

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMITTEE

January 18, 1977

The Committee on Highways and Transportation was called to order on January 18, 1977, at 3:30 p.m. with Chairman William R. Baeth presiding and all members were present. Senators Graham, Manning and Aber were also in attendance from the Senate Highways Committee.

Chairman Baeth introduced Mike Mildahl, chief of Data Processing Bureau, Department of Justice. Mr. Mildahl distributed a report on Montana automobile registration figures and summarized it briefly. He also gave a history on the staggering license program and mentioned some newspaper articles on the subject. These clippings were given to the chairman for copying and distribution to the committee.

One of the problems he brought up was the exemptions for staggering registrations - personalized plates, state cars, certain trucks, trailers, motorcycles, snowmobiles and boats. This presents some confusion to the county treasurers. Another problem is notification of expiration dates.

Mr. Keyser asked if part of the problem is because enforcement is difficult because of the visibility of the license tags. He stated that it has been suggested that stickers in the vehicle window might be an answer. The number would represent the month and a color would represent the year. This would be much more visible for enforcement agencies in checking registrations. There would, of course, be a cost factor to be considered.

Jerry Rannig of the Montana Automobile Dealers Association said he had recently talked to the Highway Patrol and this subject is being studied.

Mr. Rannig also brought up the problems county officials are having with multiple registrations for people with a number of vehicles. He read to the committee the pertinent law and rules and regulations on multiple registrations. The chairman requested a copy of them.

Larry Huss, also a representative of MADA, stated that readjustment of anniversary dates on multiple registrations could complicate matters. There was a general discussion as to the different alternatives to this problem.

Senator Graham stated he felt county officials have not been fully informed and trained on staggered registrations. It was suggested new instructions be written for the county officials and that the language be kept simple and precise.

Mr. Kanduch brought up the subject of the title registration \$10 fee charged each time a title is transferred. He felt this should be eliminated.

The subject of assessment rules was brought up. Larry Huss stated that the blue book is received by the counties at the beginning of January and is kept the same all year.

Senator Aber mentioned a problem with GVW fees. Representative Keyser also stated there was a problem in getting GVW stickers on time.

Representative Mular made a suggestion that the House and Senate committees on Highways and Transportation issue a joint press release that the counties follow the staggering license rules and regulations closely.

Senator Aber explained to the committee about his work on the matter of legal turn-arounds on interstate highways.

The chairman announced that HB 82, 87, and HB 125 will be heard in the committee's meeting on January 20, 1977.

The chairman also announced that HB 158, 159 and HJR 11 will be heard in the committee's meeting on January 25, 1977.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

William R. Baeth
William R. Baeth, Chairman



State of Montana

Department of Justice

Michael T. Greely
ATTORNEY GENERAL

CENTRAL SERVICE DIVISION
1437 HELENA AVENUE
HELENA, MONTANA 59601

MONTANA AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATION

CO.	PASSENGER CARS	TRUCKS	TRAILERS	MOTORCYCLES	SNOWMOBILES
1	21549	8376	1985	1311	1060
2	44505	18060	4420	2623	3762
3	58377	23734	5549	2935	1218
4	37559	16354	4473	2772	1440
5	21352	9561	2451	1297	936
6	19716	9833	2415	1306	1623
7	25105	14931	3792	1655	1365
8	6732	5337	960	500	581
9	1201	1516	325	68	88
10	4466	3527	644	303	299
11	2407	2652	373	142	31
12	8887	6487	1194	757	357
13	9301	6581	1452	715	421
14	7016	4035	938	436	209
15	8482	6195	1249	506	301
16	5929	4409	776	489	125
17	4805	4526	570	233	96
18	3738	3035	709	298	280
19	3318	4376	612	290	337
20	5070	4006	512	378	188
21	3163	3055	518	200	143
22	4471	3848	449	98	124
23	2318	1965	400	130	80
24	2755	3048	438	162	141
25	2753	2436	569	207	233
26	3415	3705	591	289	291
27	5310	4804	655	330	122
28	3647	2318	552	250	349
29	4242	3369	602	258	128
30	6922	2947	735	391	600
31	3594	3632	606	211	149
32	2813	2470	361	163	96
33	534	737	92	27	18
34	3281	3414	395	219	119
35	3933	3356	523	271	136
36	1516	1794	255	110	137
37	1612	2116	247	69	78
38	4793	3831	672	180	331



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MONTANA AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATION (CON'T)

CO.	PASSENGER CARS	TRUCKS	TRAILERS	MOTORCYCLES	SNOWMOBILES
39	2042	1937	352	98	176
40	1439	1256	233	118	99
41	1372	1914	288	109	70
42	840	1172	161	38	40
43	1446	1491	241	66	85
44	1211	995	150	59	58
45	925	1025	141	62	20
46	1364	1130	199	117	132
47	948	987	202	51	231
48	1176	1699	211	123	108
49	7223	4177	1013	542	634
50	735	1163	209	39	16
51	2935	1962	344	191	135
52	775	929	101	61	17
53	485	595	106	21	10
54	1642	1241	219	148	133
55	262	402	84	11	16
56	7587	5687	999	578	535

TOTAL 394994 240138 49290 24957 17740

TITLE ONLY - 45572

PERSONALIZED PLATES - 7373

EXEMPT - 3026

TOTAL REGISTRATION - 783090



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STAGGERED AUTOMOBILES

<u>EXPIRATION TIME</u>	<u>NUMBER OF VEHICLES</u>
JANUARY 31	37245
FEBRUARY 28	39819
MARCH 31	42046
APRIL 30	43416
MAY 31	42043
JUNE 30	41913
JULY 31	42429
AUGUST 31	41759
SEPTEMBER 30	48356
OCTOBER 31	
NOVEMBER 30	
DECEMBER 31	54320
TOTAL	433346