

*Senate* BILL NO. 312  
*Arkhun*

1  
2 INTRODUCED BY \_\_\_\_\_

3  
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT  
5 REGISTRATION FEES AND THE REFLECTORIZATION FEE ASSESSED UPON  
6 MOTOR VEHICLES BEING REGISTERED OR REREGISTERED DO NOT APPLY  
7 IN THE EVENT A NUMBER PLATE IS TRANSFERRED TO A REPLACEMENT  
8 VEHICLE; AMENDING SECTIONS 53-106, 53-122, 53-146, AND  
9 53-147, R.C.M. 1947."

10  
11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

12 Section 1. Section 53-106, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to  
13 read as follows:

14 "53-106. Number plates. (1) Every motor vehicle which  
15 shall be driven upon the streets or highways of this state  
16 shall display both front and rear a number plate, bearing  
17 the distinctive number assigned such vehicle. Such number  
18 plate shall be in eight series: one series for owners of  
19 motor cars, one for owners of motor vehicles of the  
20 motorcycle type, one for trailers, one for trucks, one for  
21 dealers in vehicles of the motorcycle type which shall bear  
22 the distinctive letters "MCD" or the letters "MC" and the  
23 word "DEALER," one for franchised dealers in new motor cars  
24 (including trucks and trailers) or new and used motor cars  
25 (including trucks and trailers) which shall bear the

1 distinctive letter "D" or the word "DEALER," one for dealers  
2 in used motor cars only (including used trucks and trailers)  
3 which shall bear the distinctive letters "UD" or the letter  
4 "U" and the word "DEALER," and one for dealers in trailers  
5 and/or semitrailers (new or used) which shall bear the  
6 distinctive letters "DTR" or the letters "TR" and the word  
7 "DEALER," and all such markings for the aforementioned kinds  
8 of dealers' plates shall be placed on the number plates  
9 assigned thereto in such position thereon as the registrar  
10 may designate. All number plates for motor vehicles shall be  
11 issued for a minimum period of four years, provided that  
12 number plates shall next be issued in the year 1976 and as  
13 often thereafter as is consistent with the provisions of  
14 this section, shall bear a distinctive marking, and shall be  
15 furnished by the state. In years when number plates are not  
16 issued, the registrar shall provide nonremovable stickers  
17 bearing appropriate registration numbers which shall be  
18 affixed to the license plates in use.

19 (2) In the case of motor cars and trucks, number  
20 plates shall be of metal six inches wide and twelve inches  
21 in length, the number plates issued in the year 1976 to be  
22 of a graphic design commemorating the bicentennial of the  
23 founding of the United States of America, and the word  
24 "Montana" with the year placed on the plate. For number  
25 plates issued after 1976, the outline of the state of

1 Montana shall be used as a distinctive border on such  
 2 license plates, and the word "Montana" with the year shall  
 3 be placed across the bottom of the plate. Such registration  
 4 plate shall be treated with a reflectorized background  
 5 material according to specifications prescribed by the  
 6 registrar. ~~An~~ When a new plate is issued, an additional fee  
 7 of one dollar (\$1.00) per year for each registration of a  
 8 vehicle shall be added to the registration fee. Revenue from  
 9 this fee shall be forwarded by the respective county  
 10 treasurers to the state treasurer for deposit in the motor  
 11 vehicle recording account of the earmarked revenue fund.  
 12 Disbursements from the motor vehicle recording account shall  
 13 be made by warrant drawn by the registrar. The distinctive  
 14 registration numbers shall begin with a number one (1) or  
 15 with a letter-number combination such as "A 1" or "AA 1," or  
 16 any other similar combination of letters and numbers and be  
 17 numbered consecutively for each series of plates. The  
 18 distinctive registration number or letter-number combination  
 19 assigned to the vehicle shall appear on the plate preceded  
 20 by the number of the county and appearing in horizontal  
 21 order on the same horizontal base line, and the county  
 22 number shall be separated from the distinctive registration  
 23 number by a separation mark unless a letter-number  
 24 combination is used. The dimensions of such numerals and  
 25 letters shall be determined by the registrar of motor

1 vehicles, provided that all county and registration numbers  
 2 shall be of equal height.

3 (3) For the use of tax-exempt motor vehicles, in  
 4 addition to the markings herein provided, number plates  
 5 shall have thereon the following distinctive markings:

6 For vehicles owned by the state the registrar of motor  
 7 vehicles may designate the prefix number for the various  
 8 state departments, and all numbered plates issued to state  
 9 departments shall bear the words "State Owned" and no year  
 10 number will be indicated thereon as these numbered plates  
 11 will be of a permanent nature, and will be replaced by the  
 12 registrar of motor vehicles at such time when the physical  
 13 condition of numbered plates requires same. For vehicles  
 14 owned by the counties, municipalities and school districts  
 15 and used and operated by officials and employees thereof in  
 16 line of duty as such, and for vehicles on loan from the  
 17 United States government or the state of Montana, to, or  
 18 owned by, the civil air patrol and used and operated by  
 19 officials and employees thereof in the line of duty as such,  
 20 there shall be placed on the number plates assigned thereto,  
 21 in such position thereon as the registrar may designate, the  
 22 letter "X" or the word "EXEMPT." Distinctive registration  
 23 numbers for plates assigned to motor vehicles of each of the  
 24 counties in the state and those of the municipalities and  
 25 school districts situated within each of said counties shall

1 begin with number 1 and be numbered consecutively.

2 (4) On all number plates assigned to motor vehicles of  
3 the truck and trailer type, other than tax-exempt trucks and  
4 trailers, there shall appear the letter "T" or the word  
5 "TRUCK" for plates assigned to trucks and the letters "TR"  
6 or the word "TRAILER" for plates assigned to trailers, and  
7 housetrailer, and the letters "MC" or the word "CYCLE" for  
8 plates assigned to vehicles of the motorcycle type.

9 Number plates issued to a passenger car, truck, trailer  
10 or vehicle of the motorcycle type may be transferred only to  
11 a replacement passenger car, truck, trailer or motorcycle  
12 type vehicle. No registration or license fee may be assessed  
13 upon a transfer of a number plate under 53-146 and 53-147.

14 (5) For the purpose of this act, the several counties  
15 of the state shall be assigned numbers as follows: Silver  
16 Bow, 1; Cascade, 2; Yellowstone, 3; Missoula, 4; Lewis and  
17 Clark, 5; Gallatin, 6; Flathead, 7; Fergus, 8; Powder River,  
18 9; Carbon, 10; Phillips, 11; Hill, 12; Ravalli, 13; Custer,  
19 14; Lake, 15; Dawson, 16; Roosevelt, 17; Beaverhead, 18;  
20 Chouteau, 19; Valley, 20; Toole, 21; Big Horn, 22;  
21 Musselshell, 23; Blaine, 24; Madison, 25; Pondera, 26;  
22 Richland, 27; Powell, 28; Rosebud, 29; Deer Lodge, 30;  
23 Teton, 31; Stillwater, 32; Treasure, 33; Sheridan, 34;  
24 Sanders, 35; Judith Basin, 36; Daniels, 37; Glacier, 38;  
25 Fallon, 39; Sweet Grass, 40; McCone, 41; Carter, 42;

1 Broadwater, 43; Wheatland, 44; Prairie, 45; Granite, 46;  
2 Meagher, 47; Liberty, 48; Park, 49; Garfield, 50; Jefferson,  
3 51; Wibaux, 52; Golden Valley, 53; Mineral, 54; Petroleum,  
4 55; Lincoln, 56; any new counties shall be assigned numbers  
5 by the registrar of motor vehicles as they may be formed,  
6 beginning with the number 57."

7 Section 2. Section 53-122, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 "53-122. Registration fees of motor vehicles --  
10 registration and transfer thereof -- public owned vehicles  
11 exempt from license or registration fees -- license or  
12 registration fees for trailers, house trailers, semitrailers  
13 and tractors providing for disposition of all fees.  
14 Registration or license fees shall be paid upon registration  
15 or reregistration of motor vehicles, trailers, house  
16 trailers, semitrailers and dealers in motor vehicles or  
17 trailers in accordance with this act, as follows:

18 All dealers in motor vehicles, a fee of thirty dollars  
19 (\$30.00); which shall entitle such dealer to two (2) sets of  
20 number plates, and five dollars (\$5.00) additional fee for  
21 each additional set of number plates up to six (6) sets, and  
22 two dollars (\$2.00) additional fee for each additional set  
23 of number plates, as may be applied for;

24 Dealers in motorcycles, trailers including house  
25 trailers, thirty dollars (\$30);

1 Motor vehicles, weighing twenty-eight hundred and fifty  
2 (2850) pounds, or under, other than motor trucks, five  
3 dollars (\$5.00);

4 Motor vehicles, weighing over twenty-eight hundred and  
5 fifty (2850) pounds, other than motor trucks ten dollars  
6 (\$10.00);

7 Electrically driven passenger vehicles, ten dollars  
8 (\$10.00);

9 All motorcycles, two dollars (\$2.00);

10 Tractors and/or trucks, ten dollars (\$10.00);

11 Buses shall be classed as motor trucks and licensed  
12 accordingly;

13 Trailers and semitrailers less than two thousand five  
14 hundred (2,500) pounds maximum gross loaded weight and house  
15 trailers of all weights, two dollars (\$2.00);

16 Trailers and semitrailers over two thousand five  
17 hundred (2,500) up to six thousand (6,000) pounds maximum  
18 gross loaded weight, except house trailers, five dollars  
19 (\$5.00);

20 Trailers and semitrailers over six thousand (6,000)  
21 pounds maximum gross loaded weight, ten dollars (\$10.00);

22 Trailers used exclusively in the transportation of logs  
23 in the forest or in the transportation of oil and gas well  
24 machinery, road machinery and bridge material exclusively,  
25 new and secondhand, and trailers used exclusively for the

1 transportation of road machinery and bridge materials, shall  
2 pay a fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) annually, regardless  
3 of size or capacity.

4 All rates to be twenty-five per cent (25%) higher for  
5 motor vehicles, trailers and semitrailers, when not equipped  
6 with pneumatic tires.

7 Bicycles with motor attachment, one dollar (\$1.00);

8 Tractors, as specified in this section, shall mean any  
9 motor vehicle, except passenger cars used for towing a  
10 trailer or semitrailer.

11 If any dealer, or motor vehicle, house trailer,  
12 trailer, or semitrailer is originally registered six (6)  
13 months after the time of registration as set by law, the  
14 registration or license fee for the remainder of such year  
15 shall be one-half (1/2) of the regular fee above given.

16 A dealer in motor vehicles or trailers who shall  
17 maintain more than one (1) place of business or who shall  
18 maintain any branch establishment or establishments, must  
19 register and pay a registration or license fee for each such  
20 place of business or establishment.

21 A registered dealer, who may sell or dispose of his  
22 entire business to any other person, may have his  
23 certificate of registration transferred to such purchaser  
24 upon filing with the registrar of motor vehicles a statement  
25 containing the name of the registered dealer, the number

1 under which such dealer is registered, the name of the  
 2 purchaser, and the location of the place of business so  
 3 sold. Upon the filing of such statement, accompanied by a  
 4 filing fee of two dollars (\$2.00), the registrar of motor  
 5 vehicles shall note upon the registration record of such  
 6 dealer the change of ownership. But no certificate of  
 7 registration can be transferred unless the entire business  
 8 of the dealer holding such certificate of registration be  
 9 sold and disposed of, and no such certificate of  
 10 registration can be transferred to any person other than the  
 11 purchasers of such business.

12 The provisions of this act with respect to the payment  
 13 of registration fees shall not apply to or be binding upon  
 14 motor vehicles, trailers or semitrailers or tractors owned  
 15 or controlled by the United States of America or any state,  
 16 county or city, but in all other respects the provisions of  
 17 this act shall be applicable to and binding upon motor  
 18 vehicles, tractors, trailers, and semitrailers.

19 The provisions of this section relating to the payment  
 20 of registration fees do not apply when number plates are  
 21 transferred to a replacement vehicle under 53-106(4),  
 22 53-146, and 53-147.

23 All fees, other than license fees, unless otherwise  
 24 specifically provided, shall hereafter be deposited in, and  
 25 paid into, the earmarked revenue fund and shall be used to

1 pay all salaries, operating expenses, and all other expenses  
 2 of the department of the registrar of motor vehicles,  
 3 including the manufacture and delivery of license plates.  
 4 Any reference in this code to the motor vehicle recording  
 5 fund or the motor vehicle administration fund shall be taken  
 6 to mean the motor vehicle recording account in the earmarked  
 7 revenue fund."

8 Section 3. Section 53-146, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to  
 9 read as follows:

10 "53-146. Transfer of license plates to another motor  
 11 vehicle. Should the transferor make application for the  
 12 registration of another motor vehicle at any time during the  
 13 remainder of the current registration year as shown on the  
 14 original certificate of registration, he may file an  
 15 application, in the office of the county treasurer where the  
 16 motor vehicle is taxable, upon a form to be prepared and  
 17 furnished by the registrar of motor vehicles, accompanied by  
 18 the original certificate of registration, for the transfer  
 19 of the license plates. The application for transfer of the  
 20 license plates from the motor vehicle for which originally  
 21 issued to a motor vehicle acquired by the same person in  
 22 whose name the original license plates were issued shall be  
 23 made within ten (10) days from date of acquiring the  
 24 vehicle. The use of the license plates shall not be  
 25 legalized until proper transfer of license plates has been

1 made."

2 Section 4. Section 53-147, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to  
3 read as follows:

4 "53-147. New registration required for transferred  
5 vehicle--grace period--penalty--display of proof of  
6 purchase. Except as otherwise provided herein, the new owner  
7 of the transferred motor vehicle shall have the grace period  
8 of ten (10) days from the date of purchase to make  
9 application and pay the registration--fees--and taxes as  
10 provided by section 53-114, as if the same was being  
11 registered for the first time in that registration year,  
12 and, provided the motor vehicle was not purchased from a  
13 duly licensed motor vehicle dealer as provided in this  
14 chapter, it shall not be a violation of this chapter or any  
15 other law for the purchaser to operate the vehicle upon the  
16 streets and highways of this state without a certificate of  
17 registration during the ten (10) day period; provided,  
18 however, that at all times during that period a bill of sale  
19 or other proof of purchase reciting the date of purchase  
20 shall be clearly displayed in the rear window of the motor  
21 vehicle at all times. Registration and license fees  
22 collected under 53-122 are not required to be paid when a  
23 license plate is transferred under this section and 53-146.  
24 Failure to make application within the time provided herein  
25 shall subject the purchaser to a penalty of ten dollars

1 (\$10), plus one dollar (\$1) for each additional day in which  
2 the vehicle remains unregistered, not to exceed twenty-five  
3 dollars (\$25). The penalty shall be collected by the county  
4 treasurer at the time of registration, and shall be in  
5 addition to the fees otherwise provided by law."

-End-

Approved by Committee  
on Highways & Transportation

*Senate* BILL NO. 312  
*Adkins*

1  
2 INTRODUCED BY \_\_\_\_\_  
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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT  
5 REGISTRATION FEES AND THE REFLECTORIZATION FEE ASSESSED UPON  
6 MOTOR VEHICLES BEING REGISTERED OR REREGISTERED DO NOT APPLY  
7 IN THE EVENT A NUMBER PLATE IS TRANSFERRED TO A REPLACEMENT  
8 VEHICLE; AMENDING SECTIONS 53-106, 53-122, 53-146, AND  
9 53-147, R.C.M. 1947."

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11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:  
12 Section 1. Section 53-106, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to  
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14 "53-106. Number plates. (1) Every motor vehicle which  
15 shall be driven upon the streets or highways of this state  
16 shall display both front and rear a number plate, bearing  
17 the distinctive number assigned such vehicle. Such number  
18 plate shall be in eight series: one series for owners of  
19 motor cars, one for owners of motor vehicles of the  
20 motorcycle type, one for trailers, one for trucks, one for  
21 dealers in vehicles of the motorcycle type which shall bear  
22 the distinctive letters "MCD" or the letters "MC" and the  
23 word "DEALER," one for franchised dealers in new motor cars  
24 (including trucks and trailers) or new and used motor cars  
25 (including trucks and trailers) which shall bear the

1 distinctive letter "D" or the word "DEALER," one for dealers  
2 in used motor cars only (including used trucks and trailers)  
3 which shall bear the distinctive letters "UD" or the letter  
4 "U" and the word "DEALER," and one for dealers in trailers  
5 and/or semitrailers (new or used) which shall bear the  
6 distinctive letters "DTR" or the letters "TR" and the word  
7 "DEALER," and all such markings for the aforementioned kinds  
8 of dealers' plates shall be placed on the number plates  
9 assigned thereto in such position thereon as the registrar  
10 may designate. All number plates for motor vehicles shall be  
11 issued for a minimum period of four years, provided that  
12 number plates shall next be issued in the year 1976 and as  
13 often thereafter as is consistent with the provisions of  
14 this section, shall bear a distinctive marking, and shall be  
15 furnished by the state. In years when number plates are not  
16 issued, the registrar shall provide nonremovable stickers  
17 bearing appropriate registration numbers which shall be  
18 affixed to the license plates in use.

19 (2) In the case of motor cars and trucks, number  
20 plates shall be of metal six inches wide and twelve inches  
21 in length, the number plates issued in the year 1976 to be  
22 of a graphic design commemorating the bicentennial of the  
23 founding of the United States of America, and the word  
24 "Montana" with the year placed on the plate. For number  
25 plates issued after 1976, the outline of the state of

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1 Montana shall be used as a distinctive border on such  
 2 license plates, and the word "Montana" with the year shall  
 3 be placed across the bottom of the plate. Such registration  
 4 plate shall be treated with a reflectorized background  
 5 material according to specifications prescribed by the  
 6 registrar. ~~An~~ When a new plate is issued, an additional fee  
 7 of one dollar (\$1.00) per year for each registration of a  
 8 vehicle shall be added to the registration fee. Revenue from  
 9 this fee shall be forwarded by the respective county  
 10 treasurers to the state treasurer for deposit in the motor  
 11 vehicle recording account of the earmarked revenue fund.  
 12 Disbursements from the motor vehicle recording account shall  
 13 be made by warrant drawn by the registrar. The distinctive  
 14 registration numbers shall begin with a number one (1) or  
 15 with a letter-number combination such as "A 1" or "AA 1," or  
 16 any other similar combination of letters and numbers and be  
 17 numbered consecutively for each series of plates. The  
 18 distinctive registration number or letter-number combination  
 19 assigned to the vehicle shall appear on the plate preceded  
 20 by the number of the county and appearing in horizontal  
 21 order on the same horizontal base line, and the county  
 22 number shall be separated from the distinctive registration  
 23 number by a separation mark unless a letter-number  
 24 combination is used. The dimensions of such numerals and  
 25 letters shall be determined by the registrar of motor

1 vehicles, provided that all county and registration numbers  
 2 shall be of equal height.

3 (3) For the use of tax-exempt motor vehicles, in  
 4 addition to the markings herein provided, number plates  
 5 shall have thereon the following distinctive markings:

6 For vehicles owned by the state the registrar of motor  
 7 vehicles may designate the prefix number for the various  
 8 state departments, and all numbered plates issued to state  
 9 departments shall bear the words "State Owned" and no year  
 10 number will be indicated thereon as these numbered plates  
 11 will be of a permanent nature, and will be replaced by the  
 12 registrar of motor vehicles at such time when the physical  
 13 condition of numbered plates requires same. For vehicles  
 14 owned by the counties, municipalities and school districts  
 15 and used and operated by officials and employees thereof in  
 16 line of duty as such, and for vehicles on loan from the  
 17 United States government or the state of Montana, to, or  
 18 owned by, the civil air patrol and used and operated by  
 19 officials and employees thereof in the line of duty as such,  
 20 there shall be placed on the number plates assigned thereto,  
 21 in such position thereon as the registrar may designate, the  
 22 letter "X" or the word "EXEMPT." Distinctive registration  
 23 numbers for plates assigned to motor vehicles of each of the  
 24 counties in the state and those of the municipalities and  
 25 school districts situated within each of said counties shall



1 begin with number 1 and be numbered consecutively.

2 (4) On all number plates assigned to motor vehicles of  
3 the truck and trailer type, other than tax-exempt trucks and  
4 trailers, there shall appear the letter "T" or the word  
5 "TRUCK" for plates assigned to trucks and the letters "TR"  
6 or the word "TRAILER" for plates assigned to trailers, and  
7 house trailers, and the letters "MC" or the word "CYCLE" for  
8 plates assigned to vehicles of the motorcycle type.

9 Number plates issued to a passenger car, truck, trailer  
10 or vehicle of the motorcycle type may be transferred only to  
11 a replacement passenger car, truck, trailer or motorcycle  
12 type vehicle. No registration or license fee may be assessed  
13 upon a transfer of a number plate under 53-146 and 53-147.

14 (5) For the purpose of this act, the several counties  
15 of the state shall be assigned numbers as follows: Silver  
16 Bow, 1; Cascade, 2; Yellowstone, 3; Missoula, 4; Lewis and  
17 Clark, 5; Gallatin, 6; Flathead, 7; Fergus, 8; Powder River,  
18 9; Carbon, 10; Phillips, 11; Hill, 12; Ravalli, 13; Custer,  
19 14; Lake, 15; Dawson, 16; Roosevelt, 17; Beaverhead, 18;  
20 Chouteau, 19; Valley, 20; Toole, 21; Big Horn, 22;  
21 Musselshell, 23; Blaine, 24; Madison, 25; Pondera, 26;  
22 Richland, 27; Powell, 28; Rosebud, 29; Deer Lodge, 30;  
23 Teton, 31; Stillwater, 32; Treasure, 33; Sheridan, 34;  
24 Sanders, 35; Judith Basin, 36; Daniels, 37; Glacier, 38;  
25 Fallon, 39; Sweet Grass, 40; McCone, 41; Carter, 42;

1 Broadwater, 43; Wheatland, 44; Prairie, 45; Granite, 46;  
2 Meagher, 47; Liberty, 48; Park, 49; Garfield, 50; Jefferson,  
3 51; Wibaux, 52; Golden Valley, 53; Mineral, 54; Petroleum,  
4 55; Lincoln, 56; any new counties shall be assigned numbers  
5 by the registrar of motor vehicles as they may be formed,  
6 beginning with the number 57."

7 Section 2. Section 53-122, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 "53-122. Registration fees of motor vehicles --  
10 registration and transfer thereof -- public owned vehicles  
11 exempt from license or registration fees -- license or  
12 registration fees for trailers, house trailers, semitrailers  
13 and tractors providing for disposition of all fees.  
14 Registration or license fees shall be paid upon registration  
15 or reregistration of motor vehicles, trailers, house  
16 trailers, semitrailers and dealers in motor vehicles or  
17 trailers in accordance with this act, as follows:

18 All dealers in motor vehicles, a fee of thirty dollars  
19 (\$30.00); which shall entitle such dealer to two (2) sets of  
20 number plates, and five dollars (\$5.00) additional fee for  
21 each additional set of number plates up to six (6) sets, and  
22 two dollars (\$2.00) additional fee for each additional set  
23 of number plates, as may be applied for;

24 Dealers in motorcycles, trailers including house  
25 trailers, thirty dollars (\$30);

1 Motor vehicles, weighing twenty-eight hundred and fifty  
2 (2850) pounds, or under, other than motor trucks, five  
3 dollars (\$5.00);

4 Motor vehicles, weighing over twenty-eight hundred and  
5 fifty (2850) pounds, other than motor trucks ten dollars  
6 (\$10.00);

7 Electrically driven passenger vehicles, ten dollars  
8 (\$10.00);

9 All motorcycles, two dollars (\$2.00);

10 Tractors and/or trucks, ten dollars (\$10.00);

11 Buses shall be classed as motor trucks and licensed  
12 accordingly;

13 Trailers and semitrailers less than two thousand five  
14 hundred (2,500) pounds maximum gross loaded weight and house  
15 trailers of all weights, two dollars (\$2.00);

16 Trailers and semitrailers over two thousand five  
17 hundred (2,500) up to six thousand (6,000) pounds maximum  
18 gross loaded weight, except house trailers, five dollars  
19 (\$5.00);

20 Trailers and semitrailers over six thousand (6,000)  
21 pounds maximum gross loaded weight, ten dollars (\$10.00);

22 Trailers used exclusively in the transportation of logs  
23 in the forest or in the transportation of oil and gas well  
24 machinery, road machinery and bridge material exclusively,  
25 new and secondhand, and trailers used exclusively for the

1 transportation of road machinery and bridge materials, shall  
2 pay a fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) annually, regardless  
3 of size or capacity.

4 All rates to be twenty-five per cent (25%) higher for  
5 motor vehicles, trailers and semitrailers, when not equipped  
6 with pneumatic tires.

7 Bicycles with motor attachment, one dollar (\$1.00);

8 Tractors, as specified in this section, shall mean any  
9 motor vehicle, except passenger cars used for towing a  
10 trailer or semitrailer.

11 If any dealer, or motor vehicle, house trailer,  
12 trailer, or semitrailer is originally registered six (6)  
13 months after the time of registration as set by law, the  
14 registration or license fee for the remainder of such year  
15 shall be one-half (1/2) of the regular fee above given.

16 A dealer in motor vehicles or trailers who shall  
17 maintain more than one (1) place of business or who shall  
18 maintain any branch establishment or establishments, must  
19 register and pay a registration or license fee for each such  
20 place of business or establishment.

21 A registered dealer, who may sell or dispose of his  
22 entire business to any other person, may have his  
23 certificate of registration transferred to such purchaser  
24 upon filing with the registrar of motor vehicles a statement  
25 containing the name of the registered dealer, the number

1 under which such dealer is registered, the name of the  
 2 purchaser, and the location of the place of business so  
 3 sold. Upon the filing of such statement, accompanied by a  
 4 filing fee of two dollars (\$2.00), the registrar of motor  
 5 vehicles shall note upon the registration record of such  
 6 dealer the change of ownership. But no certificate of  
 7 registration can be transferred unless the entire business  
 8 of the dealer holding such certificate of registration be  
 9 sold and disposed of, and no such certificate of  
 10 registration can be transferred to any person other than the  
 11 purchasers of such business.

12 The provisions of this act with respect to the payment  
 13 of registration fees shall not apply to or be binding upon  
 14 motor vehicles, trailers or semitrailers or tractors owned  
 15 or controlled by the United States of America or any state,  
 16 county or city, but in all other respects the provisions of  
 17 this act shall be applicable to and binding upon motor  
 18 vehicles, tractors, trailers, and semitrailers.

19 The provisions of this section relating to the payment  
 20 of registration fees do not apply when number plates are  
 21 transferred to a replacement vehicle under 53-106(4),  
 22 53-146, and 53-147.

23 All fees, other than license fees, unless otherwise  
 24 specifically provided, shall hereafter be deposited in, and  
 25 paid into, the earmarked revenue fund and shall be used to

1 pay all salaries, operating expenses, and all other expenses  
 2 of the department of the registrar of motor vehicles,  
 3 including the manufacturer and delivery of license plates.  
 4 Any reference in this code to the motor vehicle recording  
 5 fund or the motor vehicle administration fund shall be taken  
 6 to mean the motor vehicle recording account in the earmarked  
 7 revenue fund."

8 Section 3. Section 53-146, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to  
 9 read as follows:

10 "53-146. Transfer of license plates to another motor  
 11 vehicle. Should the transferor make application for the  
 12 registration of another motor vehicle at any time during the  
 13 remainder of the current registration year as shown on the  
 14 original certificate of registration, he may file an  
 15 application, in the office of the county treasurer where the  
 16 motor vehicle is taxable, upon a form to be prepared and  
 17 furnished by the registrar of motor vehicles, accompanied by  
 18 the original certificate of registration, for the transfer  
 19 of the license plates. The application for transfer of the  
 20 license plates from the motor vehicle for which originally  
 21 issued to a motor vehicle acquired by the same person in  
 22 whose name the original license plates were issued shall be  
 23 made within ten (10) days from date of acquiring the  
 24 vehicle. The use of the license plates shall not be  
 25 legalized until proper transfer of license plates has been

1 made."

2 Section 4. Section 53-147, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to  
3 read as follows:

4 "53-147. New registration required for transferred  
5 vehicle--grace period--penalty--display of proof of  
6 purchase. Except as otherwise provided herein, the new owner  
7 of the transferred motor vehicle shall have the grace period  
8 of ten (10) days from the date of purchase to make  
9 application and pay the registration--fees--and taxes as  
10 provided by section 53-114, as if the same was being  
11 registered for the first time in that registration year,  
12 and, provided the motor vehicle was not purchased from a  
13 duly licensed motor vehicle dealer as provided in this  
14 chapter, it shall not be a violation of this chapter or any  
15 other law for the purchaser to operate the vehicle upon the  
16 streets and highways of this state without a certificate of  
17 registration during the ten (10) day period; provided,  
18 however, that at all times during that period a bill of sale  
19 or other proof of purchase reciting the date of purchase  
20 shall be clearly displayed in the rear window of the motor  
21 vehicle at all times. Registration and license fees  
22 collected under 53-122 are not required to be paid when a  
23 license plate is transferred under this section and 53-146.  
24 Failure to make application within the time provided herein  
25 shall subject the purchaser to a penalty of ten dollars

1 (\$10), plus one dollar (\$1) for each additional day in which  
2 the vehicle remains unregistered, not to exceed twenty-five  
3 dollars (\$25). The penalty shall be collected by the county  
4 treasurer at the time of registration, and shall be in  
5 addition to the fees otherwise provided by law."

-End-

1 *Senate* BILL NO. *312*  
 2 INTRODUCED BY *Arakun*

3  
 4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT  
 5 REGISTRATION FEES AND THE REFLECTORIZATION FEE ASSESSED UPON  
 6 MOTOR VEHICLES BEING REGISTERED OR REREGISTERED DO NOT APPLY  
 7 IN THE EVENT A NUMBER PLATE IS TRANSFERRED TO A REPLACEMENT  
 8 VEHICLE; AMENDING SECTIONS 53-106, 53-122, 53-146, AND  
 9 53-147, R.C.M. 1947."

10  
 11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

12 Section 1. Section 53-106, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to  
 13 read as follows:

14 "53-106. Number plates. (1) Every motor vehicle which  
 15 shall be driven upon the streets or highways of this state  
 16 shall display both front and rear a number plate, bearing  
 17 the distinctive number assigned such vehicle. Such number  
 18 plate shall be in eight series: one series for owners of  
 19 motor cars, one for owners of motor vehicles of the  
 20 motorcycle type, one for trailers, one for trucks, one for  
 21 dealers in vehicles of the motorcycle type which shall bear  
 22 the distinctive letters "MCD" or the letters "MC" and the  
 23 word "DEALER," one for franchised dealers in new motor cars  
 24 (including trucks and trailers) or new and used motor cars  
 25 (including trucks and trailers) which shall bear the

1 distinctive letter "D" or the word "DEALER," one for dealers  
 2 in used motor cars only (including used trucks and trailers)  
 3 which shall bear the distinctive letters "UD" or the letter  
 4 "U" and the word "DEALER," and one for dealers in trailers  
 5 and/or semitrailers (new or used) which shall bear the  
 6 distinctive letters "DTR" or the letters "TR" and the word  
 7 "DEALER," and all such markings for the aforementioned kinds  
 8 of dealers' plates shall be placed on the number plates  
 9 assigned thereto in such position thereon as the registrar  
 10 may designate. All number plates for motor vehicles shall be  
 11 issued for a minimum period of four years, provided that  
 12 number plates shall next be issued in the year 1976 and as  
 13 often thereafter as is consistent with the provisions of  
 14 this section, shall bear a distinctive marking, and shall be  
 15 furnished by the state. In years when number plates are not  
 16 issued, the registrar shall provide nonremovable stickers  
 17 bearing appropriate registration numbers which shall be  
 18 affixed to the license plates in use.

19 (2) In the case of motor cars and trucks, number  
 20 plates shall be of metal six inches wide and twelve inches  
 21 in length, the number plates issued in the year 1976 to be  
 22 of a graphic design commemorating the bicentennial of the  
 23 founding of the United States of America, and the word  
 24 "Montana" with the year placed on the plate. For number  
 25 plates issued after 1976, the outline of the state of

1 Montana shall be used as a distinctive border on such  
 2 license plates, and the word "Montana" with the year shall  
 3 be placed across the bottom of the plate. Such registration  
 4 plate shall be treated with a reflectorized background  
 5 material according to specifications prescribed by the  
 6 registrar. ~~An~~ When a new plate is issued, an additional fee  
 7 of one dollar (\$1.00) per year for each registration of a  
 8 vehicle shall be added to the registration fee. Revenue from  
 9 this fee shall be forwarded by the respective county  
 10 treasurers to the state treasurer for deposit in the motor  
 11 vehicle recording account of the earmarked revenue fund.  
 12 Disbursements from the motor vehicle recording account shall  
 13 be made by warrant drawn by the registrar. The distinctive  
 14 registration numbers shall begin with a number one (1) or  
 15 with a letter-number combination such as "A 1" or "AA 1," or  
 16 any other similar combination of letters and numbers and be  
 17 numbered consecutively for each series of plates. The  
 18 distinctive registration number or letter-number combination  
 19 assigned to the vehicle shall appear on the plate preceded  
 20 by the number of the county and appearing in horizontal  
 21 order on the same horizontal base line, and the county  
 22 number shall be separated from the distinctive registration  
 23 number by a separation mark unless a letter-number  
 24 combination is used. The dimensions of such numerals and  
 25 letters shall be determined by the registrar of motor

1 vehicles, provided that all county and registration numbers  
 2 shall be of equal height.

3 (3) For the use of tax-exempt motor vehicles, in  
 4 addition to the markings herein provided, number plates  
 5 shall have thereon the following distinctive markings:

6 For vehicles owned by the state the registrar of motor  
 7 vehicles may designate the prefix number for the various  
 8 state departments, and all numbered plates issued to state  
 9 departments shall bear the words "State Owned" and no year  
 10 number will be indicated thereon as these numbered plates  
 11 will be of a permanent nature, and will be replaced by the  
 12 registrar of motor vehicles at such time when the physical  
 13 condition of numbered plates requires same. For vehicles  
 14 owned by the counties, municipalities and school districts  
 15 and used and operated by officials and employees thereof in  
 16 line of duty as such, and for vehicles on loan from the  
 17 United States government or the state of Montana, to, or  
 18 owned by, the civil air patrol and used and operated by  
 19 officials and employees thereof in the line of duty as such,  
 20 there shall be placed on the number plates assigned thereto,  
 21 in such position thereon as the registrar may designate, the  
 22 letter "X" or the word "EXEMPT." Distinctive registration  
 23 numbers for plates assigned to motor vehicles of each of the  
 24 counties in the state and those of the municipalities and  
 25 school districts situated within each of said counties shall

1 begin with number 1 and be numbered consecutively.

2 (4) On all number plates assigned to motor vehicles of  
3 the truck and trailer type, other than tax-exempt trucks and  
4 trailers, there shall appear the letter "T" or the word  
5 "TRUCK" for plates assigned to trucks and the letters "TR"  
6 or the word "TRAILER" for plates assigned to trailers, and  
7 housetrailer, and the letters "MC" or the word "CYCLE" for  
8 plates assigned to vehicles of the motorcycle type.

9 Number plates issued to a passenger car, truck, trailer  
10 or vehicle of the motorcycle type may be transferred only to  
11 a replacement passenger car, truck, trailer or motorcycle  
12 type vehicle. No registration or license fee may be assessed  
13 upon a transfer of a number plate under 53-146 and 53-147.

14 (5) For the purpose of this act, the several counties  
15 of the state shall be assigned numbers as follows: Silver  
16 Bow, 1; Cascade, 2; Yellowstone, 3; Missoula, 4; Lewis and  
17 Clark, 5; Gallatin, 6; Flathead, 7; Fergus, 8; Powder River,  
18 9; Carbon, 10; Phillips, 11; Hill, 12; Ravalli, 13; Custer,  
19 14; Lake, 15; Dawson, 16; Roosevelt, 17; Beaverhead, 18;  
20 Chouteau, 19; Valley, 20; Toole, 21; Big Horn, 22;  
21 Musselshell, 23; Blaine, 24; Madison, 25; Pondera, 26;  
22 Richland, 27; Powell, 28; Rosebud, 29; Deer Lodge, 30;  
23 Teton, 31; Stillwater, 32; Treasure, 33; Sheridan, 34;  
24 Sanders, 35; Judith Basin, 36; Daniels, 37; Glacier, 38;  
25 Fallon, 39; Sweet Grass, 40; McCone, 41; Carter, 42;

1 Broadwater, 43; Wheatland, 44; Prairie, 45; Granite, 46;  
2 Meagher, 47; Liberty, 48; Park, 49; Garfield, 50; Jefferson,  
3 51; Wibaux, 52; Golden Valley, 53; Mineral, 54; Petroleum,  
4 55; Lincoln, 56; any new counties shall be assigned numbers  
5 by the registrar of motor vehicles as they may be formed,  
6 beginning with the number 57."

7 Section 2. Section 53-122, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 "53-122. Registration fees of motor vehicles --  
10 registration and transfer thereof -- public owned vehicles  
11 exempt from license or registration fees -- license or  
12 registration fees for trailers, house trailers, semitrailers  
13 and tractors providing for disposition of all fees.  
14 Registration or license fees shall be paid upon registration  
15 or reregistration of motor vehicles, trailers, house  
16 trailers, semitrailers and dealers in motor vehicles or  
17 trailers in accordance with this act, as follows:

18 All dealers in motor vehicles, a fee of thirty dollars  
19 (\$30.00); which shall entitle such dealer to two (2) sets of  
20 number plates, and five dollars (\$5.00) additional fee for  
21 each additional set of number plates up to six (6) sets, and  
22 two dollars (\$2.00) additional fee for each additional set  
23 of number plates, as may be applied for;

24 Dealers in motorcycles, trailers including house  
25 trailers, thirty dollars (\$30);

1 Motor vehicles, weighing twenty-eight hundred and fifty  
2 (2850) pounds, or under, other than motor trucks, five  
3 dollars (\$5.00);

4 Motor vehicles, weighing over twenty-eight hundred and  
5 fifty (2850) pounds, other than motor trucks ten dollars  
6 (\$10.00);

7 Electrically driven passenger vehicles, ten dollars  
8 (\$10.00);

9 All motorcycles, two dollars (\$2.00);

10 Tractors and/or trucks, ten dollars (\$10.00);

11 Buses shall be classed as motor trucks and licensed  
12 accordingly;

13 Trailers and semitrailers less than two thousand five  
14 hundred (2,500) pounds maximum gross loaded weight and house  
15 trailers of all weights, two dollars (\$2.00);

16 Trailers and semitrailers over two thousand five  
17 hundred (2,500) up to six thousand (6,000) pounds maximum  
18 gross loaded weight, except house trailers, five dollars  
19 (\$5.00);

20 Trailers and semitrailers over six thousand (6,000)  
21 pounds maximum gross loaded weight, ten dollars (\$10.00);

22 Trailers used exclusively in the transportation of logs  
23 in the forest or in the transportation of oil and gas well  
24 machinery, road machinery and bridge material exclusively,  
25 new and secondhand, and trailers used exclusively for the

1 transportation of road machinery and bridge materials, shall  
2 pay a fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) annually, regardless  
3 of size or capacity.

4 All rates to be twenty-five per cent (25%) higher for  
5 motor vehicles, trailers and semitrailers, when not equipped  
6 with pneumatic tires.

7 Bicycles with motor attachment, one dollar (\$1.00);

8 Tractors, as specified in this section, shall mean any  
9 motor vehicle, except passenger cars used for towing a  
10 trailer or semitrailer.

11 If any dealer, or motor vehicle, house trailer,  
12 trailer, or semitrailer is originally registered six (6)  
13 months after the time of registration as set by law, the  
14 registration or license fee for the remainder of such year  
15 shall be one-half (1/2) of the regular fee above given.

16 A dealer in motor vehicles or trailers who shall  
17 maintain more than one (1) place of business or who shall  
18 maintain any branch establishment or establishments, must  
19 register and pay a registration or license fee for each such  
20 place of business or establishment.

21 A registered dealer, who may sell or dispose of his  
22 entire business to any other person, may have his  
23 certificate of registration transferred to such purchaser  
24 upon filing with the registrar of motor vehicles a statement  
25 containing the name of the registered dealer, the number



1 under which such dealer is registered, the name of the  
 2 purchaser, and the location of the place of business so  
 3 sold. Upon the filing of such statement, accompanied by a  
 4 filing fee of two dollars (\$2.00), the registrar of motor  
 5 vehicles shall note upon the registration record of such  
 6 dealer the change of ownership. But no certificate of  
 7 registration can be transferred unless the entire business  
 8 of the dealer holding such certificate of registration be  
 9 sold and disposed of, and no such certificate of  
 10 registration can be transferred to any person other than the  
 11 purchasers of such business.

12 The provisions of this act with respect to the payment  
 13 of registration fees shall not apply to or be binding upon  
 14 motor vehicles, trailers or semitrailers or tractors owned  
 15 or controlled by the United States of America or any state,  
 16 county or city, but in all other respects the provisions of  
 17 this act shall be applicable to and binding upon motor  
 18 vehicles, tractors, trailers, and semitrailers.

19 The provisions of this section relating to the payment  
 20 of registration fees do not apply when number plates are  
 21 transferred to a replacement vehicle under 53-106(4),  
 22 53-146, and 53-147.

23 All fees, other than license fees, unless otherwise  
 24 specifically provided, shall hereafter be deposited in, and  
 25 paid into, the earmarked revenue fund and shall be used to

1 pay all salaries, operating expenses, and all other expenses  
 2 of the department of the registrar of motor vehicles,  
 3 including the manufacturer and delivery of license plates.  
 4 Any reference in this code to the motor vehicle recording  
 5 fund or the motor vehicle administration fund shall be taken  
 6 to mean the motor vehicle recording account in the earmarked  
 7 revenue fund."

8 Section 3. Section 53-146, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to  
 9 read as follows:

10 "53-146. Transfer of license plates to another motor  
 11 vehicle. Should the transferor make application for the  
 12 registration of another motor vehicle at any time during the  
 13 remainder of the current registration year as shown on the  
 14 original certificate of registration, he may file an  
 15 application, in the office of the county treasurer where the  
 16 motor vehicle is taxable, upon a form to be prepared and  
 17 furnished by the registrar of motor vehicles, accompanied by  
 18 the original certificate of registration, for the transfer  
 19 of the license plates. The application for transfer of the  
 20 license plates from the motor vehicle for which originally  
 21 issued to a motor vehicle acquired by the same person in  
 22 whose name the original license plates were issued shall be  
 23 made within ten (10) days from date of acquiring the  
 24 vehicle. The use of the license plates shall not be  
 25 legalized until proper transfer of license plates has been

1 made."

2 Section 4. Section 53-147, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to  
3 read as follows:

4 "53-147. New registration required for transferred  
5 vehicle--grace period--penalty--display of proof of  
6 purchase. Except as otherwise provided herein, the new owner  
7 of the transferred motor vehicle shall have the grace period  
8 of ten (10) days from the date of purchase to make  
9 application and pay the registration--fees--and taxes as  
10 provided by section 53-114, as if the same was being  
11 registered for the first time in that registration year,  
12 and, provided the motor vehicle was not purchased from a  
13 duly licensed motor vehicle dealer as provided in this  
14 chapter, it shall not be a violation of this chapter or any  
15 other law for the purchaser to operate the vehicle upon the  
16 streets and highways of this state without a certificate of  
17 registration during the ten (10) day period; provided,  
18 however, that at all times during that period a bill of sale  
19 or other proof of purchase reciting the date of purchase  
20 shall be clearly displayed in the rear window of the motor  
21 vehicle at all times. Registration and license fees  
22 collected under 53-122 are not required to be paid when a  
23 license plate is transferred under this section and 53-146.  
24 Failure to make application within the time provided herein  
25 shall subject the purchaser to a penalty of ten dollars

1 (\$10), plus one dollar (\$1) for each additional day in which  
2 the vehicle remains unregistered, not to exceed twenty-five  
3 dollars (\$25). The penalty shall be collected by the county  
4 treasurer at the time of registration, and shall be in  
5 addition to the fees otherwise provided by law."

-End-

1 SENATE BILL NO. 312

2 INTRODUCED BY GRAHAM

3  
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT  
5 REGISTRATION FEES AND THE REFLECTORIZATION FEE ASSESSED UPON  
6 MOTOR VEHICLES BEING REGISTERED OR REREGISTERED DO NOT APPLY  
7 IN THE EVENT A NUMBER PLATE IS TRANSFERRED TO A REPLACEMENT  
8 VEHICLE; AMENDING SECTIONS 53-106, 53-122, 53-146, AND  
9 53-147, R.C.M. 1947."

10  
11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

12 Section 1. Section 53-106, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to  
13 read as follows:

14 "53-106. Number plates. (1) Every motor vehicle which  
15 shall be driven upon the streets or highways of this state  
16 shall display both front and rear a number plate, bearing  
17 the distinctive number assigned such vehicle. Such number  
18 plate shall be in eight series: one series for owners of  
19 motor cars, one for owners of motor vehicles of the  
20 motorcycle type, one for trailers, one for trucks, one for  
21 dealers in vehicles of the motorcycle type which shall bear  
22 the distinctive letters "MCD" or the letters "MC" and the  
23 word "DEALER," one for franchised dealers in new motor cars  
24 (including trucks and trailers) or new and used motor cars  
25 (including trucks and trailers) which shall bear the

1 distinctive letter "D" or the word "DEALER," one for dealers  
2 in used motor cars only (including used trucks and trailers)  
3 which shall bear the distinctive letters "UD" or the letter  
4 "U" and the word "DEALER," and one for dealers in trailers  
5 and/or semitrailers (new or used) which shall bear the  
6 distinctive letters "DTR" or the letters "TR" and the word  
7 "DEALER," and all such markings for the aforementioned kinds  
8 of dealers' plates shall be placed on the number plates  
9 assigned thereto in such position thereon as the registrar  
10 may designate. All number plates for motor vehicles shall be  
11 issued for a minimum period of four years, provided that  
12 number plates shall next be issued in the year 1976 and as  
13 often thereafter as is consistent with the provisions of  
14 this section, shall bear a distinctive marking, and shall be  
15 furnished by the state. In years when number plates are not  
16 issued, the registrar shall provide nonremovable stickers  
17 bearing appropriate registration numbers which shall be  
18 affixed to the license plates in use.

19 (2) In the case of motor cars and trucks, number  
20 plates shall be of metal six inches wide and twelve inches  
21 in length, the number plates issued in the year 1976 to be  
22 of a graphic design commemorating the bicentennial of the  
23 founding of the United States of America, and the word  
24 "Montana" with the year placed on the plate. For number  
25 plates issued after 1976, the outline of the state of

REFERENCE BILL

1 Montana shall be used as a distinctive border on such  
 2 license plates, and the word "Montana" with the year shall  
 3 be placed across the bottom of the plate. Such registration  
 4 plate shall be treated with a reflectorized background  
 5 material according to specifications prescribed by the  
 6 registrar. ~~An~~ When a new plate is issued, an additional fee  
 7 of one dollar (\$1.00) per year for each registration of a  
 8 vehicle shall be added to the registration fee. Revenue from  
 9 this fee shall be forwarded by the respective county  
 10 treasurers to the state treasurer for deposit in the motor  
 11 vehicle recording account of the earmarked revenue fund.  
 12 Disbursements from the motor vehicle recording account shall  
 13 be made by warrant drawn by the registrar. The distinctive  
 14 registration numbers shall begin with a number one (1) or  
 15 with a letter-number combination such as "A 1" or "AA 1," or  
 16 any other similar combination of letters and numbers and be  
 17 numbered consecutively for each series of plates. The  
 18 distinctive registration number or letter-number combination  
 19 assigned to the vehicle shall appear on the plate preceded  
 20 by the number of the county and appearing in horizontal  
 21 order on the same horizontal base line, and the county  
 22 number shall be separated from the distinctive registration  
 23 number by a separation mark unless a letter-number  
 24 combination is used. The dimensions of such numerals and  
 25 letters shall be determined by the registrar of motor

1 vehicles, provided that all county and registration numbers  
 2 shall be of equal height.

3 (3) For the use of tax-exempt motor vehicles, in  
 4 addition to the markings herein provided, number plates  
 5 shall have thereon the following distinctive markings:

6 For vehicles owned by the state the registrar of motor  
 7 vehicles may designate the prefix number for the various  
 8 state departments, and all numbered plates issued to state  
 9 departments shall bear the words "State Owned" and no year  
 10 number will be indicated thereon as these numbered plates  
 11 will be of a permanent nature, and will be replaced by the  
 12 registrar of motor vehicles at such time when the physical  
 13 condition of numbered plates requires same. For vehicles  
 14 owned by the counties, municipalities and school districts  
 15 and used and operated by officials and employees thereof in  
 16 line of duty as such, and for vehicles on loan from the  
 17 United States government or the state of Montana, to, or  
 18 owned by, the civil air patrol and used and operated by  
 19 officials and employees thereof in the line of duty as such,  
 20 there shall be placed on the number plates assigned thereto,  
 21 in such position thereon as the registrar may designate, the  
 22 letter "X" or the word "EXEMPT." Distinctive registration  
 23 numbers for plates assigned to motor vehicles of each of the  
 24 counties in the state and those of the municipalities and  
 25 school districts situated within each of said counties shall

1 begin with number 1 and be numbered consecutively.

2 (4) On all number plates assigned to motor vehicles of  
3 the truck and trailer type, other than tax-exempt trucks and  
4 trailers, there shall appear the letter "T" or the word  
5 "TRUCK" for plates assigned to trucks and the letters "TR"  
6 or the word "TRAILER" for plates assigned to trailers, and  
7 housetrailers, and the letters "MC" or the word "CYCLE" for  
8 plates assigned to vehicles of the motorcycle type.

9 Number plates issued to a passenger car, truck, trailer  
10 or vehicle of the motorcycle type may be transferred only to  
11 a replacement passenger car, truck, trailer or motorcycle  
12 type vehicle. No registration or license fee may be assessed  
13 upon a transfer of a number plate under 53-146 and 53-147.

14 (5) For the purpose of this act, the several counties  
15 of the state shall be assigned numbers as follows: Silver  
16 Bow, 1; Cascade, 2; Yellowstone, 3; Missoula, 4; Lewis and  
17 Clark, 5; Gallatin, 6; Flathead, 7; Fergus, 8; Powder River,  
18 9; Carbon, 10; Phillips, 11; Hill, 12; Ravalli, 13; Custer,  
19 14; Lake, 15; Dawson, 16; Roosevelt, 17; Beaverhead, 18;  
20 Chouteau, 19; Valley, 20; Toole, 21; Big Horn, 22;  
21 Musselshell, 23; Blaine, 24; Madison, 25; Pondera, 26;  
22 Richland, 27; Powell, 28; Rosebud, 29; Deer Lodge, 30;  
23 Teton, 31; Stillwater, 32; Treasure, 33; Sheridan, 34;  
24 Sanders, 35; Judith Basin, 36; Daniels, 37; Glacier, 38;  
25 Fallon, 39; Sweet Grass, 40; McCone, 41; Carter, 42;

1 Broadwater, 43; Wheatland, 44; Prairie, 45; Granite, 46;  
2 Meagher, 47; Liberty, 48; Park, 49; Garfield, 50; Jefferson,  
3 51; Wibaux, 52; Golden Valley, 53; Mineral, 54; Petroleum,  
4 55; Lincoln, 56; any new counties shall be assigned numbers  
5 by the registrar of motor vehicles as they may be formed,  
6 beginning with the number 57."

7 Section 2. Section 53-122, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 "53-122. Registration fees of motor vehicles --  
10 registration and transfer thereof -- public owned vehicles  
11 exempt from license or registration fees -- license or  
12 registration fees for trailers, house trailers, semitrailers  
13 and tractors providing for disposition of all fees.  
14 Registration or license fees shall be paid upon registration  
15 or reregistration of motor vehicles, trailers, house  
16 trailers, semitrailers and dealers in motor vehicles or  
17 trailers in accordance with this act, as follows:

18 All dealers in motor vehicles, a fee of thirty dollars  
19 (\$30.00); which shall entitle such dealer to two (2) sets of  
20 number plates, and five dollars (\$5.00) additional fee for  
21 each additional set of number plates up to six (6) sets, and  
22 two dollars (\$2.00) additional fee for each additional set  
23 of number plates, as may be applied for;

24 Dealers in motorcycles, trailers including house  
25 trailers, thirty dollars (\$30);

1 Motor vehicles, weighing twenty-eight hundred and fifty  
2 (2850) pounds, or under, other than motor trucks, five  
3 dollars (\$5.00);

4 Motor vehicles, weighing over twenty-eight hundred and  
5 fifty (2850) pounds, other than motor trucks ten dollars  
6 (\$10.00);

7 Electrically driven passenger vehicles, ten dollars  
8 (\$10.00);

9 All motorcycles, two dollars (\$2.00);

10 Tractors and/or trucks, ten dollars (\$10.00);

11 Buses shall be classed as motor trucks and licensed  
12 accordingly;

13 Trailers and semitrailers less than two thousand five  
14 hundred (2,500) pounds maximum gross loaded weight and house  
15 trailers of all weights, two dollars (\$2.00);

16 Trailers and semitrailers over two thousand five  
17 hundred (2,500) up to six thousand (6,000) pounds maximum  
18 gross loaded weight, except house trailers, five dollars  
19 (\$5.00);

20 Trailers and semitrailers over six thousand (6,000)  
21 pounds maximum gross loaded weight, ten dollars (\$10.00);

22 Trailers used exclusively in the transportation of logs  
23 in the forest or in the transportation of oil and gas well  
24 machinery, road machinery and bridge material exclusively,  
25 new and secondhand, and trailers used exclusively for the

1 transportation of road machinery and bridge materials, shall  
2 pay a fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) annually, regardless  
3 of size or capacity.

4 All rates to be twenty-five per cent (25%) higher for  
5 motor vehicles, trailers and semitrailers, when not equipped  
6 with pneumatic tires.

7 Bicycles with motor attachment, one dollar (\$1.00);

8 Tractors, as specified in this section, shall mean any  
9 motor vehicle, except passenger cars used for towing a  
10 trailer or semitrailer.

11 If any dealer, or motor vehicle, house trailer,  
12 trailer, or semitrailer is originally registered six (6)  
13 months after the time of registration as set by law, the  
14 registration or license fee for the remainder of such year  
15 shall be one-half (1/2) of the regular fee above given.

16 A dealer in motor vehicles or trailers who shall  
17 maintain more than one (1) place of business or who shall  
18 maintain any branch establishment or establishments, must  
19 register and pay a registration or license fee for each such  
20 place of business or establishment.

21 A registered dealer, who may sell or dispose of his  
22 entire business to any other person, may have his  
23 certificate of registration transferred to such purchaser  
24 upon filing with the registrar of motor vehicles a statement  
25 containing the name of the registered dealer, the number

1 under which such dealer is registered, the name of the  
 2 purchaser, and the location of the place of business so  
 3 sold. Upon the filing of such statement, accompanied by a  
 4 filing fee of two dollars (\$2.00), the registrar of motor  
 5 vehicles shall note upon the registration record of such  
 6 dealer the change of ownership. But no certificate of  
 7 registration can be transferred unless the entire business  
 8 of the dealer holding such certificate of registration be  
 9 sold and disposed of, and no such certificate of  
 10 registration can be transferred to any person other than the  
 11 purchasers of such business.

12 The provisions of this act with respect to the payment  
 13 of registration fees shall not apply to or be binding upon  
 14 motor vehicles, trailers or semitrailers or tractors owned  
 15 or controlled by the United States of America or any state,  
 16 county or city, but in all other respects the provisions of  
 17 this act shall be applicable to and binding upon motor  
 18 vehicles, tractors, trailers, and semitrailers.

19 The provisions of this section relating to the payment  
 20 of registration fees do not apply when number plates are  
 21 transferred to a replacement vehicle under 53-106(4),  
 22 53-145, and 53-147.

23 All fees, other than license fees, unless otherwise  
 24 specifically provided, shall hereafter be deposited in, and  
 25 paid into, the earmarked revenue fund and shall be used to

1 pay all salaries, operating expenses, and all other expenses  
 2 of the department of the registrar of motor vehicles,  
 3 including the manufacturer and delivery of license plates.  
 4 Any reference in this code to the motor vehicle recording  
 5 fund or the motor vehicle administration fund shall be taken  
 6 to mean the motor vehicle recording account in the earmarked  
 7 revenue fund.\*

8 Section 3. Section 53-146, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to  
 9 read as follows:

10 \*53-146. Transfer of license plates to another motor  
 11 vehicle. Should the transferor make application for the  
 12 registration of another motor vehicle at any time during the  
 13 remainder of the current registration year as shown on the  
 14 original certificate of registration, he may file an  
 15 application, in the office of the county treasurer where the  
 16 motor vehicle is taxable, upon a form to be prepared and  
 17 furnished by the registrar of motor vehicles, accompanied by  
 18 the original certificate of registration, for the transfer  
 19 of the license plates. The application for transfer of the  
 20 license plates from the motor vehicle for which originally  
 21 issued to a motor vehicle acquired by the same person in  
 22 whose name the original license plates were issued shall be  
 23 made within ten (10) days from date of acquiring the  
 24 vehicle. The use of the license plates shall not be  
 25 legalized until proper transfer of license plates has been

1 made."

2 Section 4. Section 53-147, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to  
3 read as follows:

4 "53-147. New registration required for transferred  
5 vehicle -- grace period -- penalty--display of proof of  
6 purchase. Except as otherwise provided herein, the new owner  
7 of the transferred motor vehicle shall have the grace period  
8 of ten (10) days from the date of purchase to make  
9 application and pay the ~~registration--fees--and~~ taxes as  
10 provided by section 53-114, as if the same was being  
11 registered for the first time in that registration year,  
12 and, provided the motor vehicle was not purchased from a  
13 duly licensed motor vehicle dealer as provided in this  
14 chapter, it shall not be a violation of this chapter or any  
15 other law for the purchaser to operate the vehicle upon the  
16 streets and highways of this state without a certificate of  
17 registration during the ten (10) day period; provided,  
18 however, that at all times during that period a bill of sale  
19 or other proof of purchase reciting the date of purchase  
20 shall be clearly displayed in the rear window of the motor  
21 vehicle at all times. Registration and license fees  
22 collected under 53-122 are not required to be paid when a  
23 license plate is transferred under this section and 53-146.  
24 Failure to make application within the time provided herein  
25 shall subject the purchaser to a penalty of ten dollars

1 (\$10), plus one dollar (\$1) for each additional day in which  
2 the vehicle remains unregistered, not to exceed twenty-five  
3 dollars (\$25). The penalty shall be collected by the county  
4 treasurer at the time of registration, and shall be in  
5 addition to the fees otherwise provided by law."

-End-