

the vans available for the use of state employees and blind vending operators in a manner consistent with standards and procedures adopted by the commissioner. Standards and procedures adopted pursuant to this subdivision shall not be subject to chapter 15. Commuter vans may be used by state employees and blind vending operators to travel between their homes and their work locations, and for personal purposes after working hours, not including partisan political activity. The commissioner shall provide in his standards and procedures for the recovery by the state of vehicle acquisition, lease, operation and insurance costs through efficient and convenient assignment of vans, and for the billing of costs and collection of fees. A state employee using a van for personal use shall pay, pursuant to the standards and procedures adopted by the commissioner, for operating and routine maintenance costs incurred as a result of the personal use. The commissioner shall promote the maximum practicable participation of state employees and blind vending operators in the use of the vans. Fees collected pursuant to this subdivision shall be deposited in the accounts from which the costs of operating, maintaining and leasing or amortizing acquisition costs for the specific vehicle are paid.

Subd. 2. Use of the vans shall be limited to areas not having adequate public transportation between the residences of state employees and blind vending operators and their places of employment. During the first year, the van program shall be implemented both in the seven-county metropolitan area and in one other region of the state.

Subd. 3. The program shall be evaluated after its first year of operation, and the commissioner of administration shall at that time recommend to the legislature whether the program should be expanded or discontinued. The commissioner shall at least semi-annually inform the metropolitan council and the capitol area architectural and planning board on the operation of the program.

Subd. 4. Notwithstanding section 15.31 or any other law to the contrary, the commissioner of administration may purchase, pursuant to this chapter, collision insurance coverage for the commuter vans. Notwithstanding sections 16.75, subdivision 7, and 168.012, the vans shall not be marked. The vans shall not be equipped with tax-exempt motor vehicle number plates.

Subd. 5. "Blind vending operator" means a blind person licensed to operate a vending stand or machine pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 248.07.

Approved May 18, 1977.

CHAPTER 108—H.F.No.1003

An act relating to motor vehicles; licensing and taxation; providing for biennial payment of the tax assessed on certain trailers; dimensional specifications for trailer number plates; amending Minnesota Statutes 1976, Sections 168.013, Subdivision 1d, and 168.12.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Changes or additions indicated by underline deletions by ~~strikeout~~

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1976, Section 168.013, Subdivision 1d, is amended to read:

Subd. 1d. **MOTOR VEHICLES; TRAILERS; NUMBER PLATES.** On trailers the annual tax shall be based on total gross weight and shall be 30 percent of the Minnesota base rate prescribed in subdivision 1e, Schedule 1, but in no event less than \$2, provided, that the tax on trailers with a total gross weight of 3,000 pounds or less shall be payable biennially.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 1976, Section 168.12, Subdivision 1, is amended to read:

168.12 **LICENSE PLATES.** Subdivision 1. **NUMBER PLATES; VISIBILITY, PERIODS OF ISSUANCE.** The registrar, upon ~~such~~ the approval and payment, ~~issues~~ shall issue to the applicant the number plates required by law, bearing an abbreviation of the state name and the number assigned. The number assigned may be a combination of a letter or sign with figures. The color of the plates and the color of the abbreviation of the state name and the number assigned shall be in marked contrast. The plates shall be lettered, spaced, or distinguished to suitably indicate the registration of the vehicle according to the ~~regulations~~ rules of the registrar, and when a vehicle is registered on the basis of total gross weight, the plates issued shall clearly indicate by letters or other suitable insignia the maximum gross weight for which the tax has been paid. These number plates shall be so treated as to be at least 100 times brighter than the conventional painted number plates. When properly mounted on an unlighted vehicle, these number plates, when viewed from a vehicle equipped with standard headlights, shall be visible for a distance of not less than 1,500 feet and readable for a distance of not less than 110 feet. ~~At the end of the registration periods in effect immediately before April 2, 1965, and for subsequent registration periods.~~ The registrar shall issue these number plates for the following periods:

(1) Number plates issued pursuant to sections 168.27, subdivisions ~~5~~ 16 and ~~6~~ 17, and 168.053 shall be for a one year period;

(2) ~~Beginning with the year 1974,~~ New number plates issued pursuant to section 168.012, subdivision 1, shall be issued to a vehicle for as long as it is owned by the exempt agency and shall not be transferable from one vehicle to another but may be transferred with the vehicle from one tax exempt agency to another; and

(3) ~~Beginning with number plates issued for the year 1976,~~ Plates for any vehicle not specified in clauses (1) and (2), except for trailers as hereafter provided, shall be issued for a five year period. Beginning with number plates issued for the year 1981, plates issued for trailers with a total gross weight of 3,000 pounds or less shall be issued for a four year period and shall be not more than seven inches in length and four inches in width.

In any year during which these number plates are not issued the registrar shall issue for each ~~annual~~ registration a reflectorized year plate, tab, or sticker to designate the year of registration. This plate, tab, or sticker shall show the calendar year or years for which issued, and is valid only for that year period. Unless the motor vehicle for which a

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number plate, number, tab, or sticker is issued, is permanently lost, is destroyed, or is removed from the state, no number plate, number, tab, or sticker may be transferred to another motor vehicle during the calendar year in period for which it is issued.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this subdivision, number plates issued to a vehicle which is used for behind-the-wheel instruction in a driver education course in a public school may be transferred to another vehicle used for the same purpose without payment of any additional fee. The registrar shall be notified of each transfer of number plates under this paragraph, and may prescribe a form for such notification.

Sec. 3. This act is effective November 15, 1980, for the year 1981 and subsequent years.

Approved May 18, 1977.

CHAPTER 109—H.F.No.139

An act relating to natural resources; revising certain provisions relating to St. Croix Wild River state park.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. **ST. CROIX WILD RIVER STATE PARK; SIZE LIMITATION.** Notwithstanding the provisions of Laws 1973, Chapter 567, Section 5, or any other law to the contrary, St. Croix Wild River state park may not exceed in size the acreage contained within the boundaries of the park as established by law.

Approved May 19, 1977.

CHAPTER 110—H.F.No.188

[Coded in Part]

An act relating to game and fish; defining conviction; increasing the penalty for a conviction related to big game; amending Minnesota Statutes 1976, Sections 97.40, by adding a subdivision; and 98.52, Subdivision 1.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1976, Section 97.40, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 35. GAME AND FISH; CONVICTIONS. "Conviction" means (1) a final conviction either after trial or upon a plea of guilty; (2) forfeiture of cash or collateral

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