowed under the current federally approved state implementation plan, in accordance with the federal Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 7401 et seq., the legislative body of a county identified in Subsection (1) shall only require the emissions inspection every two years for each vehicle.

(ii) The provisions of Subsection (9)(c)(i) apply only to a vehicle that is less than six years old on January 1.

(iii) For a county required to implement a new vehicle emissions inspection and



243 maintenance program on or after December 1, 2012, under Subsection (1), but for which no  
244 current federally approved state implementation plan exists, a vehicle shall be tested at a  
245 frequency determined by the county legislative body, in consultation with the Air Quality  
246 Board created under Section 19-1-106, that is necessary to comply with federal law or attain or  
247 maintain any national ambient air quality standard.

248 (iv) If a county legislative body establishes or changes the frequency of a vehicle  
249 emissions inspection and maintenance program under Subsection (9)(c)(iii), the establishment  
250 or change shall take effect on January 1 if the State Tax Commission receives notice meeting  
251 the requirements of Subsection (9)(c)(v) from the county before October 1.

252 (v) The notice described in Subsection (9)(c)(iv) shall:

253 (A) state that the county will establish or change the frequency of the vehicle emissions  
254 inspection and maintenance program under this section;

255 (B) include a copy of the ordinance establishing or changing the frequency; and

256 (C) if the county establishes or changes the frequency under this section, state how  
257 frequently the emissions testing will be required.

258 (d) If an emissions inspection is only required every two years for a vehicle under  
259 Subsection (9)(c), the inspection shall be required for the vehicle in:

260 (i) odd-numbered years for vehicles with odd-numbered model years; or

261 (ii) in even-numbered years for vehicles with even-numbered model years.

262 (10) (a) Except as provided in Subsections (9)(b), (c), and (d), the emissions inspection  
263 required under this section may be made no more than two months before the renewal of  
264 registration.

265 (b) (i) If the title of a used motor vehicle is being transferred, the owner may use an  
266 emissions inspection certificate issued for the motor vehicle during the previous 11 months to  
267 satisfy the requirement under this section.

268 (ii) If the transferor is a licensed and bonded used motor vehicle dealer, the owner may  
269 use an emissions inspection certificate issued for the motor vehicle in a licensed and bonded  
270 motor vehicle dealer's name during the previous 11 months to satisfy the requirement under  
271 this section.

272 (c) If the title of a leased vehicle is being transferred to the lessee of the vehicle, the  
273 lessee may use an emissions inspection certificate issued during the previous 11 months to

274 satisfy the requirement under this section.

275 (d) If the motor vehicle is part of a fleet of 101 or more vehicles, the owner may not  
276 use an emissions inspection made more than 11 months before the renewal of registration to  
277 satisfy the requirement under this section.

278 (e) If the application for renewal of registration is for a six-month registration period  
279 under Section 41-1a-215.5, the owner may use an emissions inspection certificate issued during  
280 the previous eight months to satisfy the requirement under this section.

281 (11) (a) A county identified in Subsection (1) shall collect information about and  
282 monitor the program.

283 (b) A county identified in Subsection (1) shall supply this information to an appropriate  
284 legislative committee, as designated by the Legislative Management Committee, at times  
285 determined by the designated committee to identify program needs, including funding needs.

286 (12) If approved by the county legislative body, a county that had an established  
287 emissions inspection fee as of January 1, 2002, may increase the established fee that an  
288 emissions inspection station may charge by \$2.50 for each year that is exempted from  
289 emissions inspections under Subsection (9)(c) up to a \$7.50 increase.

290 (13) (a) Except as provided in Subsection 41-1a-1223(1)(c), a county identified in  
291 Subsection (1) may impose a local emissions compliance fee on each motor vehicle registration  
292 within the county in accordance with the procedures and requirements of Section 41-1a-1223.

293 (b) A county that imposes a local emissions compliance fee may use revenues  
294 generated from the fee for the establishment and enforcement of an emissions inspection and  
295 maintenance program in accordance with the requirements of this section.

296 (c) A county that imposes a local emissions compliance fee may use revenues  
297 generated from the fee to promote programs to maintain a local, state, or national ambient air  
298 quality standard.

299 (14) If a county has reason to believe that a vehicle owner has provided an address as  
300 required in Section 41-1a-209 to register or attempt to register a motor vehicle in a county other  
301 than the county of the bona fide residence of the owner in order to avoid an emissions  
302 inspection required under this section, the county may provide relevant information and  
303 evidence to the Motor Vehicle Division for an investigation and verification of address as  
304 described in Subsection 41-1a-110(6).

305           Section 3. **Effective date.**  
306           This bill takes effect on July 1, 2022.