

*Senate* BILL NO. 325  
 INTRODUCED BY Alber Shind Lockman Berger

1  
2  
3  
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT AMENDING SECTION  
5 53-122, R.C.M. 1947, TO REDUCE THE REGISTRATION FEES FOR  
6 MOTOR VEHICLES WHEN LICENSE PLATES ARE TRANSFERRED FROM ONE  
7 VEHICLE TO ANOTHER AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION."

8  
9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

10 Section 1. Section 53-122, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to  
11 read as follows:

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

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

1 of number plates, as may be applied for;  
2 Dealers in motorcycles, trailers including house  
3 trailers, thirty dollars (\$30);  
4 Motor vehicles, weighing twenty-eight hundred and fifty  
5 (2850) pounds, or under, other than motor trucks, five  
6 dollars (\$5.00);  
7 Motor vehicles, weighing over twenty-eight hundred and  
8 fifty (2850) pounds, other than motor trucks ten dollars  
9 (\$10.00);  
10 Electrically driven passenger vehicles, ten dollars  
11 (\$10.00);  
12 All motorcycles, two dollars (\$2.00);  
13 Tractors and/or trucks, ten dollars (\$10.00);  
14 Buses shall be classed as motor trucks and licensed  
15 accordingly;  
16 Trailers and semitrailers less than two thousand five  
17 hundred (2,500) pounds maximum gross loaded weight and house  
18 trailers of all weights, two dollars (\$2.00);  
19 Trailers and semitrailers over two thousand five  
20 hundred (2,500) up to six thousand (6,000) pounds maximum  
21 gross loaded weight, except house trailers, five dollars  
22 (\$5.00);  
23 Trailers and semitrailers over six thousand (6,000)  
24 pounds maximum gross loaded weight, ten dollars (\$10.00);  
25 Trailers used exclusively in the transportation of logs

INTRODUCED BILL

*SB 325*

1 in the forest or in the transportation of oil and gas well  
2 machinery, road machinery and bridge material exclusively,  
3 new and secondhand, and trailers used exclusively for the  
4 transportation of road machinery and bridge materials, shall  
5 pay a fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) annually, regardless  
6 of size or capacity.

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

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

11 Tractors, as specified in this section, shall mean any  
12 motor vehicle, except passenger cars used for towing a  
13 trailer or semitrailer.

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

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

24 A registered dealer, who may sell or dispose of his  
25 entire business to any other person, may have his

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

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

22 If an owner or operator of a motor vehicle, tractor,  
23 trailer, or semitrailer elects to transfer the license plate  
24 from a motor vehicle, tractor, trailer, or semitrailer to a  
25 newly acquired motor vehicle, tractor, trailer, or

1 semitrailer, as otherwise permitted by law, such owner or  
2 operator shall pay only such portion of the registration  
3 fees required by this section as follows:

4 (a) If the registration period for which the license  
5 plate to be transferred was last acquired has more than 6  
6 months before expiration, no registration fee is required.

7 (b) If the registration period for which the license  
8 plate to be transferred was last acquired has 6 months or  
9 less before expiration, one-half of such registration fee is  
10 required.

11 Upon reregistration of any such motor vehicle, tractor,  
12 trailer, or semitrailer, all fees required by this section  
13 are required.

14 All fees, other than license fees, unless otherwise  
15 specifically provided, shall hereafter be deposited in, and  
16 paid into, the earmarked revenue fund and shall be used to  
17 pay all salaries, operating expenses, and all other expenses  
18 of the department of the registrar of motor vehicles,  
19 including the manufacturer and delivery of license plates.  
20 Any reference in this code to the motor vehicle recording  
21 fund or the motor vehicle administration fund shall be taken  
22 to mean the motor vehicle recording account in the earmarked  
23 revenue fund."

-End-

## STATE OF MONTANA

REQUEST NO. 297-77

## FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received January 31, 19 77, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for Senate Bill 325 pursuant to Chapter 53, Laws of Montana, 1965 - Thirty-Ninth Legislative Assembly.

Background information used in developing this Fiscal Note is available from the Office of Budget and Program Planning, to members of the Legislature upon request.

## DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

An act to reduce registration fees for motor vehicles when license plates are transferred from one vehicle to another at the time of registration.

## ASSUMPTIONS:

1. 90% of all people applying for a new title or title transfer will trade a vehicle that has a current registration receipt.
2. The purchase of motor vehicles is assumed to be evenly spread throughout the year.
3. The number of titles issued will increase 4.8% a year.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

|   | <u>FY 78</u>       | <u>FY 79</u>       |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| Registration fee collections under current law              | \$1,777,830        | \$1,863,160        |
| Registration fee collections under proposed law             | <u>577,800</u>     | <u>605,530</u>     |
| Decrease in registration fee collections under proposed law | <u>\$1,200,030</u> | <u>\$1,257,630</u> |

*Richard L. Zimmerman*  
BUDGET DIRECTOR

Office of Budget and Program Planning

Date: 2-3-77