

39:3-8

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LAWS OF: 1999 **CHAPTER:** 392

NJSA: 39:3-8 (Vans—registration)

BILL NO: S1345 (Substituted for A2920)

SPONSOR(S): Furnari and Bucco

DATE INTRODUCED: September 24, 1998

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** Appropriations

SENATE: Law and Public Safety; Budget and Appropriations

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE: **ASSEMBLY:** January 10, 2000

SENATE: January 10, 2000

DATE OF APPROVAL: January 18, 2000

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL: Senate Committee Substitute - 1st Reprint
(Amendments during passage denoted by superscript number)

S1345

SPONSORS STATEMENT: (Begins on page 4 of original bill) [Yes](#)

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** [Yes](#)

SENATE: [Yes](#) [10-15-98 \(Law & Pub.\)](#)
[Yes](#) [9-23-99 \(Budget\)](#)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: [Yes](#) [12-23-98](#)
[Yes](#) [12-28-99](#)

A2920

SPONSORS STATEMENT: (Begins on page 4 of original bill) [Yes](#)

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** [Yes](#) [12-2-99 \(Appropriations\)](#)
Identical to Assembly Committee Statement for S1345

[Yes](#) [5-17-99 \(Transportation\)](#)
Identical to Senate Law & Public Safety Statement for S1345

SENATE: No

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: [Yes](#)
Identical to 12-23-98 Legislative Fiscal Estimate for S1345

VETO MESSAGE:

No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:

No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

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REPORTS:

No

HEARINGS:

No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:

No

P.L. 1999, CHAPTER 392, *approved January 18, 2000*
Senate Committee Substitute (*First Reprint*) for
Senate, No. 1345

1 AN ACT concerning the registration of certain motor vehicles and
2 amending R.S.39:3-8 and P.L.1968, c.439.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. R.S.39:3-8 is amended to read as follows:

8 39:3-8. The applicant for registration for any passenger
9 automobile manufactured in any model year prior to the 1971 model
10 year shall pay to the director for each registration a fee of **[\$14.00]**
11 \$14 for each such vehicle having a manufacturer's shipping weight of
12 less than 2,700 pounds, a fee of **[\$23.00]** \$23 for each such vehicle
13 having a manufacturer's shipping weight of 2,700 pounds or more, but
14 not greater than 3,800 pounds, and a fee of **[\$44.00]** \$44 for each
15 vehicle having a manufacturer's shipping weight in excess of 3,800
16 pounds; provided, however, an applicant who has been issued a
17 handicapped person identification card pursuant to section 2 of
18 P.L.1949, c.280 (C.39:4-205) and is registering a private passenger
19 van manufactured in any model year prior to the 1971 model year
20 which has been equipped with a wheelchair lift for the handicapped, or
21 any other specially designed mechanical device for the handicapped as
22 designated by the director ¹that specifically requires installation only
23 in a private passenger van because of the device's dimensions,
24 operating characteristics or manufacturer's installation requirements¹,
25 shall pay a fee of \$14 for that vehicle. The applicant for registration
26 for any passenger automobile manufactured in model year 1971 and
27 thereafter, except as determined hereinafter, shall pay to the director
28 for each registration a fee of **[\$17.00]** \$17 for each such vehicle
29 having a manufacturer's shipping weight of less than 2,700 pounds, a
30 fee of **[\$28.00]** \$28 for each such vehicle having a manufacturer's
31 shipping weight of 2,700 pounds or more, but not greater than 3,800
32 pounds, and a fee of **[\$51.00]** \$51 for each such vehicle having a
33 manufacturer's shipping weight in excess of 3,800 pounds; provided,
34 however, an applicant who has been issued a handicapped person
35 identification card pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1949, c.280 (C.39:4-
36 205) and is registering a private passenger van manufactured in model
37 year 1971 or thereafter, except as determined hereinafter, which has
38 been equipped with a wheelchair lift for the handicapped, or any other
39 specially designed mechanical device for the handicapped as

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted December 2, 1999.

1 designated by the director ¹that specifically requires installation only
2 in a private passenger van because of the device's dimensions,
3 operating characteristics or manufacturer's installation requirements ¹,
4 shall pay a fee of \$17 for that vehicle. The applicant for registration
5 for any 1980 or thereafter model year passenger automobile registered
6 on or after March 1, 1979 shall pay to the director for each
7 registration a fee of ~~[\$25.00]~~ \$25 for each such vehicle having a
8 manufacturer's shipping weight not greater than 3,500 pounds and a
9 fee of ~~[\$50.00]~~ \$50 for each vehicle having a manufacturer's shipping
10 weight in excess of 3,500 pounds; provided, however, an applicant
11 who has been issued a handicapped person identification card pursuant
12 to section 2 of P.L.1949, c.280 (C.39:4-205) and is registering any
13 1980 or thereafter model year private passenger van which has been
14 equipped with a wheelchair lift for the handicapped, or any other
15 specially designed mechanical device for the handicapped as
16 designated by the director ¹that specifically requires installation only
17 in a private passenger van because of the device's dimensions,
18 operating characteristics or manufacturer's installation requirements ¹,
19 shall pay a fee of \$25 for that vehicle. The director shall determine
20 manufacturer's shipping weight and model year for each passenger
21 automobile on the basis of the information contained in the certificate
22 of origin, the application for registration or for renewal of registration,
23 or the records of the division, or any or all of these; and any case in
24 which the manufacturer's shipping weight of any particular passenger
25 automobile is unavailable, or in doubt or dispute, the director may
26 require that such automobile be weighed on a scale designated by him,
27 and such actual weight shall be considered the manufacturer's shipping
28 weight for the purposes of this section; but in all cases the director's
29 determination of the manufacturer's shipping weight of any such
30 automobile shall be final. The applicant for registration for passenger
31 automobile shall also pay to the director the inspection fee fixed in
32 R.S.39:8-2 in addition to the fees described hereinabove.

33 The director may also license private utility and house type
34 semitrailers and trailers with a gross load not in excess of 2,000
35 pounds at a fee of \$4.00 per annum and all other such utility and
36 house-type semitrailers and trailers at \$9.00 per annum. Application
37 for such registration shall be made on a blank to be furnished by the
38 division and the application shall contain a statement to the effect that
39 the vehicle so registered will not be used for the commercial
40 transportation of goods, wares and merchandise, or for hire.

41 Except as provided in R.S.39:3-84 for recreation vehicles, no
42 private utility or house type semitrailer or trailer with an outside width
43 of more than 96 inches, a maximum height of 13 feet 6 inches, a
44 maximum length for a single vehicle of more than 35 feet, a maximum
45 length for a semitrailer and its towing vehicle of more than 45 feet, and
46 a maximum length for a trailer and its towing vehicle of more than 50

1 feet, shall be operated on any highway in this State, except that a
2 vehicle exceeding the above limitations may be operated when a
3 special permit so to operate is secured in advance from the director.
4 A house type semitrailer or trailer with an outside width of no more
5 than 16 feet shall be entitled to operate with such a special permit if
6 the vehicle is a manufactured home on a transportation system that is
7 designed in accordance with the "Manufactured Home Construction
8 and Safety Standards," 24 CFR part 3280.901 et seq., promulgated by
9 the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, as
10 amended and supplemented, provided that the operator complies with
11 the provisions of this Title and the rules and regulations issued
12 thereunder. If such a vehicle has an outside width of more than
13 16 feet, it shall be entitled to operate with such a special permit if it is
14 transported on a commercial type low-bed trailer, semitrailer or
15 properly registered dolly wheels pursuant to rules and regulations
16 established by the director. The application for such permit shall be
17 accompanied by a fee fixed by the director. A special permit issued by
18 the director shall be in the possession of the operator of the vehicle for
19 which such permit was issued. In computing any dimensions of a
20 vehicle, for the purposes of this section, there shall not be included in
21 the dimensional limitations safety equipment such as mirrors or lights,
22 provided such appliances do not exceed the overall limitations
23 established by the director by rule or regulation.
24 (cf: P.L.1998, c.135, s.1)

25
26 2. Section 2 of P.L.1968, c. 439 (C.39:3-8.1) is amended to read
27 as follows:

28 2. The director may license noncommercial trucks at the same
29 weight fees set forth in Revised Statutes 39:3-20; provided, however,
30 applicants for registration who have been issued handicapped person
31 identification cards pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1949, c.280 (C.39:4-
32 205) and are registering a noncommercial truck which has been
33 equipped with a wheelchair lift for the handicapped, or any other
34 specially designed mechanical device for the handicapped as
35 designated by the director ¹that specifically requires installation only
36 in a noncommercial truck or van because of the device's dimensions,
37 operating characteristics or manufacturer's installation requirements ¹,
38 shall pay the same weight fees set forth in R.S.39:3-8 for similarly
39 modified passenger automobiles of the same model year. Application
40 for such registration shall be made on a form to be furnished by the
41 division and the application shall contain a statement to the effect that
42 the vehicle so registered will not be used for the commercial
43 transportation of goods, wares and merchandise, or for hire, and that
44 vehicles so registered will not contain any advertising, signs, lettering,
45 names or addresses on its exterior, excepting trademarks and labels of
46 the manufacturer and dealer.
47 (cf: P.L.1968, c.439, s.2)

1 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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6 Establishes registration fees for certain private passenger vans and
7 noncommercial trucks equipped with mechanical devices for
8 handicapped.

SENATE, No. 1345

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 24, 1998

Sponsored by:

Senator GARRY J. FURNARI

District 36 (Bergen, Essex and Passaic)

Senator ANTHONY R. BUCCO

District 25 (Morris)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Girgenti and Cafiero

SYNOPSIS

Establishes minimum registration fees for motor vehicles specially modified for use by handicapped persons.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



S1345 FURNARI, BUCCO

2

1 AN ACT concerning passenger automobile and noncommercial truck
2 registration fees and amending R.S.39:3-8 and P.L.1968, c.439.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. R.S.39:3-8 is amended to read as follows:

8 39:3-8. The applicant for registration for any passenger automobile
9 manufactured in any model year prior to the 1971 model year shall pay
10 to the director for each registration a fee of ~~[\$14.00]~~ \$14 for each
11 such vehicle having a manufacturer's shipping weight of less than
12 2,700 pounds, a fee of ~~[\$23.00]~~ \$23 for each such vehicle having a
13 manufacturer's shipping weight of 2,700 pounds or more, but not
14 greater than 3,800 pounds, and a fee of ~~[\$44.00]~~ \$44 for each vehicle
15 having a manufacturer's shipping weight in excess of 3,800 pounds;
16 provided, however, an applicant who has been issued a handicapped
17 person identification card pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1949, c.280
18 (C.39:4-205) and is registering a passenger automobile manufactured
19 in any model year prior to the 1971 model year which has been
20 modified so that the automobile is fully controlled by specially
21 designed mechanical devices for the handicapped shall pay a fee of \$14
22 for that vehicle. The applicant for registration for any passenger
23 automobile manufactured in model year 1971 and thereafter, except as
24 determined hereinafter, shall pay to the director for each registration
25 a fee of ~~[\$17.00]~~ \$17 for each such vehicle having a manufacturer's
26 shipping weight of less than 2,700 pounds, a fee of ~~[\$28.00]~~ \$28 for
27 each such vehicle having a manufacturer's shipping weight of 2,700
28 pounds or more, but not greater than 3,800 pounds, and a fee of
29 ~~[\$51.00]~~ \$51 for each such vehicle having a manufacturer's shipping
30 weight in excess of 3,800 pounds; provided, however, an applicant
31 who has been issued a handicapped person identification card pursuant
32 to section 2 of P.L.1949, c.280 (C.39:4-205) and is registering a
33 passenger automobile manufactured in model year 1971 or thereafter,
34 except as determined hereinafter, which has been modified so that the
35 automobile is fully controlled by specially designed mechanical devices
36 for the handicapped shall pay a fee of \$17 for that vehicle. The
37 applicant for registration for any 1980 or thereafter model year
38 passenger automobile registered on or after March 1, 1979 shall pay
39 to the director for each registration a fee of ~~[\$25.00]~~ \$25 for each
40 such vehicle having a manufacturer's shipping weight not greater than
41 3,500 pounds and a fee of ~~[\$50.00]~~ \$50 for each vehicle having a
42 manufacturer's shipping weight in excess of 3,500 pounds; provided,

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 however, an applicant who has been issued a handicapped person
2 identification card pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1949, c.280 (C.39:4-
3 205) and is registering any 1980 or thereafter model year passenger
4 automobile which has been modified so that the automobile is fully
5 controlled by specially designed mechanical devices for the
6 handicapped shall pay a fee of \$25 for that vehicle. The director shall
7 determine manufacturer's shipping weight and model year for each
8 passenger automobile on the basis of the information contained in the
9 certificate of origin, the application for registration or for renewal of
10 registration, or the records of the division, or any or all of these; and
11 any case in which the manufacturer's shipping weight of any particular
12 passenger automobile is unavailable, or in doubt or dispute, the
13 director may require that such automobile be weighed on a scale
14 designated by him, and such actual weight shall be considered the
15 manufacturer's shipping weight for the purposes of this section; but in
16 all cases the director's determination of the manufacturer's shipping
17 weight of any such automobile shall be final. The applicant for
18 registration for passenger automobile shall also pay to the director the
19 inspection fee fixed in R.S. 39:8-2 in addition to the fees described
20 hereinabove.

21 The director may also license private utility and house type
22 semitrailers and trailers with a gross load not in excess of 2,000
23 pounds at a fee of \$4.00 per annum and all other such utility and
24 house-type semitrailers and trailers at \$9.00 per annum. Application
25 for such registration shall be made on a blank to be furnished by the
26 division and the application shall contain a statement to the effect that
27 the vehicle so registered will not be used for the commercial
28 transportation of goods, wares and merchandise, or for hire.

29 Except as provided in R.S.39:3-84 for recreation vehicles, no
30 private utility or house type semitrailer or trailer with an outside width
31 of more than 96 inches, a maximum height of 13 feet 6 inches, a
32 maximum length for a single vehicle of more than 35 feet, a maximum
33 length for a semitrailer and its towing vehicle of more than 45 feet, and
34 a maximum length for a trailer and its towing vehicle of more than 50
35 feet, shall be operated on any highway in this State, except that a
36 vehicle exceeding the above limitations may be operated when a
37 special permit so to operate is secured in advance from the director.
38 The application for such permit shall be accompanied by a fee fixed by
39 the director. A special permit issued by the director shall be in the
40 possession of the operator of the vehicle for which such permit was
41 issued. In computing any dimensions of a vehicle, for the purposes of
42 this section, there shall not be included in the dimensional limitations
43 safety equipment such as mirrors or lights, provided such appliances
44 do not exceed the overall limitations established by the director by rule
45 or regulation.

46 (cf: P.L.1995, c.397, s.2)

1 2. Section 2 of P.L.1968, c. 439 (C.39:3-8.1) is amended to read
2 as follows:

3 The director may license noncommercial trucks at the same weight
4 fees set forth in Revised Statutes 39:3-20; provided, however,
5 applicants for registration who have been issued handicapped person
6 identification cards pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1949, c.280 (C.39:4-
7 205) and are registering a noncommercial truck which has been
8 modified so that it is fully controlled by specially designed mechanical
9 devices for the handicapped shall pay the same weight fees set forth in
10 R.S.39:3-8 for similarly modified passenger automobiles of the same
11 model year. Application for such registration shall be made on a form
12 to be furnished by the division and the application shall contain a
13 statement to the effect that the vehicle so registered will not be used
14 for the commercial transportation of goods, wares and merchandise,
15 or for hire, and that vehicles so registered will not contain any
16 advertising, signs, lettering, names or addresses on its exterior,
17 excepting trademarks and labels of the manufacturer and dealer.
18 (cf: P.L.1968, c.439, s.2)

19

20 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

24

25 This bill addresses an inequity that exists under current law for
26 handicapped persons who operate specially modified passenger
27 automobiles and noncommercial trucks. These vehicles tend to be
28 heavy, and thus, are subject to high registration fees. Under this bill,
29 a handicapped person would pay the minimum model year registration
30 fee for a passenger automobile or noncommercial truck, regardless of
31 the vehicle's weight. A noncommercial truck is a motor vehicle other
32 than a commercial vehicle that is designed to transport property.

33 Under current law, registration fees for passenger automobiles are
34 set according to the model year and the weight of the vehicle. The
35 registration fee for a vehicle manufactured prior to the 1971 model
36 year is \$14 if the manufacturer's shipping weight of the vehicle is less
37 than 2,700 pounds, \$23 if the weight is 2,700 pounds or more, but
38 3,800 pounds or less, and \$44 if the weight is more than 3,800 pounds.
39 The registration fee for a vehicle manufactured in model year 1971 or
40 later, but before model year 1980, is \$17 if the shipping weight is less
41 than 2,700 pounds, \$28 if the weight is 2,700 pounds or more, but
42 3,800 pounds or less and \$51 if the weight exceeds 3,800 pounds.
43 The fee for registering a vehicle manufactured in model year 1980 or
44 later is \$25 if the vehicle is 3,500 pounds or less and \$50 if it is more
45 than 3,500 pounds.

1 Registration fees for noncommercial trucks under current law are
2 based solely on the weight of the vehicle. The registration fee for
3 these trucks is \$53.50 if it weighs 5,000 pounds or less. If the truck
4 weighs more than 5,000 pounds, but not more than 18,000 pounds, the
5 fee is \$53.50 plus \$11.50 for each 1,000 pounds or portion thereof in
6 excess of 5,000 pounds. The fee for trucks that weigh more than
7 18,000 pounds, but not more than 50,000 pounds, is \$53.50, plus
8 \$12.50 for every 1,000 pounds over 5,000. The fee is \$53.50 plus
9 \$13.50 for each 1,000 pounds over 5,000 for trucks that weigh more
10 than 50,000 pounds.

11 Under the bill, the registration fee for passenger automobiles and
12 noncommercial trucks which have been modified so that they are fully
13 controlled by specially designed mechanical devices for the
14 handicapped and which are being registered by persons who have been
15 issued a handicapped person identification card would be \$14 if the
16 vehicle was manufactured in a model year prior to 1971, \$17 if the
17 vehicle's model year is 1971 or later, but earlier than 1980, and \$25 if
18 the model year is 1980 or later. These fees would be applicable to all
19 such vehicles of the specified model years, irrespective of their weight.

20 Handicapped person identification cards are issued to persons who
21 have lost a limb, are permanently disabled or have limited mobility as
22 certified by a physician. The card holder is issued a special placard to
23 be displayed in his or her vehicle indicating that the vehicle may be
24 parked in special parking places designated for use by the
25 handicapped. The card holder also may obtain special wheelchair
26 symbol license plates.

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

SENATE, No. 1345

with Assembly committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 2, 1999

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1345 with committee amendments.

Senate Bill No. 1345 SCS, as amended, revises the law governing motor vehicle registration fees as it applies to handicapped persons who operate private passenger vans and noncommercial trucks equipped with certain modifications for their use of those vehicles. (A noncommercial truck is a motor vehicle other than a commercial vehicle that is designed to transport property.) Vehicles so equipped tend to be heavy and, under the weight-based schedules now in effect, are subject to high registration fees. Under the bill, a handicapped person operating one of these vehicles would pay the minimum model year registration fee for a passenger automobile or noncommercial truck, regardless of the vehicle's weight.

Under current law, registration fees for passenger automobiles are set according to the model year and the weight of the vehicle. The registration fee for a passenger automobile manufactured prior to the 1971 model year is \$14 if the manufacturer's shipping weight of the vehicle is less than 2,700 pounds, rising to \$44 if the weight is more than 3,800 pounds. The registration fee for a passenger automobile manufactured in model year 1971 or later, but before model year 1980, is \$17 if the shipping weight is less than 2,700 pounds, rising to \$51 if the weight exceeds 3,800 pounds. The fee for registering a passenger automobile manufactured in model year 1980 or later is \$25 if the vehicle weight is 3,500 pounds or less and \$50 if it is more than 3,500 pounds.

For noncommercial trucks, registration fees are based solely on the weight of the vehicle. The registration fee for one of these trucks is \$53.50 if it weighs 5,000 pounds or less. For each 1,000 pounds (or portion thereof) over 5,000 pounds an additional fee is imposed at a rate that increases with overall tonnage; for trucks that weigh more than 50,000 pounds, the total fee is \$53.50 plus \$13.50 for each 1,000 pounds over 5,000.

Under the bill, the registration fee for a private passenger van or noncommercial truck that (1) has been equipped with a wheelchair lift, or any other specially designed mechanical device for the handicapped that specifically requires installation in an oversized vehicle because of the device's dimensions, operating characteristics, or manufacturer's installation requirements and is designated by the director of the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV), and (2) is registered by a person who has been issued a handicapped person identification card would be \$14 if the vehicle was manufactured in a model year prior to 1971, \$17 if the vehicle's model year is 1971 or later, but earlier than 1980, and \$25 if the model year is 1980 or later. These fees would be applicable to all such vehicles of the specified model years, irrespective of their weight.

Handicapped person identification cards are issued to persons who have lost a limb, are permanently disabled or have limited mobility as certified by a physician. The card holder is issued a special placard to be displayed in his or her vehicle indicating that the vehicle may be parked in special parking places designated for use by the handicapped. The card holder also may obtain special wheelchair symbol license plates.

As amended and reported by this committee, the bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 2920 as amended and reported by this committee.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The DMV has indicated that it has no estimate of the number of vehicles that this bill would impact. Consequently, the Office of Legislative Services (OLS) cannot quantify the loss of revenue to the State by requiring that only the minimum vehicle registration fee would be levied on certain vehicles owned by handicapped persons rather than the amounts stipulated in current law.

In addition to the loss of revenue, DMV also anticipates that it would incur a computer programming cost to establish a new category of registration fees. However, as the Office of Telecommunications and Information Systems has not yet developed a cost estimate for DMV for the establishment of this new registration category, OLS is unable to provide an estimate on this new, one-time cost.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The amendments provide that the specially designed device for the handicapped must be installed in a passenger van or noncommercial truck because the design requirements of the device require an oversized vehicle, clarifying the intent to provide the lower registration fees for those whose needs cannot be accommodated by a passenger automobile.

SENATE LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1345

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 15, 1998

The Senate Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1345.

This bill addresses an inequity that exists under current law for handicapped persons who operate specially modified passenger automobiles and noncommercial trucks. These vehicles tend to be heavy, and thus, are subject to high registration fees. Under this bill, a handicapped person would pay the minimum model year registration fee for a passenger automobile or noncommercial truck, regardless of the vehicle's weight. A noncommercial truck is a motor vehicle other than a commercial vehicle that is designed to transport property.

Under current law, registration fees for passenger automobiles are set according to the model year and the weight of the vehicle. The registration fee for a vehicle manufactured prior to the 1971 model year is \$14 if the manufacturer's shipping weight of the vehicle is less than 2,700 pounds, \$23 if the weight is 2,700 pounds or more, but 3,800 pounds or less, and \$44 if the weight is more than 3,800 pounds. The registration fee for a vehicle manufactured in model year 1971 or later, but before model year 1980, is \$17 if the shipping weight is less than 2,700 pounds, \$28 if the weight is 2,700 pounds or more, but 3,800 pounds or less and \$51 if the weight exceeds 3,800 pounds. The fee for registering a vehicle manufactured in model year 1980 or later is \$25 if the vehicle is 3,500 pounds or less and \$50 if it is more than 3,500 pounds.

Registration fees for noncommercial trucks under current law are based solely on the weight of the vehicle. The registration fee for these trucks is \$53.50 if it weighs 5,000 pounds or less. If the truck weighs more than 5,000 pounds, but not more than 18,000 pounds, the fee is \$53.50 plus \$11.50 for each 1,000 pounds or portion thereof in excess of 5,000 pounds. The fee for trucks that weigh more than 18,000 pounds, but not more than 50,000 pounds, is \$53.50, plus \$12.50 for every 1,000 pounds over 5,000. The fee is \$53.50 plus \$13.50 for each 1,000 pounds over 5,000 for trucks that weigh more than 50,000 pounds.

Under the bill, the registration fee for passenger automobiles and noncommercial trucks which have been modified so that they are fully controlled by specially designed mechanical devices for the

handicapped and which are being registered by persons who have been issued a handicapped person identification card would be \$14 if the vehicle was manufactured in a model year prior to 1971, \$17 if the vehicle's model year is 1971 or later, but earlier than 1980, and \$25 if the model year is 1980 or later. These fees would be applicable to all such vehicles of the specified model years, irrespective of their weight.

Handicapped person identification cards are issued to persons who have lost a limb, are permanently disabled or have limited mobility as certified by a physician. The card holder is issued a special placard to be displayed in his or her vehicle indicating that the vehicle may be parked in special parking places designated for use by the handicapped. The card holder also may obtain special wheelchair symbol license plates.

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR **SENATE, No. 1345**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 23, 1999

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably a committee substitute for Senate Bill No. 1345.

This substitute bill revises the law governing motor vehicle registration fees as it applies to handicapped persons who operate private passenger vans and noncommercial trucks equipped with certain modifications for their use of those vehicles. (A noncommercial truck is a motor vehicle other than a commercial vehicle that is designed to transport property.) Vehicles so equipped tend to be heavy and thus, under the weight-based schedules now in effect, are subject to high registration fees. Under this bill, a handicapped person operating one of these vehicles would pay the minimum model year registration fee for a passenger automobile or noncommercial truck, regardless of the vehicle's weight.

Under current law, registration fees for passenger automobiles are set according to the model year and the weight of the vehicle. The registration fee for a passenger automobile manufactured prior to the 1971 model year is \$14 if the manufacturer's shipping weight of the vehicle is less than 2,700 pounds, rising to \$44 if the weight is more than 3,800 pounds. The registration fee for a passenger automobile manufactured in model year 1971 or later, but before model year 1980, is \$17 if the shipping weight is less than 2,700 pounds, rising to \$51 if the weight exceeds 3,800 pounds. The fee for registering a passenger automobile manufactured in model year 1980 or later is \$25 if the vehicle weight is 3,500 pounds or less and \$50 if it is more than 3,500 pounds.

For noncommercial trucks, registration fees are based solely on the weight of the vehicle. The registration fee for one of these trucks is \$53.50 if it weighs 5,000 pounds or less. For each 1,000 pounds (or portion thereof) over 5,000 pounds an additional fee is imposed at a rate that increases with overall tonnage; for trucks that weigh more than 50,000 pounds, the total fee is \$53.50 plus \$13.50 for each 1,000 pounds over 5,000.

Under the bill, the registration fee for a private passenger van or noncommercial truck that (1) has been equipped with a wheelchair lift,

or any other specially designed mechanical device for the handicapped as designated by the director of the Division of Motor Vehicles, and (2) is registered by a person who has been issued a handicapped person identification card would be \$14 if the vehicle was manufactured in a model year prior to 1971, \$17 if the vehicle's model year is 1971 or later, but earlier than 1980, and \$25 if the model year is 1980 or later. These fees would be applicable to all such vehicles of the specified model years, irrespective of their weight.

Handicapped person identification cards are issued to persons who have lost a limb, are permanently disabled or have limited mobility as certified by a physician. The card holder is issued a special placard to be displayed in his or her vehicle indicating that the vehicle may be parked in special parking places designated for use by the handicapped. The card holder also may obtain special wheelchair symbol license plates.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has indicated that it has no estimate of the number of vehicles that this bill would impact. Consequently, the Office of Legislative Services (OLS) cannot quantify the loss of revenue to the State by requiring that only the minimum vehicle registration fee would be levied on certain vehicles owned by handicapped persons rather than the amounts stipulated in current law.

In addition to the loss of revenue, DMV also anticipates that it would incur a computer programming cost to establish a new category of registration fees. However, since the Office of Telecommunications and Information Systems has not yet developed a cost estimate for DMV for the establishment of this new registration category, OLS is unable to provide an estimate on this new, one-time cost.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

SENATE, No. 1345

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

208th LEGISLATURE

DATED: DECEMBER 23, 1998

Senate Bill No. 1345 of 1998 provides that a handicapped person issued an identification card pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1949, c.280 (C.39:4-205) who registers a passenger automobile or a noncommercial truck would pay the statutory minimum fee of \$14 if the vehicle was manufactured in a model year prior to 1971, \$17 if the vehicle's model year is 1971 to 1979, and \$25 if the model year is 1980 or later. Currently, depending on the weight and year of a vehicle, vehicle registration fees can be as high as \$51 for passenger vehicles and \$53.50 or more for noncommercial trucks.

The Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has indicated that it has no estimate of the number of vehicles that this bill would impact. Consequently, the Office of Legislative Services (OLS) cannot quantify the loss of revenue to the State by requiring that only the minimum vehicle registration fee would be levied on certain vehicles owned by handicapped persons rather than the amounts stipulated in current law.

In addition to the loss of revenue, DMV also anticipates that it would incur a computer programming cost to establish a new category of registration fees. However, since the Office of Telecommunications and Information Systems has not yet developed a cost estimate for DMV for the establishment of this new registration category, OLS is unable to provide an estimate on this new, one-time cost.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR **SENATE, No. 1345**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

208th LEGISLATURE

DATED: DECEMBER 28, 1999

Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1345 of 1998 provides that a handicapped person issued an identification card pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1949, c.280 (C.39:4-205) who registers a passenger van or a noncommercial truck would pay the statutory minimum fee of \$14 if the vehicle was manufactured in a model year prior to 1971, \$17 if the vehicle's model year is 1971 to 1979, and \$25 if the model year is 1980 or later. Currently, depending on the weight and year of a vehicle, vehicle registration fees can be as high as \$51 for passenger vehicles and \$53.50 or more for noncommercial trucks.

The Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has indicated that it has no estimate of the number of vehicles that this bill would impact. Consequently, the Office of Legislative Services (OLS) cannot quantify the loss of revenue to the State by requiring that only the minimum vehicle registration fee would be levied on certain vehicles owned by handicapped persons rather than the amounts stipulated in current law.

In addition to the loss of revenue, DMV also anticipates that it would incur a computer programming cost to establish a new category of registration fees. However, since the Office of Information Technology has not yet developed a cost estimate for DMV for the establishment of this new registration category, OLS is unable to provide an estimate on this new, one-time cost.

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67.

ASSEMBLY, No. 2920

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 4, 1999

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOHN V. KELLY
District 36 (Bergen, Essex and Passaic)
Assemblyman LOUIS A. ROMANO
District 33 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Wisniewski, O'Toole, Asselta, Gregg, DiGaetano, DeCroce, Geist, Biondi, Talarico, Kramer, Connors, Moran, Wolfe, Assemblywoman Quigley, Assemblymen Zisa, Roberts, Barnes, Weingarten, Gibson, Assemblywoman Vandervalk, Assemblymen Luongo, Bateman, Chatzidakis, Bodine, Assemblywoman Heck, Assemblymen Felice, Bagger, Doria, Assemblywoman Pou, Assemblyman Augustine, Assemblywoman Cruz-Perez, Assemblymen Suliga and Connors

SYNOPSIS

Establishes minimum registration fees for certain private passenger vans and noncommercial trucks equipped with wheelchair lifts.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/25/1999)

1 AN ACT concerning the registration of certain motor vehicles and
2 amending R.S.39:3-8 and P.L.1968, c.439.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. R.S.39:3-8 is amended to read as follows:

8 39:3-8. The applicant for registration for any passenger automobile
9 manufactured in any model year prior to the 1971 model year shall pay
10 to the director for each registration a fee of ~~[\$14.00]~~ \$14 for each
11 such vehicle having a manufacturer's shipping weight of less than
12 2,700 pounds, a fee of ~~[\$23.00]~~ \$23 for each such vehicle having a
13 manufacturer's shipping weight of 2,700 pounds or more, but not
14 greater than 3,800 pounds, and a fee of ~~[\$44.00]~~ \$44 for each vehicle
15 having a manufacturer's shipping weight in excess of 3,800 pounds;
16 provided, however, an applicant who has been issued a handicapped
17 person identification card pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1949, c.280
18 (C.39:4-205) and is registering a private passenger van manufactured
19 in any model year prior to the 1971 model year which has been
20 equipped with a wheelchair lift for the handicapped shall pay a fee of
21 \$14 for that vehicle. The applicant for registration for any passenger
22 automobile manufactured in model year 1971 and thereafter, except as
23 determined hereinafter, shall pay to the director for each registration
24 a fee of ~~[\$17.00]~~ \$17 for each such vehicle having a manufacturer's
25 shipping weight of less than 2,700 pounds, a fee of ~~[\$28.00]~~ \$28 for
26 each such vehicle having a manufacturer's shipping weight of 2,700
27 pounds or more, but not greater than 3,800 pounds, and a fee of
28 ~~[\$51.00]~~ \$51 for each such vehicle having a manufacturer's shipping
29 weight in excess of 3,800 pounds; provided, however, an applicant
30 who has been issued a handicapped person identification card pursuant
31 to section 2 of P.L.1949, c.280 (C.39:4-205) and is registering a
32 private passenger van manufactured in model year 1971 or thereafter,
33 except as determined hereinafter, which has been equipped with a
34 wheelchair lift for the handicapped shall pay a fee of \$17 for that
35 vehicle. The applicant for registration for any 1980 or thereafter
36 model year passenger automobile registered on or after March 1, 1979
37 shall pay to the director for each registration a fee of ~~[\$25.00]~~ \$25 for
38 each such vehicle having a manufacturer's shipping weight not greater
39 than 3,500 pounds and a fee of ~~[\$50.00]~~ \$50 for each vehicle having
40 a manufacturer's shipping weight in excess of 3,500 pounds; provided,
41 however, an applicant who has been issued a handicapped person
42 identification card pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1949, c.280 (C.39:4-

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 205) and is registering any 1980 or thereafter model year private
2 passenger van which has been equipped with a wheelchair lift for the
3 handicapped shall pay a fee of \$25 for that vehicle. The director shall
4 determine manufacturer's shipping weight and model year for each
5 passenger automobile on the basis of the information contained in the
6 certificate of origin, the application for registration or for renewal of
7 registration, or the records of the division, or any or all of these; and
8 any case in which the manufacturer's shipping weight of any particular
9 passenger automobile is unavailable, or in doubt or dispute, the
10 director may require that such automobile be weighed on a scale
11 designated by him, and such actual weight shall be considered the
12 manufacturer's shipping weight for the purposes of this section; but in
13 all cases the director's determination of the manufacturer's shipping
14 weight of any such automobile shall be final. The applicant for
15 registration for passenger automobile shall also pay to the director the
16 inspection fee fixed in R.S.39:8-2 in addition to the fees described
17 hereinabove.

18 The director may also license private utility and house type
19 semitrailers and trailers with a gross load not in excess of 2,000
20 pounds at a fee of \$4.00 per annum and all other such utility and
21 house-type semitrailers and trailers at \$9.00 per annum. Application
22 for such registration shall be made on a blank to be furnished by the
23 division and the application shall contain a statement to the effect that
24 the vehicle so registered will not be used for the commercial
25 transportation of goods, wares and merchandise, or for hire.

26 Except as provided in R.S.39:3-84 for recreation vehicles, no
27 private utility or house type semitrailer or trailer with an outside width
28 of more than 96 inches, a maximum height of 13 feet 6 inches, a
29 maximum length for a single vehicle of more than 35 feet, a maximum
30 length for a semitrailer and its towing vehicle of more than 45 feet, and
31 a maximum length for a trailer and its towing vehicle of more than 50
32 feet, shall be operated on any highway in this State, except that a
33 vehicle exceeding the above limitations may be operated when a
34 special permit so to operate is secured in advance from the director.
35 A house type semitrailer or trailer with an outside width of no more
36 than 16 feet shall be entitled to operate with such a special permit if
37 the vehicle is a manufactured home on a transportation system that is
38 designed in accordance with the "Manufactured Home Construction
39 and Safety Standards," 24 CFR part 3280.901 et seq., promulgated by
40 the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, as
41 amended and supplemented, provided that the operator complies with
42 the provisions of this Title and the rules and regulations issued
43 thereunder. If such a vehicle has an outside width of more than
44 16 feet, it shall be entitled to operate with such a special permit if it is
45 transported on a commercial type low-bed trailer, semitrailer or
46 properly registered dolly wheels pursuant to rules and regulations

1 established by the director. The application for such permit shall be
2 accompanied by a fee fixed by the director. A special permit issued by
3 the director shall be in the possession of the operator of the vehicle for
4 which such permit was issued. In computing any dimensions of a
5 vehicle, for the purposes of this section, there shall not be included in
6 the dimensional limitations safety equipment such as mirrors or lights,
7 provided such appliances do not exceed the overall limitations
8 established by the director by rule or regulation.

9 (cf: P.L.1998, c.135, s.1.)

10
11 2. Section 2 of P.L.1968, c. 439 (C.39:3-8.1) is amended to read
12 as follows:

13 2. The director may license noncommercial trucks at the same
14 weight fees set forth in Revised Statutes 39:3-20; provided, however,
15 applicants for registration who have been issued handicapped person
16 identification cards pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1949, c.280 (C.39:4-
17 205) and are registering a noncommercial truck which has been
18 equipped with a wheelchair lift for the handicapped shall pay the same
19 weight fees set forth in R.S.39:3-8 for similarly modified passenger
20 automobiles of the same model year. Application for such registration
21 shall be made on a form to be furnished by the division and the
22 application shall contain a statement to the effect that the vehicle so
23 registered will not be used for the commercial transportation of goods,
24 wares and merchandise, or for hire, and that vehicles so registered will
25 not contain any advertising, signs, lettering, names or addresses on its
26 exterior, excepting trademarks and labels of the manufacturer and
27 dealer.

28 (cf: P.L.1968, c.439, s.2)

29
30 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

31
32
33 STATEMENT

34
35 This bill addresses an inequity that exists under current law for
36 handicapped persons who operate specially modified passenger vans
37 and noncommercial trucks that are equipped with wheelchair lifts.
38 These vehicles tend to be heavy, and thus, are subject to high
39 registration fees. Under this bill, a handicapped person would pay the
40 minimum model year registration fee for any such equipped private
41 passenger van or noncommercial truck, regardless of the vehicle's
42 weight.

43 Under current law, registration fees for passenger automobiles are
44 set according to the model year and the weight of the vehicle. The
45 registration fee for a vehicle manufactured prior to the 1971 model
46 year is \$14 if the manufacturer's shipping weight of the vehicle is less

1 than 2,700 pounds, \$23 if the weight is 2,700 pounds or more, but
2 3,800 pounds or less, and \$44 if the weight is more than 3,800 pounds.
3 The registration fee for a vehicle manufactured in model year 1971 or
4 later, but before model year 1980, is \$17 if the shipping weight is less
5 than 2,700 pounds, \$28 if the weight is 2,700 pounds or more, but
6 3,800 pounds or less and \$51 if the weight exceeds 3,800 pounds.
7 The fee for registering a vehicle manufactured in model year 1980 or
8 later is \$25 if the vehicle is 3,500 pounds or less and \$50 if it is more
9 than 3,500 pounds.

10 Registration fees for noncommercial trucks under current law are
11 based solely on the weight of the vehicle. The registration fee for
12 these trucks is \$53.50 if it weighs 5,000 pounds or less. If the truck
13 weighs more than 5,000 pounds, but not more than 18,000 pounds, the
14 fee is \$53.50 plus \$11.50 for each 1,000 pounds or portion thereof in
15 excess of 5,000 pounds. Trucks that weigh more than 18,000 pounds
16 pay proportionally higher rates.

17 Under this bill, the registration fee for private passenger vans and
18 noncommercial trucks which have been equipped with wheelchair lifts
19 and which are being registered by persons who have been issued a
20 handicapped person identification card would be assessed the minimum
21 statutory amount charged private passenger automobile registrants.
22 For example, if the vehicle was manufactured in a model year prior to
23 1971, the fee would be \$14; if the vehicle's model year is 1971 or
24 later, but earlier than 1980, it would be \$17; and if the model year is
25 1980 or later, the fee would be \$25. These fees would be applicable
26 to all such vehicles of the specified model years, irrespective of their
27 weight.

28 Handicapped person identification cards are issued to persons who
29 have lost a limb, are permanently disabled or have limited mobility as
30 certified by a physician. The card holder is issued a special placard to
31 be displayed in his or her vehicle indicating that the vehicle may be
32 parked in special parking places designated for use by the
33 handicapped. The card holder also may obtain special wheelchair
34 symbol license plates.

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 2920

with Assembly committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 2, 1999

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 2920 with committee amendments.

Assembly Bill No. 2920, as amended, revises the law governing motor vehicle registration fees as it applies to handicapped persons who operate private passenger vans and noncommercial trucks equipped with certain modifications for their use of those vehicles. (A noncommercial truck is a motor vehicle other than a commercial vehicle that is designed to transport property.) Vehicles so equipped tend to be heavy and, under the weight-based schedules now in effect, are subject to high registration fees. Under the bill, a handicapped person operating one of these vehicles would pay the minimum model year registration fee for a passenger automobile or noncommercial truck, regardless of the vehicle's weight.

Under current law, registration fees for passenger automobiles are set according to the model year and the weight of the vehicle. The registration fee for a passenger automobile manufactured prior to the 1971 model year is \$14 if the manufacturer's shipping weight of the vehicle is less than 2,700 pounds, rising to \$44 if the weight is more than 3,800 pounds. The registration fee for a passenger automobile manufactured in model year 1971 or later, but before model year 1980, is \$17 if the shipping weight is less than 2,700 pounds, rising to \$51 if the weight exceeds 3,800 pounds. The fee for registering a passenger automobile manufactured in model year 1980 or later is \$25 if the vehicle weight is 3,500 pounds or less and \$50 if it is more than 3,500 pounds.

For noncommercial trucks, registration fees are based solely on the weight of the vehicle. The registration fee for one of these trucks is \$53.50 if it weighs 5,000 pounds or less. For each 1,000 pounds (or portion thereof) over 5,000 pounds an additional fee is imposed at a rate that increases with overall tonnage; for trucks that weigh more than 50,000 pounds, the total fee is \$53.50 plus \$13.50 for each 1,000 pounds over 5,000.

Under the bill, the registration fee for a private passenger van or noncommercial truck that (1) has been equipped with a wheelchair lift, or any other specially designed mechanical device for the handicapped

that specifically requires installation in an oversized vehicle because of the device's dimensions, operating characteristics, or manufacturer's installation requirements and is designated by the director of the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV), and (2) is registered by a person who has been issued a handicapped person identification card would be \$14 if the vehicle was manufactured in a model year prior to 1971, \$17 if the vehicle's model year is 1971 or later, but earlier than 1980, and \$25 if the model year is 1980 or later. These fees would be applicable to all such vehicles of the specified model years, irrespective of their weight.

Handicapped person identification cards are issued to persons who have lost a limb, are permanently disabled or have limited mobility as certified by a physician. The card holder is issued a special placard to be displayed in his or her vehicle indicating that the vehicle may be parked in special parking places designated for use by the handicapped. The card holder also may obtain special wheelchair symbol license plates.

As amended and reported by this committee, the bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 1345 SCS as amended and reported by this committee.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The DMV has indicated that it has no estimate of the number of vehicles that this bill would impact. Consequently, the Office of Legislative Services (OLS) cannot quantify the loss of revenue to the State by requiring that only the minimum vehicle registration fee would be levied on certain vehicles owned by handicapped persons rather than the amounts stipulated in current law.

In addition to the loss of revenue, DMV also anticipates that it would incur a computer programming cost to establish a new category of registration fees. However, as the Office of Information Technology has not yet developed a cost estimate for DMV for the establishment of this new registration category, OLS is unable to provide an estimate on this new, one-time cost.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The amendments provide that, in addition to wheelchair lifts, the lower registration fee will be allowed for other specially designed devices for the handicapped. The amendments further provide that the specially designed device must be installed in a passenger van or noncommercial truck because the design requirements of the device require an oversized vehicle, clarifying the intent to provide the lower registration fees for those whose needs cannot be accommodated by a passenger automobile.

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 2920

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 17, 1999

The Assembly Transportation Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 2920.

This bill addresses an inequity that exists under current law for handicapped persons who operate specially modified passenger vans and noncommercial trucks that are equipped with wheelchair lifts. These vehicles tend to be heavy, and thus, are subject to high registration fees. Under this bill, a handicapped person would pay the minimum model year registration fee for any such equipped private passenger van or noncommercial truck, regardless of the vehicle's weight.

Under current law, registration fees for passenger automobiles are set according to the model year and the weight of the vehicle. The registration fee for a vehicle manufactured prior to the 1971 model year is \$14 if the manufacturer's shipping weight of the vehicle is less than 2,700 pounds, \$23 if the weight is 2,700 pounds or more, but 3,800 pounds or less, and \$44 if the weight is more than 3,800 pounds. The registration fee for a vehicle manufactured in model year 1971 or later, but before model year 1980, is \$17 if the shipping weight is less than 2,700 pounds, \$28 if the weight is 2,700 pounds or more, but 3,800 pounds or less and \$51 if the weight exceeds 3,800 pounds. The fee for registering a vehicle manufactured in model year 1980 or later is \$25 if the vehicle is 3,500 pounds or less and \$50 if it is more than 3,500 pounds.

Registration fees for noncommercial trucks under current law are based solely on the weight of the vehicle. The registration fee for these trucks is \$53.50 if it weighs 5,000 pounds or less. If the truck weighs more than 5,000 pounds, but not more than 18,000 pounds, the fee is \$53.50 plus \$11.50 for each 1,000 pounds or portion thereof in excess of 5,000 pounds. Trucks that weigh more than 18,000 pounds pay proportionally higher rates.

Under this bill, the registration fee for private passenger vans and noncommercial trucks which have been equipped with wheelchair lifts and which are being registered by persons who have been issued a handicapped person identification card would be assessed the minimum statutory amount charged private passenger automobile registrants. For example, if the vehicle was manufactured in a model year prior to 1971, the fee would be \$14; if the vehicle's model year is 1971 or

later, but earlier than 1980, it would be \$17; and if the model year is 1980 or later, the fee would be \$25. These fees would be applicable to all such vehicles of the specified model years, irrespective of their weight.

Handicapped person identification cards are issued to persons who have lost a limb, are permanently disabled or have limited mobility as certified by a physician. The card holder is issued a special placard to be displayed in his or her vehicle indicating that the vehicle may be parked in special parking places designated for use by the handicapped. The card holder also may obtain special wheelchair symbol license plates.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

ASSEMBLY, No. 2920

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

208th LEGISLATURE

DATED: JANUARY 10, 2000

Assembly Bill No. 2920 of 1999 provides that a handicapped person issued an identification card pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1949, c.280 (C.39:4-205) who registers a passenger van or a noncommercial truck would pay the statutory minimum fee of \$14 if the vehicle was manufactured in a model year prior to 1971, \$17 if the vehicle's model year is 1971 to 1979, and \$25 if the model year is 1980 or later. Currently, depending on the weight and year of a vehicle, vehicle registration fees can be as high as \$51 for passenger vehicles and \$53.50 or more for noncommercial trucks.

The Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has indicated that it has no estimate of the number of vehicles that this bill would impact. Consequently, the Office of Legislative Services (OLS) cannot quantify the loss of revenue to the State by requiring that only the minimum vehicle registration fee would be levied on certain vehicles owned by handicapped persons rather than the amounts stipulated in current law.

In addition to the loss of revenue, DMV also anticipates that it would incur a computer programming cost to establish a new category of registration fees. However, since the Office of Information Technology has not yet developed a cost estimate for DMV for the establishment of this new registration category, OLS is unable to provide an estimate on this new, one-time cost.

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67.