

No. 97

**MOTOR VEHICLES—TRANSCRIBING INFORMATION
FROM RECORDS—REGISTRAR OF MOTOR VEHICLES**

Held: The registrar of motor vehicles shall furnish information concerning his records upon the payment by the applicant of the costs of transcribing the information requested.

April 25, 1941.

Mr. M. P. Trenne
Deputy Registrar of Motor Vehicles
Deer Lodge, Montana

Dear Mr. Trenne:

You have inquired as to the proper charge to be made to finance companies, credit bureaus, and attorneys for transcribing information contained in the records of the registrar of motor vehicles and have therefore requested my opinion concerning the same.

Section 1763.11 provides:

"All records provided for in the foregoing shall be open to inspection during all reasonable business hours, and the registrar of motor vehicles shall furnish the information from said records upon payment by the applicant of the cost of transcribing the information asked for."

The statute requires information contained in the records of the registrar's office be furnished to an applicant therefor at the cost of transcribing the information. I appreciate, however, that—under certain circumstances—the matter of reckoning the proper charge would be somewhat difficult. Nevertheless, this is the statutory requirement and the burden rests upon the registrar to figure the cost of transcribing the record and charge accordingly.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN W. BONNER
Attorney General