

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Transportation

BILL: SB 1104

INTRODUCER: Senator Brandes

SUBJECT: Vehicle Registration

DATE: January 16, 2018

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Jones	Miller	TR	Pre-meeting
2.			ATD	
3.			AP	

I. Summary:

SB 1104 extends the time-period that a license plate is valid for a vehicle registered in accordance with the International Registration Plan (IRP). The bill provides that such license plates issued beginning October 1, 2018, are valid for a 5-year period, instead of 1-year. Vehicles registered in accordance with the IRP will continue to be issued an annual cab card and validation sticker. If the license plate is damaged or worn prior to the end of the 5-year period, it may be replaced at no charge upon application and surrender of the current plate to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV).

The DHSMV estimates changes made by the bill will cost \$35,940 in programming and implementation costs.

The bill takes effect October 1, 2018.

II. Present Situation:

The IRP is a registration reciprocity agreement among all states in the contiguous United States, the District of Columbia, and several Canadian provinces. It provides for the payment of license fees based on fleet operation in various member jurisdictions.¹ This allows carriers to operate inter-jurisdictionally while only needing to register its vehicles in its base jurisdiction, which is the state or province where the registrant has an established place of business².

¹ International Registration Plan, Inc., *About IRP*, <http://www.irponline.org/?page=AboutIRP> (last visited Jan. 11, 2018).

² As defined by the IRP, (January 2017) available at http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.irponline.org/resource/resmgr/publications/IRP_agreement_eff_january_1_.pdf at p. 16 (last visited Jan. 11, 2018).

All apportionable vehicles domiciled in the state are required to be registered in accordance with the IRP and display “Apportioned” license plates.³

The IRP defines an apportionable vehicle as:⁴

[A]ny Power Unit that is used or intended for use in two or more Member Jurisdictions and that is used for the transportation of persons for hire or designed, used, or maintained primarily for the transportation of property, and:

- (i) Has two Axles and a gross Vehicle weight or registered gross Vehicle weight in excess of 26,000 pounds, or
- (ii) Has three or more Axles, regardless of weight, or
- (iii) Is used in combination, when the gross Vehicle weight of such combination exceeds 26,000 pounds.

Section 320.06, F.S., provides for motor vehicle registration certificates, license plates, and validation stickers. Registration license plates, which bear a graphic symbol and alphanumeric system of identification, are issued for a 10-year period. However, “Apportioned” license plates issued to vehicles registered under the IRP are issued annually.⁵ Each original license plate costs \$28, which is deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund (HSOTF). Apportioned vehicles are also issued an annual cab card that denotes the declared gross vehicle weight for each apportioned jurisdiction where the vehicle is authorized to operate.⁶

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill amends s. 320.06, F.S., providing that, beginning October 1, 2018, apportioned vehicles will be issued license plates valid for a 5-year period, instead of annually. If the license plate is damaged or worn prior to the end of the 5-year period, the DHSMV will replace the plate at no charge upon application and surrender of the current plate. Cab cards and validation stickers will continue to be issued annually, and the \$28 annual fee will apply to the issuance of an original or renewal validation sticker, instead of for the cost of the plate.

The bill takes effect October 1, 2018

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

³ Section 320.0715(1), F.S.

⁴ *Supra* note 2 at p. 12-13 (last visited Jan. 11, 2018). The definition excludes a recreational vehicle, a vehicle displaying restricted plates, or a government-owned vehicle. However, those excluded vehicles may choose to register under the IRP.

⁵ Section 320.06(1)(b)1., F.S.

⁶ See IRP, Inc., *State of Florida Apportioned Cab Card Sample*,

http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.irponline.org/resource/resmgr/cab_cards/fl_cc_sample.pdf (last visited Jan. 15, 2018).

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

IRP-registered vehicle owners will no longer pay a \$28 annual fee for an “apportioned” license plate, instead they will pay a \$28 annual fee for their validation sticker.

B. Private Sector Impact:

The bill may provide convenience to owners of vehicles registered with the IRP who will no longer be required to change their license plates annually.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The DHSMV estimates changes made by the bill will cost \$35,940 in programming and implementation costs.⁷

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

Section 320.0607(5), F.S., requires an applicant for an original license plate to pay a \$28 fee upon issuance of the plate. To remain consistent in Florida Statutes, this should be amended to provide that beginning October 1, 2018, the subsection does not apply to vehicles registered under the IRP.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends section 320.06 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

⁷ DHSMV, *2018 Agency Legislative Bill Analysis: SB 1104 – Vehicle Registration* (Jan. 10, 2018) (on file with the Senate Committee on Transportation).

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.
