

39:3-4

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF: 2004 **CHAPTER:** 64

NJSA: 39:3-4 (Automobile registration period for new cars—4 years)

BILL NO: A3107 (Substituted for S1658)

SPONSOR(S): Sires

DATE INTRODUCED: June 14, 2004

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** Appropriations

SENATE: ---

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE: **ASSEMBLY:** June 24, 2004

SENATE: June 24, 2004

DATE OF APPROVAL: June 30, 2004

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

[FINAL TEXT OF BILL](#) (Original version of bill enacted)

A3107

[SPONSOR'S STATEMENT:](#) (Begins on page 11 of original bill) [Yes](#)

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

SENATE: No

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

[LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:](#) [Yes](#)

S1658

[SPONSOR'S STATEMENT:](#) (Begins on page 9 of original bill) [Yes](#)

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** No

SENATE: [Yes](#)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

[LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:](#) [Yes](#)

Identical to Fiscal Estimate to A3107

VETO MESSAGE: No

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FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

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REPORTS:

No

HEARINGS:

No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:

No

P.L. 2004, CHAPTER 64, *approved June 30, 2004*
Assembly, No. 3107
(CORRECTED COPY)

1 **AN ACT** concerning the registration of certain motor vehicles and
2 amending R.S.39:3-4, R.S.39:3-8, R.S.39:3-31, P.L.1961, c.77 and
3 P.L.2003. c.13.

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

7
8 1. R.S.39:3-4 is amended to read as follows:

9 39:3-4. Except as hereinafter provided, every resident of this State
10 and every nonresident whose automobile or motorcycle shall be driven
11 in this State shall, before using such vehicle on the public highways,
12 register the same, and no automobile or motorcycle shall be driven
13 unless so registered.

14 Such registration shall be made in the following manner: An
15 application in writing, signed by the applicant or by an agent or officer,
16 in case the applicant is a corporation, shall be made to the chief
17 administrator or the chief administrator's agent, on forms prepared and
18 supplied by the chief administrator, containing the name, street address
19 of the residence or the business of the owner, mailing address, if
20 different from the street address of the owner's residence or business,
21 and age of the owner, together with a description of the character of
22 the automobile or motorcycle, including the name of the maker and the
23 vehicle identification number, or the manufacturer's number or the
24 number assigned by the chief administrator if the vehicle does not have
25 a vehicle identification number, and any other statement that may be
26 required by the chief administrator. A post office box shall appear on
27 the application only as part of a mailing address that is submitted by
28 the owner, agent or officer, as the case may be, in addition to the
29 street address of the applicant's residence or business; provided,
30 however, the chief administrator, upon application, shall permit a
31 person who was a victim of a violation of N.J.S.2C:12-10,
32 N.J.S.2C:14-2, or N.J.S.2C:25-17 et seq., or who the chief
33 administrator otherwise determines to have good cause, to use as a
34 mailing address a post office box, an address other than the applicant's
35 address or other contact point. An owner whose last address appears
36 on the records of the division as a post office box shall change his
37 address on his application for renewal to the street address of his
38 residence or business and, if different from his street address, his
39 mailing address unless the chief administrator has determined, pursuant
40 to this section, that the owner may use a post office box, an address

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 other than the owner's address or other contact point as a mailing
2 address. The application shall contain the name of the insurer of the
3 vehicle and the policy number. If the vehicle is a leased motor vehicle,
4 the application shall make note of that fact and shall include along with
5 the name and street address of the lessor the name, street address and
6 driver license number of the lessee.

7 Thereupon the chief administrator shall have the power to grant a
8 registration certificate to the owner of any motor vehicle, if over 17
9 years of age, application for the registration having been properly
10 made and the fee therefor paid, and the vehicle being of a type that
11 complies with the requirements of this title. The form and contents of
12 the registration certificate to be issued shall be determined by the chief
13 administrator.

14 If the vehicle is a leased motor vehicle, the registration certificate
15 shall, in addition to containing the name and street address of the
16 lessor, identify the vehicle as a leased motor vehicle.

17 The chief administrator shall maintain a record of all registration
18 certificates issued, and of the contents thereof.

19 Every registration shall expire and the registration certificate
20 thereof become void on the last day of the twelfth calendar month
21 following the calendar month in which the certificate was issued;
22 provided, however, that the chief administrator may, at his discretion,
23 require registrations which shall expire, and issue certificates thereof
24 which shall become void, on a date fixed by him, which date shall not
25 be sooner than three months nor later than 26 months after the date of
26 issuance of such certificates, and the fees for such registrations,
27 including any other fees or charges collected in connection with the
28 registration fee, shall be fixed by the chief administrator in amounts
29 proportionately less or greater than the fees established by law. The
30 chief administrator may fix the expiration date for registration
31 certificates at a date other than 12 months if the chief administrator
32 determines that the change is necessary, appropriate or convenient in
33 order to aid in implementing the vehicle inspection requirements of
34 chapter 8 of Title 39 or for other good cause. The chief administrator
35 may, for good cause extend a registration beyond the expiration date
36 that appears upon the registration certificate for periods not to exceed
37 12 additional months. The chief administrator may extend the
38 expiration date of a registration without payment of a proportionate
39 fee when the chief administrator determines that such extension is
40 necessary for good cause. If any registration is so extended, the
41 owner shall pay upon renewal the full registration fee for the period
42 fixed by the chief administrator as if no extension had been granted.

43 Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, every
44 registration for new passenger automobiles shall expire and the
45 registration certificate shall become void on the last day of the 48th
46 calendar month following the calendar month in which the certificate

1 was initially issued. On and after February 1, 2005, the provisions of
2 this paragraph shall not apply to new passenger automobiles purchased
3 by a rental company for use as rental passenger automobiles. As used
4 in this paragraph, "rental company" means a person engaged in the
5 business of renting motor vehicles; and "rental passenger automobile"
6 means a passenger automobile that is rented without a driver and used
7 in the transportation of persons or property other than commercial
8 freight.

9 If the new passenger automobile being registered is a leased
10 passenger automobile, the registration shall expire in accordance with
11 the term of the lease. If the term of the lease extends beyond one or
12 more 12-month periods by one or more months, the registration period
13 shall be based upon the full year into which one or more of the months
14 extend; provided, however, the registration period for a leased
15 automobile shall not exceed 48-months.

16 Following the 48-month period of the initial registration of a new
17 passenger automobile, the subsequent registration shall expire, and the
18 registration certificate shall become void, on the last day of the 12th
19 calendar month following the calendar month in which the certificate
20 was next issued.

21 All motorcycles for which registrations have been issued prior to
22 the effective date of P.L.1989, c.167 and which are scheduled to
23 expire between November 1 and March 31 shall, upon renewal, be
24 issued registrations by the chief administrator which shall expire on a
25 date fixed by him, but in no case shall that expiration date be earlier
26 than April 30 nor later than October 31. The fees for the renewal of
27 the motorcycle registrations authorized under this paragraph shall be
28 fixed by the chief administrator in an amount proportionately less or
29 greater than the fee established by R.S.39:3-21.

30 Application forms for all renewals of registrations for passenger
31 automobiles shall be sent to the last addresses of owners of motor
32 vehicles and motorcycles, as they appear on the records of the
33 division.

34 No person owning or having control over any unregistered vehicle
35 shall permit the same to be parked or to stand on a public highway.

36 Any police officer is authorized to remove any unregistered vehicle
37 from the public highway to a storage space or garage, and the expense
38 involved in such removal and storing of the vehicle shall be borne by
39 the owner of the vehicle, except that the expense shall be borne by the
40 lessee of a leased vehicle.

41 Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be subject
42 to a fine not exceeding \$100, except that for the misstatement of any
43 fact in the application required to be made to the chief administrator,
44 the person making such statement or omitting the statement that the
45 motor vehicle is to be used as a leased motor vehicle when that is the
46 case shall be subject to the penalties provided in R.S.39:3-37.

1 The chief administrator may extend the expiration date of a
2 registration certificate without payment of a proportionate fee when
3 the chief administrator determines that such extension is necessary,
4 appropriate or convenient to the implementation of vehicle inspection
5 requirements. If any registration certificate is so extended, the owner
6 shall pay upon renewal the full registration fee for the period fixed by
7 the chief administrator as if no extension had been granted.

8 The New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission shall make a
9 reasonable effort to notify any lessor whose name and address is on
10 file with the commission, or any other lessor the commission may
11 determine it is necessary to notify, of the requirements of this
12 amendatory act.

13 A lessor doing business in this State shall notify in writing the lessee
14 of a motor vehicle registered pursuant to this Title of any change in its
15 policies or procedures affecting the registration of the motor vehicle.
16 (cf: P.L.2003, c.212, s.1)

17

18 2. R.S.39:3-8 is amended to read as follows:

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

1 (C.39:4-205) and is registering a private passenger van manufactured
2 in model year 1971 or thereafter, except as determined hereinafter,
3 which has been equipped with a wheelchair lift for the handicapped, or
4 any other specially designed mechanical device for the handicapped as
5 designated by the [director] chief administrator that specifically
6 requires installation only in a private passenger van because of the
7 device's dimensions, operating characteristics or manufacturer's
8 installation requirements, shall pay a fee of \$17 for that vehicle. The
9 applicant for registration for any 1980 or thereafter model year
10 passenger automobile registered on or after March 1, 1979 shall pay
11 to the [director] chief administrator for each registration a fee of \$25
12 for each such vehicle having a manufacturer's shipping weight not
13 greater than 3,500 pounds and a fee of \$50 for each vehicle having a
14 manufacturer's shipping weight in excess of 3,500 pounds; provided,
15 however, an applicant who has been issued a handicapped person
16 identification card pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1949, c.280
17 (C.39:4-205) and is registering any 1980 or thereafter model year
18 private passenger van which has been equipped with a wheelchair lift
19 for the handicapped, or any other specially designed mechanical device
20 for the handicapped as designated by the [director] chief
21 administrator that specifically requires installation only in a private
22 passenger van because of the device's dimensions, operating
23 characteristics or manufacturer's installation requirements, shall pay a
24 fee of \$25 for that vehicle. Notwithstanding any other provision of
25 law to the contrary, the applicant for registration for any new
26 passenger automobile, for which the registration will expire on the last
27 day of the 48th calendar month following the calendar month in which
28 it was first issued, or for the term of the lease if the new passenger
29 automobile is a leased motor vehicle subject to an extended
30 registration period pursuant to R.S.39:3-4, shall prepay to the chief
31 administrator the full amount due for the 48-month term, or the full
32 amount due based upon the term of the lease if the new passenger
33 automobile is a leased motor vehicle, upon the initial registration. The
34 portion of that prepayment that is dedicated to specific purposes in
35 accordance with section 110 of P.L.2003, c.13 (C.39:2A-38) and
36 subsections a. and b. of section 1 of P.L.1992, c.87 (C.39:3-8.2) shall
37 be deposited in their respective dedicated accounts. The [director]
38 chief administrator shall determine manufacturer's shipping weight and
39 model year for each passenger automobile on the basis of the
40 information contained in the certificate of origin, the application for
41 registration or for renewal of registration, or the records of the
42 division, or any or all of these; and any case in which the
43 manufacturer's shipping weight of any particular passenger automobile
44 is unavailable, or in doubt or dispute, the [director] chief
45 administrator may require that such automobile be weighed on a scale
46 designated by him, and such actual weight shall be considered the

1 manufacturer's shipping weight for the purposes of this section; but in
2 all cases the [director's] chief administrator's determination of the
3 manufacturer's shipping weight of any such automobile shall be final.
4 The applicant for registration for passenger automobile shall also pay
5 to the [director] chief administrator the inspection fee fixed in
6 R.S.39:8-2 in addition to the fees described hereinabove.

7 The [director] chief administrator may also license private utility
8 and house type semitrailers and trailers with a gross load not in excess
9 of 2,000 pounds at a fee of \$4.00 per annum and all other such utility
10 and house-type semitrailers and trailers at \$9.00 per annum.
11 Application for such registration shall be made on a blank to be
12 furnished by the [division] commission and the application shall
13 contain a statement to the effect that the vehicle so registered will not
14 be used for the commercial transportation of goods, wares and
15 merchandise, or for hire.

16 Except as provided in R.S.39:3-84 for recreation vehicles, no
17 private utility or house type semitrailer or trailer with an outside width
18 of more than 96 inches, a maximum height of 13 feet 6 inches, a
19 maximum length for a single vehicle of more than 35 feet, a maximum
20 length for a semitrailer and its towing vehicle of more than 45 feet, and
21 a maximum length for a trailer and its towing vehicle of more than 50
22 feet, shall be operated on any highway in this State, except that a
23 vehicle exceeding the above limitations may be operated when a
24 special permit so to operate is secured in advance from the [director]
25 chief administrator. A house type semitrailer or trailer with an outside
26 width of no more than 16 feet shall be entitled to operate with such a
27 special permit if the vehicle is a manufactured home on a
28 transportation system that is designed in accordance with the
29 "Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards," 24 CFR
30 part 3280.901 et seq., promulgated by the United States Department
31 of Housing and Urban Development, as amended and supplemented,
32 provided that the operator complies with the provisions of this Title
33 and the rules and regulations issued thereunder. If such a vehicle has
34 an outside width of more than 16 feet, it shall be entitled to operate
35 with such a special permit if it is transported on a commercial type
36 low-bed trailer, semitrailer or properly registered dolly wheels
37 pursuant to rules and regulations established by the [director] chief
38 administrator. The application for such permit shall be accompanied
39 by a fee fixed by the [director] chief administrator. A special permit
40 issued by the [director] chief administrator shall be in the possession
41 of the operator of the vehicle for which such permit was issued. In
42 computing any dimensions of a vehicle, for the purposes of this
43 section, there shall not be included in the dimensional limitations safety
44 equipment such as mirrors or lights, provided such appliances do not
45 exceed the overall limitations established by the [director] chief

1 administrator by rule or regulation.

2 (cf: P.L.1999, c.392, s.1)

3

4 3. R.S.39:3-31 is amended to read as follows:

5 39:3-31. The **[director]** chief administrator, upon presentation of
6 a statement duly sworn to, stating that the original registration
7 certificate or original motorized bicycle registration certificate has
8 been destroyed, lost or stolen, may, if he is satisfied that the facts as
9 set forth in the statement are substantially true, issue a duplicate or
10 amended registration certificate or motorized bicycle registration
11 certificate to the original holder thereof, upon the payment to the
12 **[director]** chief administrator of a fee of \$5 for each duplicate or
13 amended registration certificate or motorized bicycle registration
14 certificate so issued. The **[director]** chief administrator, upon
15 presentation of a statement, duly sworn to, stating that the original
16 driver's license has been destroyed, lost or stolen, or requesting a new
17 color picture, may, if he is satisfied that the facts as set forth in the
18 statement are substantially true, issue a duplicate driver's license to the
19 original holder thereof, upon payment to the **[director]** chief
20 administrator of a fee of \$5 in addition to the digitized picture fee.
21 Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the fee for
22 a duplicate or amended registration certificate for any new passenger
23 automobile required to be registered for a 48-month term or for any
24 new passenger automobile leased for a term of more than 12 months
25 pursuant to R.S.39:3-4, shall be \$11.

26 (cf: P.L.2001, c.391, s.9)

27

28 4. Section 1 of P.L.1961, c.77 (C.39:3-31.1) is amended to read
29 as follows:

30 1. The **[Director]** Chief Administrator of the **[Division of Motor**
31 **Vehicles]** New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, upon presentation
32 of a statement by the holder of an original registration certificate that
33 he requires a duplicate registration certificate for use by members of
34 his family, shall issue a duplicate original registration certificate to the
35 holder of the original registration certificate upon the payment to the
36 **[director]** chief administrator of a fee of \$5. Notwithstanding any
37 other provision of law to the contrary, the fee for a duplicate
38 registration certificate for any new passenger automobile required to
39 be registered for a 48-month term or for any new passenger
40 automobile leased for a term of more than 12 months pursuant to
41 R.S.39:3-4, shall be \$11.

42 Any such duplicate original registration certificate may be used in
43 the same manner and for the same purpose as the original registration
44 certificate but may be used only by the holder of the original
45 registration certificate or a member of his family. Any reference to the
46 original registration certificate in the chapter to which this act is

1 supplementary or in Title 39 of the Revised Statutes as amended and
2 supplemented shall be deemed to include any and all duplicate original
3 registration certificates issued pursuant to this act and, in the event
4 that the holder of the original registration certificate shall be required
5 to surrender the same by virtue of the provisions of any law, he shall
6 also be required to surrender the duplicate original registration
7 certificate if he shall have had such duplicate original registration
8 certificate issued to him. The [said director] chief administrator shall
9 make and promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary
10 to effectuate the purposes of this act.

11 This section shall also apply to registration certificates for
12 motorized bicycles.

13 (cf: P.L.1994, c.60, s.19)

14

15 5. Section 105 of P.L.2003, c.13 (C.39:2A-36) is amended to read
16 as follows:

17 105. a. The first \$200,000,000 of fees and surcharges thereon
18 collected pursuant to the following statutes shall be considered service
19 charges which are revenues to be remitted to the New Jersey Motor
20 Vehicle Commission and the remainder shall be remitted to the
21 General Fund, provided that if the total amount of such fees and
22 surcharges collected, as verified by the relevant fiscal year New Jersey
23 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, produce more or less
24 revenue than the sum of \$200,000,000 and the amount anticipated in
25 the fiscal year 2004 Appropriations Act for those statutes, then the
26 \$200,000,000 in revenue from those service charges to the commission
27 shall be increased or lowered proportionately:

28 Section 4 of P.L.1995, c.401 (C.12:7-73); section 24 of P.L.1984,
29 c.152 (C.12:7A-24); section 28 of P.L.1984, c.152 (C.12:7A-28);
30 section 1 of P.L.1983, c.65 (C.17:29A-33); section 6 of P.L.1983,
31 c.65 (C.17:29A-35); section 9 of P.L.1998, c.108 (C.27:5F-42);
32 R.S.39:2-10; section 1 of P.L.1969, c.301 (C.39:3-4b); section 2 of
33 P.L.1969, c.301 (C.39:3-4c); R.S.39:3-8; section 2 of P.L.1968, c.439
34 (C.39:3-8.1); section 1 of P.L.1992, c.87 (C.39:3-8.2); R.S.39:3-10;
35 section 23 of P.L.1975, c.180 (C.39:3-10a); section 1 of P.L.1977,
36 c.23 (C.39:3-10b); section 1 of P.L.1979, c.261 (C.39:3-10f); section
37 22 of P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-10.30); R.S.39:3-13; R.S.39:3-18;
38 R.S.39:3-19; section 2 of P.L.1974, c.162 (C.39:3-19.2); section 12
39 of P.L.1979, c.224 (C.39:3-19.5); R.S.39:3-20; section 1 of P.L.1973,
40 c.319 (C.39:3-20.1); R.S.39:3-21; R.S.39:3-24; R.S.39:3-25;
41 R.S.39:3-26; section 2 of P.L.1964, c.195 (C.39:3-27.4); section 2 of
42 P.L.1968, c.247 (C.39:3-27.6); section 2 of P.L.1977, c.369
43 (C.39:3-27.9); section 2 of P.L.1979, c.457 (C.39:3-27.16); section 2
44 of P.L.1981, c.139 (C.39:3-27.19); R.S.39:3-28; R.S.39:3-30;
45 R.S.39:3-31; section 1 of P.L.1961, c.77 (C.39:3-31.1); R.S.39:3-32;
46 section 1 of P.L.1999, c.192 (C.39:3-33a); section 1 of P.L.2001, c.35

1 (C.39:3-33b); section 2 of P.L.1959, c.56 (C.39:3-33.4); section 4 of
2 P.L.1959, c.56 (C.39:3-33.6); R.S.39:3-36; section 1 of P.L.1979,
3 c.314 (C.39:3-54.14); section 2 of P.L.1999, c.308 (C.39:3-75.2);
4 R.S.39:3-84; section 2 of P.L.1999, c.396 (C.39:3-84.7); section 3 of
5 P.L.1973, c.307 (C.39:3C-3); section 10 of P.L. 1983, c.105
6 (C.39:4-14.3j); section 23 of P.L.1983, c.105 (C.39:4-14.3w);
7 R.S.39:4-26; R.S.39:4-30; section 11 of P.L.1985, c.14
8 (C.39:4-139.12); section 1 of P.L.1972, c.38 (C.39:5-30.4); section 31
9 of P.L.1994, c.60 (C.39:5-36.1); section 20 of P.L.1952, c.173
10 (C.39:6-42); section 2 of P.L.1983, c.141 (C.39:6B-3); R.S.39:7-3;
11 section 3 of P.L.1975, c.156 (C.39:8-11); section 8 of P.L.1975, c.156
12 (C.39:8-16); section 9 of P.L.1975, c.156 (C.39:8-17); section 15 of
13 P.L.1975, c.156 (C.39:8-23); section 5 of P.L.1995, c.112
14 (C.39:8-45); section 7 of P.L.1995, c.112 (C.39:8-47); section 12 of
15 P.L.1995, c.112 (C.39:8-52); section 11 of P.L.1995, c.157
16 (C.39:8-69); section 13 of P.L.1995, c.112 (C.39:8-53); section 14 of
17 P.L. 1995, c.112 (C.39:8-54); R.S.39:10-11; R.S.39:10-12;
18 R.S.39:10-14; R.S.39:10-16; R.S.39:10-19; R.S.39:10-25; section 5
19 of P.L.1983, c.323 (C.39:10-35); section 8 of P.L.1983, c.455
20 (C.39:10A-15); R.S.39:11-8; section 2 of P.L.1951, c.216
21 (C.39:12-2); section 5 of P.L.1951, c.216 (C.39:12-5); and section 2
22 of P.L.1983, c.360 (C.39:13-2).

23 Proportional revenues remitted to the commission for the fiscal
24 years beginning July 1, 2004 and thereafter shall have the same
25 proportion as the proportional revenues remitted to the commission
26 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2003, and this calculation shall not
27 be impacted by the acceleration of revenue attributable to new
28 passenger automobile registrations implemented pursuant to P.L. _____,
29 c. _____ (now pending before the Legislature as this bill).

30 b. In addition to the proportionately increased or lowered revenue
31 provided for in subsection a. of this section, the commission shall
32 receive 100 percent of the revenues collected from any new service
33 charge and 100 percent of the increased revenues collected from any
34 existing service charge increased by law. Any new or increased
35 service charge shall not be included in the calculation of the
36 proportional revenue remitted to the commission.

37 c. In addition to the revenues provided for in subsections a. and b.
38 of this section, all fees collected pursuant to Chapter 3 of Title 39 of
39 the Revised Statutes required to defray the costs of the commission
40 with respect to producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing license
41 plates, or related computer programming shall be considered revenues
42 of the commission notwithstanding any other provision of law.

43 d. Revenues of the commission shall not be subject to
44 appropriation as direct State services by the Legislature. In addition,
45 the revenues of the commission shall not be restricted from use by the
46 commission in any manner except as provided by law. Revenues of the

1 commission may be used in the furtherance of any purpose of the
2 commission or as otherwise provided for by law.

3 (cf: P.L.2003, c.13, s.105)

4

5 6. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, the
6 Chief Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Commission may, for good
7 cause, delay the implementation of the provisions of this act for a
8 period not to extend beyond October 1, 2004.

9

10

11

STATEMENT

12

13 This bill would establish a four-year registration period for new
14 passenger automobiles. Registration for new passenger automobiles
15 that are leased will expire upon expiration of the lease, but the
16 registration period for a leased automobile may not be more than 48
17 months. After the four-year registration period has expired,
18 registration would be annually required.

19 The bill requires full payment of the registration fee upon initial
20 registration. The bill also establishes an \$11 fee for a duplicate or
21 amended registration.

22 Further, the bill includes an exemption for new passenger
23 automobiles purchased by rental companies for use as rental
24 automobiles.

25 Finally, the bill clarifies the manner in which the accelerated
26 revenues generated through this new four-year registration program
27 will be calculated and distributed.

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32 Establishes four-year registration period for new passenger
33 automobiles.

ASSEMBLY, No. 3107

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

211th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 14, 2004

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman ALBIO SIRES
District 33 (Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes four-year registration period for new passenger automobiles.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



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2

1 AN ACT concerning the registration of certain motor vehicles and
2 amending R.S.39:3-4, R.S.39:3-8, R.S.39:3-31, P.L.1961, c.77 and
3 P.L.2003. c.13.

4

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

7

8 1. R.S.39:3-4 is amended to read as follows:

9 39:3-4. Except as hereinafter provided, every resident of this State
10 and every nonresident whose automobile or motorcycle shall be driven
11 in this State shall, before using such vehicle on the public highways,
12 register the same, and no automobile or motorcycle shall be driven
13 unless so registered.

14 Such registration shall be made in the following manner: An
15 application in writing, signed by the applicant or by an agent or officer,
16 in case the applicant is a corporation, shall be made to the chief
17 administrator or the chief administrator's agent, on forms prepared and
18 supplied by the chief administrator, containing the name, street address
19 of the residence or the business of the owner, mailing address, if
20 different from the street address of the owner's residence or business,
21 and age of the owner, together with a description of the character of
22 the automobile or motorcycle, including the name of the maker and the
23 vehicle identification number, or the manufacturer's number or the
24 number assigned by the chief administrator if the vehicle does not have
25 a vehicle identification number, and any other statement that may be
26 required by the chief administrator. A post office box shall appear on
27 the application only as part of a mailing address that is submitted by
28 the owner, agent or officer, as the case may be, in addition to the
29 street address of the applicant's residence or business; provided,
30 however, the chief administrator, upon application, shall permit a
31 person who was a victim of a violation of N.J.S.2C:12-10,
32 N.J.S.2C:14-2, or N.J.S.2C:25-17 et seq., or who the chief
33 administrator otherwise determines to have good cause, to use as a
34 mailing address a post office box, an address other than the applicant's
35 address or other contact point. An owner whose last address appears
36 on the records of the division as a post office box shall change his
37 address on his application for renewal to the street address of his
38 residence or business and, if different from his street address, his
39 mailing address unless the chief administrator has determined, pursuant
40 to this section, that the owner may use a post office box, an address
41 other than the owner's address or other contact point as a mailing
42 address. The application shall contain the name of the insurer of the
43 vehicle and the policy number. If the vehicle is a leased motor vehicle,

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

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1 the application shall make note of that fact and shall include along with
2 the name and street address of the lessor the name, street address and
3 driver license number of the lessee.

4 Thereupon the chief administrator shall have the power to grant a
5 registration certificate to the owner of any motor vehicle, if over 17
6 years of age, application for the registration having been properly
7 made and the fee therefor paid, and the vehicle being of a type that
8 complies with the requirements of this title. The form and contents of
9 the registration certificate to be issued shall be determined by the chief
10 administrator.

11 If the vehicle is a leased motor vehicle, the registration certificate
12 shall, in addition to containing the name and street address of the
13 lessor, identify the vehicle as a leased motor vehicle.

14 The chief administrator shall maintain a record of all registration
15 certificates issued, and of the contents thereof.

16 Every registration shall expire and the registration certificate
17 thereof become void on the last day of the twelfth calendar month
18 following the calendar month in which the certificate was issued;
19 provided, however, that the chief administrator may, at his discretion,
20 require registrations which shall expire, and issue certificates thereof
21 which shall become void, on a date fixed by him, which date shall not
22 be sooner than three months nor later than 26 months after the date of
23 issuance of such certificates, and the fees for such registrations,
24 including any other fees or charges collected in connection with the
25 registration fee, shall be fixed by the chief administrator in amounts
26 proportionately less or greater than the fees established by law. The
27 chief administrator may fix the expiration date for registration
28 certificates at a date other than 12 months if the chief administrator
29 determines that the change is necessary, appropriate or convenient in
30 order to aid in implementing the vehicle inspection requirements of
31 chapter 8 of Title 39 or for other good cause. The chief administrator
32 may, for good cause extend a registration beyond the expiration date
33 that appears upon the registration certificate for periods not to exceed
34 12 additional months. The chief administrator may extend the
35 expiration date of a registration without payment of a proportionate
36 fee when the chief administrator determines that such extension is
37 necessary for good cause. If any registration is so extended, the
38 owner shall pay upon renewal the full registration fee for the period
39 fixed by the chief administrator as if no extension had been granted.

40 Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, every
41 registration for new passenger automobiles shall expire and the
42 registration certificate shall become void on the last day of the 48th
43 calendar month following the calendar month in which the certificate
44 was initially issued. On and after January 1, 2005, the provisions of
45 this paragraph shall not apply to new passenger automobiles purchased
46 by a rental company for use as rental passenger automobiles. As used

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1 in this paragraph, "rental company" means a person engaged in the
2 business of renting motor vehicles; and "rental passenger automobile"
3 means a passenger automobile that is rented without a driver and used
4 in the transportation of persons or property other than commercial
5 freight.

6 If the new passenger automobile being registered is a leased
7 passenger automobile, the registration shall expire in accordance with
8 the term of the lease. If the term of the lease extends beyond one or
9 more 12-month periods by one or more months, the registration period
10 shall be based upon the full year into which one or more of the months
11 extend; provided, however, the registration period for a leased
12 automobile shall not exceed 48 months.

13 Following the 48-month period of the initial registration, the
14 subsequent registration shall expire, and the registration certificate
15 shall become void, on the last day of the 12th calendar month
16 following the calendar month in which the certificate was next issued.

17 All motorcycles for which registrations have been issued prior to
18 the effective date of P.L.1989, c.167 and which are scheduled to
19 expire between November 1 and March 31 shall, upon renewal, be
20 issued registrations by the chief administrator which shall expire on a
21 date fixed by him, but in no case shall that expiration date be earlier
22 than April 30 nor later than October 31. The fees for the renewal of
23 the motorcycle registrations authorized under this paragraph shall be
24 fixed by the chief administrator in an amount proportionately less or
25 greater than the fee established by R.S.39:3-21.

26 Application forms for all renewals of registrations for passenger
27 automobiles shall be sent to the last addresses of owners of motor
28 vehicles and motorcycles, as they appear on the records of the
29 division.

30 No person owning or having control over any unregistered vehicle
31 shall permit the same to be parked or to stand on a public highway.

32 Any police officer is authorized to remove any unregistered vehicle
33 from the public highway to a storage space or garage, and the expense
34 involved in such removal and storing of the vehicle shall be borne by
35 the owner of the vehicle, except that the expense shall be borne by the
36 lessee of a leased vehicle.

37 Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be subject
38 to a fine not exceeding \$100, except that for the misstatement of any
39 fact in the application required to be made to the chief administrator,
40 the person making such statement or omitting the statement that the
41 motor vehicle is to be used as a leased motor vehicle when that is the
42 case shall be subject to the penalties provided in R.S.39:3-37.

43 The chief administrator may extend the expiration date of a
44 registration certificate without payment of a proportionate fee when
45 the chief administrator determines that such extension is necessary,
46 appropriate or convenient to the implementation of vehicle inspection

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1 requirements. If any registration certificate is so extended, the owner
2 shall pay upon renewal the full registration fee for the period fixed by
3 the chief administrator as if no extension had been granted.

4 The New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission shall make a
5 reasonable effort to notify any lessor whose name and address is on
6 file with the commission, or any other lessor the commission may
7 determine it is necessary to notify, of the requirements of this
8 amendatory act.

9 A lessor doing business in this State shall notify in writing the lessee
10 of a motor vehicle registered pursuant to this Title of any change in its
11 policies or procedures affecting the registration of the motor vehicle.
12 (cf: P.L. 2003, c.212, s.1)

13

14 2. R.S.39:3-8 is amended to read as follows:

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

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1 designated by the [director] chief administrator that specifically
2 requires installation only in a private passenger van because of the
3 device's dimensions, operating characteristics or manufacturer's
4 installation requirements, shall pay a fee of \$17 for that vehicle. The
5 applicant for registration for any 1980 or thereafter model year
6 passenger automobile registered on or after March 1, 1979 shall pay
7 to the [director] chief administrator for each registration a fee of \$25
8 for each such vehicle having a manufacturer's shipping weight not
9 greater than 3,500 pounds and a fee of \$50 for each vehicle having a
10 manufacturer's shipping weight in excess of 3,500 pounds; provided,
11 however, an applicant who has been issued a handicapped person
12 identification card pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1949, c.280
13 (C.39:4-205) and is registering any 1980 or thereafter model year
14 private passenger van which has been equipped with a wheelchair lift
15 for the handicapped, or any other specially designed mechanical device
16 for the handicapped as designated by the [director] chief
17 administrator that specifically requires installation only in a private
18 passenger van because of the device's dimensions, operating
19 characteristics or manufacturer's installation requirements, shall pay a
20 fee of \$25 for that vehicle. Notwithstanding any other provision of
21 law to the contrary, the applicant for registration for any new
22 passenger automobile, for which the registration will expire on the last
23 day of the 48th calendar month following the calendar month in which
24 it was first issued, or for the term of the lease if the new passenger
25 automobile is a leased motor vehicle subject to an extended
26 registration period pursuant to R.S.39:3-4, shall prepay to the chief
27 administrator the full amount due for the 48 month term, or the full
28 amount due based upon the term of the lease if the new passenger
29 automobile is a leased motor vehicle, upon the initial registration. The
30 portion of that prepayment that is dedicated to specific purposes in
31 accordance with section 110 of P.L.2003, c.13 (C.39:2A-38) and
32 subsections a. and b. of section 1 of P.L.1992, c.87 (C.39:3-8.2) shall
33 be deposited in their respective dedicated accounts. The [director]
34 chief administrator shall determine manufacturer's shipping weight and
35 model year for each passenger automobile on the basis of the
36 information contained in the certificate of origin, the application for
37 registration or for renewal of registration, or the records of the
38 division, or any or all of these; and any case in which the
39 manufacturer's shipping weight of any particular passenger automobile
40 is unavailable, or in doubt or dispute, the [director] chief
41 administrator may require that such automobile be weighed on a scale
42 designated by him, and such actual weight shall be considered the
43 manufacturer's shipping weight for the purposes of this section; but in
44 all cases the [director's] chief administrator's determination of the
45 manufacturer's shipping weight of any such automobile shall be final.
46 The applicant for registration for passenger automobile shall also pay

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1 to the [director] chief administrator the inspection fee fixed in
2 R.S.39:8-2 in addition to the fees described hereinabove.

3 The [director] chief administrator may also license private utility
4 and house type semitrailers and trailers with a gross load not in excess
5 of 2,000 pounds at a fee of \$4.00 per annum and all other such utility
6 and house-type semitrailers and trailers at \$9.00 per annum.
7 Application for such registration shall be made on a blank to be
8 furnished by the [division] commission and the application shall
9 contain a statement to the effect that the vehicle so registered will not
10 be used for the commercial transportation of goods, wares and
11 merchandise, or for hire.

12 Except as provided in R.S.39:3-84 for recreation vehicles, no
13 private utility or house type semitrailer or trailer with an outside width
14 of more than 96 inches, a maximum height of 13 feet 6 inches, a
15 maximum length for a single vehicle of more than 35 feet, a maximum
16 length for a semitrailer and its towing vehicle of more than 45 feet, and
17 a maximum length for a trailer and its towing vehicle of more than 50
18 feet, shall be operated on any highway in this State, except that a
19 vehicle exceeding the above limitations may be operated when a
20 special permit so to operate is secured in advance from the [director]
21 chief administrator. A house type semitrailer or trailer with an outside
22 width of no more than 16 feet shall be entitled to operate with such a
23 special permit if the vehicle is a manufactured home on a
24 transportation system that is designed in accordance with the
25 "Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards," 24 CFR
26 part 3280.901 et seq., promulgated by the United States Department
27 of Housing and Urban Development, as amended and supplemented,
28 provided that the operator complies with the provisions of this Title
29 and the rules and regulations issued thereunder. If such a vehicle has
30 an outside width of more than 16 feet, it shall be entitled to operate
31 with such a special permit if it is transported on a commercial type
32 low-bed trailer, semitrailer or properly registered dolly wheels
33 pursuant to rules and regulations established by the [director] chief
34 administrator. The application for such permit shall be accompanied
35 by a fee fixed by the [director] chief administrator. A special permit
36 issued by the [director] chief administrator shall be in the possession
37 of the operator of the vehicle for which such permit was issued. In
38 computing any dimensions of a vehicle, for the purposes of this
39 section, there shall not be included in the dimensional limitations safety
40 equipment such as mirrors or lights, provided such appliances do not
41 exceed the overall limitations established by the [director] chief
42 administrator by rule or regulation.

43 (cf: P.L.1999, c.392, s.1)

44

45 3. R.S.39:3-31 is amended to read as follows:

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1 39:3-31. The [director] chief administrator, upon presentation of
2 a statement duly sworn to, stating that the original registration
3 certificate or original motorized bicycle registration certificate has
4 been destroyed, lost or stolen, may, if he is satisfied that the facts as
5 set forth in the statement are substantially true, issue a duplicate or
6 amended registration certificate or motorized bicycle registration
7 certificate to the original holder thereof, upon the payment to the
8 [director] chief administrator of a fee of \$5 for each duplicate or
9 amended registration certificate or motorized bicycle registration
10 certificate so issued. The [director] chief administrator, upon
11 presentation of a statement, duly sworn to, stating that the original
12 driver's license has been destroyed, lost or stolen, or requesting a new
13 color picture, may, if he is satisfied that the facts as set forth in the
14 statement are substantially true, issue a duplicate driver's license to the
15 original holder thereof, upon payment to the [director] chief
16 administrator of a fee of \$5 in addition to the digitized picture fee.
17 Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the fee for
18 a duplicate or amended registration certificate for any new passenger
19 automobile required to be registered for a 48 month term or for any
20 new passenger automobile leased for a term of more than 12 months,
21 pursuant to R.S.39:3-4, shall be \$11.

22 (cf: P.L.2001, c.391, s.9)

23

24 4. Section 1 of P.L.1961, c.77 (C.39:3-31.1) is amended to read as
25 follows:

26 1. The [Director] Chief Administrator of the [Division of Motor
27 Vehicles] New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, upon presentation
28 of a statement by the holder of an original registration certificate that
29 he requires a duplicate registration certificate for use by members of
30 his family, shall issue a duplicate original registration certificate to the
31 holder of the original registration certificate upon the payment to the
32 [director] chief administrator of a fee of \$5. Notwithstanding any
33 other provision of law to the contrary, the fee for a duplicate
34 registration certificate for any new passenger automobile required to
35 be registered for a 48 month term or for any new passenger
36 automobile leased for a term of more than 12 months, pursuant to
37 R.S.39:3-4, shall be \$11.

38 Any such duplicate original registration certificate may be used in
39 the same manner and for the same purpose as the original registration
40 certificate but may be used only by the holder of the original
41 registration certificate or a member of his family. Any reference to the
42 original registration certificate in the chapter to which this act is
43 supplementary or in Title 39 of the Revised Statutes as amended and
44 supplemented shall be deemed to include any and all duplicate original
45 registration certificates issued pursuant to this act and, in the event
46 that the holder of the original registration certificate shall be required

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1 to surrender the same by virtue of the provisions of any law, he shall
2 also be required to surrender the duplicate original registration
3 certificate if he shall have had such duplicate original registration
4 certificate issued to him. The [said director] chief administrator shall
5 make and promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary
6 to effectuate the purposes of this act.

7 This section shall also apply to registration certificates for
8 motorized bicycles.

9 (cf: P.L.1994, c.60, s.19)

10

11 5. Section 105 of P.L. 2003, c.13 (C.39:2A-36) is amended to read
12 as follows:

13 105. a. The first \$200,000,000 of fees and surcharges thereon
14 collected pursuant to the following statutes shall be considered service
15 charges which are revenues to be remitted to the New Jersey Motor
16 Vehicle Commission and the remainder shall be remitted to the
17 General Fund, provided that if the total amount of such fees and
18 surcharges collected, as verified by the relevant fiscal year New Jersey
19 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, produce more or less
20 revenue than the sum of \$200,000,000 and the amount anticipated in
21 the fiscal year 2004 Appropriations Act for those statutes, then the
22 \$200,000,000 in revenue from those service charges to the commission
23 shall be increased or lowered proportionately:

24 Section 4 of P.L.1995, c.401 (C.12:7-73); section 24 of P.L.1984,
25 c.152 (C.12:7A-24); section 28 of P.L.1984, c.152 (C.12:7A-28);
26 section 1 of P.L.1983, c.65 (C.17:29A-33); section 6 of P.L.1983,
27 c.65 (C.17:29A-35); section 9 of P.L.1998, c.108 (C.27:5F-42);
28 R.S.39:2-10; section 1 of P.L.1969, c.301 (C.39:3-4b); section 2 of
29 P.L.1969, c.301 (C.39:3-4c); R.S.39:3-8; section 2 of P.L.1968, c.439
30 (C.39:3-8.1); section 1 of P.L.1992, c.87 (C.39:3-8.2); R.S.39:3-10;
31 section 23 of P.L.1975, c.180 (C.39:3-10a); section 1 of P.L.1977,
32 c.23 (C.39:3-10b); section 1 of P.L.1979, c.261 (C.39:3-10f); section
33 22 of P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-10.30); R.S.39:3-13; R.S.39:3-18;
34 R.S.39:3-19; section 2 of P.L.1974, c.162 (C.39:3-19.2); section 12
35 of P.L.1979, c.224 (C.39:3-19.5); R.S.39:3-20; section 1 of P.L.1973,
36 c.319 (C.39:3-20.1); R.S.39:3-21; R.S.39:3-24; R.S.39:3-25;
37 R.S.39:3-26; section 2 of P.L.1964, c.195 (C.39:3-27.4); section 2 of
38 P.L.1968, c.247 (C.39:3-27.6); section 2 of P.L.1977, c.369
39 (C.39:3-27.9); section 2 of P.L.1979, c.457 (C.39:3-27.16); section 2
40 of P.L.1981, c.139 (C.39:3-27.19); R.S.39:3-28; R.S.39:3-30;
41 R.S.39:3-31; section 1 of P.L.1961, c.77 (C.39:3-31.1); R.S.39:3-32;
42 section 1 of P.L.1999, c.192 (C.39:3-33a); section 1 of P.L.2001, c.35
43 (C.39:3-33b); section 2 of P.L.1959, c.56 (C.39:3-33.4); section 4 of
44 P.L.1959, c.56 (C.39:3-33.6); R.S.39:3-36; section 1 of P.L.1979,
45 c.314 (C.39:3-54.14); section 2 of P.L.1999, c.308 (C.39:3-75.2);
46 R.S.39:3-84; section 2 of P.L.1999, c.396 (C.39:3-84.7); section 3 of

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1 P.L.1973, c.307 (C.39:3C-3); section 10 of P.L. 1983, c.105
2 (C.39:4-14.3j); section 23 of P.L.1983, c.105 (C.39:4-14.3w);
3 R.S.39:4-26; R.S.39:4-30; section 11 of P.L.1985, c.14
4 (C.39:4-139.12); section 1 of P.L.1972, c.38 (C.39:5-30.4); section 31
5 of P.L.1994, c.60 (C.39:5-36.1); section 20 of P.L.1952, c.173
6 (C.39:6-42); section 2 of P.L.1983, c.141 (C.39:6B-3); R.S.39:7-3;
7 section 3 of P.L.1975, c.156 (C.39:8-11); section 8 of P.L.1975, c.156
8 (C.39:8-16); section 9 of P.L.1975, c.156 (C.39:8-17); section 15 of
9 P.L.1975, c.156 (C.39:8-23); section 5 of P.L.1995, c.112
10 (C.39:8-45); section 7 of P.L.1995, c.112 (C.39:8-47); section 12 of
11 P.L.1995, c.112 (C.39:8-52); section 11 of P.L.1995, c.157
12 (C.39:8-69); section 13 of P.L.1995, c.112 (C.39:8-53); section 14 of
13 P.L. 1995, c.112 (C.39:8-54); R.S.39:10-11; R.S.39:10-12;
14 R.S.39:10-14; R.S.39:10-16; R.S.39:10-19; R.S.39:10-25; section 5
15 of P.L.1983, c.323 (C.39:10-35); section 8 of P.L.1983, c.455
16 (C.39:10A-15); R.S.39:11-8; section 2 of P.L.1951, c.216
17 (C.39:12-2); section 5 of P.L.1951, c.216 (C.39:12-5); and section 2
18 of P.L.1983, c.360 (C.39:13-2).

19 Proportional revenues remitted to the commission for the fiscal
20 years beginning July 1, 2004 and thereafter shall have the same
21 proportion as the proportional revenues remitted to the commission
22 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2003, and this calculation shall not
23 be impacted by the acceleration of revenue attributable to new
24 passenger automobile registrations implemented pursuant to P.L. _____,
25 c. (now pending before the Legislature as this bill).

26 b. In addition to the proportionately increased or lowered revenue
27 provided for in subsection a. of this section, the commission shall
28 receive 100 percent of the revenues collected from any new service
29 charge and 100 percent of the increased revenues collected from any
30 existing service charge increased by law. Any new or increased
31 service charge shall not be included in the calculation of the
32 proportional revenue remitted to the commission.

33 c. In addition to the revenues provided for in subsections a. and b.
34 of this section, all fees collected pursuant to Chapter 3 of Title 39 of
35 the Revised Statutes required to defray the costs of the commission
36 with respect to producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing license
37 plates, or related computer programming shall be considered revenues
38 of the commission notwithstanding any other provision of law.

39 d. Revenues of the commission shall not be subject to
40 appropriation as direct State services by the Legislature. In addition,
41 the revenues of the commission shall not be restricted from use by the
42 commission in any manner except as provided by law. Revenues of the
43 commission may be used in the furtherance of any purpose of the
44 commission or as otherwise provided for by law.

45 (cf: P.L.2003, c.13, s.105)

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1 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

2

3

4

STATEMENT

5

6 This bill would establish a four-year registration period for new
7 passenger automobiles. Registration for new passenger automobiles
8 that are leased will expire upon expiration of the lease, but the
9 registration period for a leased automobile may not be more than 48
10 months. After the four-year registration period has expired,
11 registration would be annually required.

12 The bill requires full payment of the registration fee upon initial
13 registration. The bill also establishes an \$11 fee for a duplicate or
14 amended registration.

15 Further, the bill includes an exemption for new passenger
16 automobiles purchased by rental companies for use as rental
17 automobiles.

18 Finally, the bill clarifies the manner in which the accelerated
19 revenues generated through this new four-year registration program
20 will be calculated and distributed.

ASSEMBLY BUDGET COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3107

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 15, 2004

The Assembly Budget Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3107.

Assembly Bill No. 3107 establishes a four-year registration period for new passenger automobiles. The bill provides that registration for leased passenger automobiles will expire upon expiration of the lease, but the registration period for a leased automobile may not be more than 48 months; after the four-year registration period has expired, registration is annually required.

The bill requires full payment of the registration fee upon initial registration.

The bill provides that the accelerated revenues generated through this new four-year registration program are not among those motor vehicle fees which are remitted on a proportional basis to the Motor Vehicle Commission. Rather, all of the incremental revenue becomes a general fund resource.

The bill also establishes an \$11 fee for a duplicate or amended registration for the four year registration in place of the current \$5 fee.

The date of the implementation of the four-year registration requirement will be determined by the Chief Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Commission, but will not be later than October 1, 2004. Registration of new vehicles by car rental companies will be exempt from the requirement after February 1, 2005.

FISCAL IMPACT:

It is estimated that the four-year registration requirement will increase State revenue by \$90 million per year, but a delay in implementing the requirement will yield a lower amount during Fiscal Year 2005.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE
ASSEMBLY, No. 3107
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
211th LEGISLATURE

DATED: JUNE 29, 2004

SUMMARY

Synopsis: Establishes four-year registration period for new passenger automobiles.

Type of Impact: Unknown Revenue Increase. General Fund.

Agencies Affected: Department of Transportation; Division of Motor Vehicles

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	<u>FY 2005</u>	<u>FY 2006</u>	<u>FY 2007</u>
State Cost	Indeterminate		
State Revenue	Unknown Revenue Increase		

- ! Requires new passenger automobiles to register up-front for a four-year period.
- ! Establishes that leased vehicles shall register up-front for the term of the lease, not to exceed a 48-month period.
- ! Provides for an \$11 fee for duplicate or amended registration certificates on new passenger vehicles or leased new vehicles.
- ! Provides that the Chief Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Commission may change the effective date, for good cause, to October 1, 2004.

BILL DESCRIPTION

Assembly Bill No. 3107 of 2004 establishes four-year registration period for new passenger automobiles.

Registration for new passenger automobiles that are leased will expire upon expiration of the lease, but the registration period for a leased automobile may not exceed 48 months. After the four-year registration period has expired, registration would be required annually. The bill requires full payment of the registration fee upon initial registration. Currently, all vehicles are required to register annually.

Additionally, this bill provides for an \$11 fee for duplicate or amended registration certificates on new passenger vehicles or leased new vehicles. Currently, there is a \$5 fee for duplication or amending of registration certificates for all vehicles.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

The 2005 Governor's Budget estimates \$90 million from the pre-payment of four years worth of registration fees on new car purchases, the same as the inspection period for new cars, with leased vehicles paying in accordance with the term of the particular lease. The estimates takes in consideration the number of new cars sold and the cost of registration.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) estimates the State will experience an unknown increase in revenue initially from the collection of advanced registration fees, however, an indeterminate expenditure may occur through the upgrading of the Motor Vehicle Commissions (MVC) computer systems to calculate "new" car registrations.

The New Jersey Coalition of Automobile Retailers (NJCAR), unofficially provided new passenger vehicle registration data over the years noting fluctuations of up to 10 percent annually depending on the economy and low or no interest incentives provided to consumers. This estimate does not breakout the percentage of vehicles that are purchased in New Jersey and registered in other states.

New Passenger Vehicles Sold <i>Light vehicles including trucks and S.U.V.'s</i>				
<u>CY 1990</u>	<u>CY 1994</u>	<u>CY 1999</u>	<u>CY 2004</u>	<u>CY 2005*</u>
497,000	440,000	476,000	549,282	554,000

* 554,000 new cars are forecasted to be sold in CY 2005

The OLS assumes, based on the NJCAR estimate and the lesser MVC weight class seven fee for a vehicle fewer than two years old, \$56.00, the following:

OLS Revenue Assumptions for New Car Registrations				
	<u>FY 2005</u>	<u>FY 2006</u>	<u>FY 2007</u>	<u>FY 2008</u>
New Car Registration Revenue - Annual Registration	\$31,024,000	\$62,048,000	\$93,072,000	\$124,096,000
New Car Registration Revenue - Four Year Registration	\$124,096,000	\$124,096,000	\$124,096,000	\$124,096,000
Revenue Gain	\$93,072,000	\$62,048,000	\$31,024,000	\$0

The OLS notes additional revenue will be generated in the first three years, however, the

revenue declines and in the fourth year is expected to level creating no additional revenue. Additionally, OLS has estimated the potential revenue at the lowest MVC fee for newer cars, thus additional revenue may occur depending on the weight of the vehicle and the economic climate.

The OLS also notes that it is uncertain if MVC has the resources necessary to track "new" car registration vs. "initial" automobile registrations. If not, expenditures may increase as well as the time frame of enactment of this legislation.

Section: *Law and Public Safety*

Analyst: *Kristin A. Brunner*
Associate Fiscal Analyst

Approved: *David J. Rosen*
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer

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

SENATE, No. 1658

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
211th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 7, 2004

Sponsored by:

Senator WAYNE R. BRYANT

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes four-year registration period for new passenger automobiles.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



S1658 BRYANT

2

1 AN ACT concerning the registration of certain motor vehicles and
2 amending R.S.39:3-4, R.S.39:3-8, R.S.39:3-31 and P.L.1961, c.77.

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

6
7 1. R.S.39:3-4 is amended to read as follows:

8 39:3-4. Except as hereinafter provided, every resident of this State
9 and every nonresident whose automobile or motorcycle shall be driven
10 in this State shall, before using such vehicle on the public highways,
11 register the same, and no automobile or motorcycle shall be driven
12 unless so registered.

13 Such registration shall be made in the following manner: An
14 application in writing, signed by the applicant or by an agent or officer,
15 in case the applicant is a corporation, shall be made to the chief
16 administrator or the chief administrator's agent, on forms prepared and
17 supplied by the chief administrator, containing the name, street address
18 of the residence or the business of the owner, mailing address, if
19 different from the street address of the owner's residence or business,
20 and age of the owner, together with a description of the character of
21 the automobile or motorcycle, including the name of the maker and the
22 vehicle identification number, or the manufacturer's number or the
23 number assigned by the chief administrator if the vehicle does not have
24 a vehicle identification number, and any other statement that may be
25 required by the chief administrator. A post office box shall appear on
26 the application only as part of a mailing address that is submitted by
27 the owner, agent or officer, as the case may be, in addition to the
28 street address of the applicant's residence or business; provided,
29 however, the chief administrator, upon application, shall permit a
30 person who was a victim of a violation of N.J.S.2C:12-10,
31 N.J.S.2C:14-2, or N.J.S.2C:25-17 et seq., or who the chief
32 administrator otherwise determines to have good cause, to use as a
33 mailing address a post office box, an address other than the applicant's
34 address or other contact point. An owner whose last address appears
35 on the records of the division as a post office box shall change his
36 address on his application for renewal to the street address of his
37 residence or business and, if different from his street address, his
38 mailing address unless the chief administrator has determined, pursuant
39 to this section, that the owner may use a post office box, an address
40 other than the owner's address or other contact point as a mailing
41 address. The application shall contain the name of the insurer of the
42 vehicle and the policy number. If the vehicle is a leased motor vehicle,
43 the application shall make note of that fact and shall include along with

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

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1 the name and street address of the lessor the name, street address and
2 driver license number of the lessee.

3 Thereupon the chief administrator shall have the power to grant a
4 registration certificate to the owner of any motor vehicle, if over 17
5 years of age, application for the registration having been properly
6 made and the fee therefor paid, and the vehicle being of a type that
7 complies with the requirements of this title. The form and contents of
8 the registration certificate to be issued shall be determined by the chief
9 administrator.

10 If the vehicle is a leased motor vehicle, the registration certificate
11 shall, in addition to containing the name and street address of the
12 lessor, identify the vehicle as a leased motor vehicle.

13 The chief administrator shall maintain a record of all registration
14 certificates issued, and of the contents thereof.

15 Every registration shall expire and the registration certificate
16 thereof become void on the last day of the twelfth calendar month
17 following the calendar month in which the certificate was issued;
18 provided, however, that the chief administrator may, at his discretion,
19 require registrations which shall expire, and issue certificates thereof
20 which shall become void, on a date fixed by him, which date shall not
21 be sooner than three months nor later than 26 months after the date of
22 issuance of such certificates, and the fees for such registrations,
23 including any other fees or charges collected in connection with the
24 registration fee, shall be fixed by the chief administrator in amounts
25 proportionately less or greater than the fees established by law. The
26 chief administrator may fix the expiration date for registration
27 certificates at a date other than 12 months if the chief administrator
28 determines that the change is necessary, appropriate or convenient in
29 order to aid in implementing the vehicle inspection requirements of
30 chapter 8 of Title 39 or for other good cause. The chief administrator
31 may, for good cause extend a registration beyond the expiration date
32 that appears upon the registration certificate for periods not to exceed
33 12 additional months. The chief administrator may extend the
34 expiration date of a registration without payment of a proportionate
35 fee when the chief administrator determines that such extension is
36 necessary for good cause. If any registration is so extended, the
37 owner shall pay upon renewal the full registration fee for the period
38 fixed by the chief administrator as if no extension had been granted.

39 Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, every
40 registration for new passenger automobiles shall expire, and the
41 registration certificate shall become void, on the last day of the 48th
42 calendar month following the calendar month in which the certificate
43 was initially issued.

44 If the new passenger automobile being registered is a leased
45 passenger automobile, the registration shall expire in accordance with
46 the term of the lease. If the term of the lease extends beyond one or

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1 more 12-month periods by one or more months, the registration period
2 shall be based upon the full year into which one or more of the months
3 extend; provided, however, the registration period for a leased
4 automobile shall not exceed 48 months.

5 Following the 48-month period of the initial registration, the
6 subsequent registration shall expire, and the registration certificate
7 shall become void, on the last day of the 12th calendar month
8 following the calendar month in which the certificate was next issued.

9 All motorcycles for which registrations have been issued prior to
10 the effective date of P.L.1989, c.167 and which are scheduled to
11 expire between November 1 and March 31 shall, upon renewal, be
12 issued registrations by the chief administrator which shall expire on a
13 date fixed by him, but in no case shall that expiration date be earlier
14 than April 30 nor later than October 31. The fees for the renewal of
15 the motorcycle registrations authorized under this paragraph shall be
16 fixed by the chief administrator in an amount proportionately less or
17 greater than the fee established by R.S.39:3-21.

18 Application forms for all renewals of registrations for passenger
19 automobiles shall be sent to the last addresses of owners of motor
20 vehicles and motorcycles, as they appear on the records of the
21 division.

22 No person owning or having control over any unregistered vehicle
23 shall permit the same to be parked or to stand on a public highway.

24 Any police officer is authorized to remove any unregistered vehicle
25 from the public highway to a storage space or garage, and the expense
26 involved in such removal and storing of the vehicle shall be borne by
27 the owner of the vehicle, except that the expense shall be borne by the
28 lessee of a leased vehicle.

29 Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be subject
30 to a fine not exceeding \$100, except that for the misstatement of any
31 fact in the application required to be made to the chief administrator,
32 the person making such statement or omitting the statement that the
33 motor vehicle is to be used as a leased motor vehicle when that is the
34 case shall be subject to the penalties provided in R.S.39:3-37.

35 The chief administrator may extend the expiration date of a
36 registration certificate without payment of a proportionate fee when
37 the chief administrator determines that such extension is necessary,
38 appropriate or convenient to the implementation of vehicle inspection
39 requirements. If any registration certificate is so extended, the owner
40 shall pay upon renewal the full registration fee for the period fixed by
41 the chief administrator as if no extension had been granted.

42 The New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission shall make a
43 reasonable effort to notify any lessor whose name and address is on
44 file with the commission, or any other lessor the commission may
45 determine it is necessary to notify, of the requirements of this
46 amendatory act.

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5

1 A lessor doing business in this State shall notify in writing the lessee
2 of a motor vehicle registered pursuant to this Title of any change in its
3 policies or procedures affecting the registration of the motor vehicle.
4 (cf: P.L.2003, c.212, s.1)

5
6 2. R.S.39:3-8 is amended to read as follows:

7 39:3-8. The applicant for registration for any passenger automobile
8 manufactured in any model year prior to the 1971 model year shall pay
9 to the [director] chief administrator for each registration a fee of \$14
10 for each such vehicle having a manufacturer's shipping weight of less
11 than 2,700 pounds, a fee of \$23 for each such vehicle having a
12 manufacturer's shipping weight of 2,700 pounds or more, but not
13 greater than 3,800 pounds, and a fee of \$44 for each vehicle having a
14 manufacturer's shipping weight in excess of 3,800 pounds; provided,
15 however, an applicant who has been issued a handicapped person
16 identification card pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1949, c.280
17 (C.39:4-205) and is registering a private passenger van manufactured
18 in any model year prior to the 1971 model year which has been
19 equipped with a wheelchair lift for the handicapped, or any other
20 specially designed mechanical device for the handicapped as
21 designated by the [director] chief administrator that specifically
22 requires installation only in a private passenger van because of the
23 device's dimensions, operating characteristics or manufacturer's
24 installation requirements, shall pay a fee of \$14 for that vehicle. The
25 applicant for registration for any passenger automobile manufactured
26 in model year 1971 and thereafter, except as determined hereinafter,
27 shall pay to the [director] chief administrator for each registration a
28 fee of \$17 for each such vehicle having a manufacturer's shipping
29 weight of less than 2,700 pounds, a fee of \$28 for each such vehicle
30 having a manufacturer's shipping weight of 2,700 pounds or more, but
31 not greater than 3,800 pounds, and a fee of \$51 for each such vehicle
32 having a manufacturer's shipping weight in excess of 3,800 pounds;
33 provided, however, an applicant who has been issued a handicapped
34 person identification card pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1949, c.280
35 (C.39:4-205) and is registering a private passenger van manufactured
36 in model year 1971 or thereafter, except as determined hereinafter,
37 which has been equipped with a wheelchair lift for the handicapped, or
38 any other specially designed mechanical device for the handicapped as
39 designated by the [director] chief administrator that specifically
40 requires installation only in a private passenger van because of the
41 device's dimensions, operating characteristics or manufacturer's
42 installation requirements, shall pay a fee of \$17 for that vehicle. The
43 applicant for registration for any 1980 or thereafter model year
44 passenger automobile registered on or after March 1, 1979 shall pay
45 to the [director] chief administrator for each registration a fee of \$25
46 for each such vehicle having a manufacturer's shipping weight not

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6

1 greater than 3,500 pounds and a fee of \$50 for each vehicle having a
2 manufacturer's shipping weight in excess of 3,500 pounds; provided,
3 however, an applicant who has been issued a handicapped person
4 identification card pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1949, c.280
5 (C.39:4-205) and is registering any 1980 or thereafter model year
6 private passenger van which has been equipped with a wheelchair lift
7 for the handicapped, or any other specially designed mechanical device
8 for the handicapped as designated by the [director] chief
9 administrator that specifically requires installation only in a private
10 passenger van because of the device's dimensions, operating
11 characteristics or manufacturer's installation requirements, shall pay a
12 fee of \$25 for that vehicle. Notwithstanding any other provision of
13 law to the contrary, the applicant for registration for any new
14 passenger automobile, for which the registration will expire on the last
15 day of the 48th calendar month following the calendar month in which
16 it was first issued, or for the term of the lease if the new passenger
17 automobile is a leased motor vehicle subject to an extended
18 registration period pursuant to R.S.39:3-4, shall prepay to the chief
19 administrator the full amount due for the 48 month term, or the full
20 amount due based upon the term of the lease if the new passenger
21 automobile is a leased motor vehicle, upon the initial registration. The
22 [director] chief administrator shall determine manufacturer's shipping
23 weight and model year for each passenger automobile on the basis of
24 the information contained in the certificate of origin, the application
25 for registration or for renewal of registration, or the records of the
26 division, or any or all of these; and any case in which the
27 manufacturer's shipping weight of any particular passenger automobile
28 is unavailable, or in doubt or dispute, the [director] chief
29 administrator may require that such automobile be weighed on a scale
30 designated by him, and such actual weight shall be considered the
31 manufacturer's shipping weight for the purposes of this section; but in
32 all cases the [director's] chief administrator's determination of the
33 manufacturer's shipping weight of any such automobile shall be final.
34 The applicant for registration for passenger automobile shall also pay
35 to the [director] chief administrator the inspection fee fixed in
36 R.S.39:8-2 in addition to the fees described hereinabove.

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

46 Except as provided in R.S.39:3-84 for recreation vehicles, no

1 private utility or house type semitrailer or trailer with an outside width
2 of more than 96 inches, a maximum height of 13 feet 6 inches, a
3 maximum length for a single vehicle of more than 35 feet, a maximum
4 length for a semitrailer and its towing vehicle of more than 45 feet, and
5 a maximum length for a trailer and its towing vehicle of more than 50
6 feet, shall be operated on any highway in this State, except that a
7 vehicle exceeding the above limitations may be operated when a
8 special permit so to operate is secured in advance from the [director]
9 chief administrator. A house type semitrailer or trailer with an outside
10 width of no more than 16 feet shall be entitled to operate with such a
11 special permit if the vehicle is a manufactured home on a
12 transportation system that is designed in accordance with the
13 "Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards," 24 CFR
14 part 3280.901 et seq., promulgated by the United States Department
15 of Housing and Urban Development, as amended and supplemented,
16 provided that the operator complies with the provisions of this Title
17 and the rules and regulations issued thereunder. If such a vehicle has
18 an outside width of more than 16 feet, it shall be entitled to operate
19 with such a special permit if it is transported on a commercial type
20 low-bed trailer, semitrailer or properly registered dolly wheels
21 pursuant to rules and regulations established by the [director] chief
22 administrator. The application for such permit shall be accompanied
23 by a fee fixed by the [director] chief administrator. A special permit
24 issued by the [director] chief administrator shall be in the possession
25 of the operator of the vehicle for which such permit was issued. In
26 computing any dimensions of a vehicle, for the purposes of this
27 section, there shall not be included in the dimensional limitations safety
28 equipment such as mirrors or lights, provided such appliances do not
29 exceed the overall limitations established by the [director] chief
30 administrator by rule or regulation.

31 (cf: P.L.1999, c.392, s.1)

32

33 3. R.S.39:3-31 is amended to read as follows:

34 39:3-31. The [director] chief administrator, upon presentation of
35 a statement duly sworn to, stating that the original registration
36 certificate or original motorized bicycle registration certificate has
37 been destroyed, lost or stolen, may, if he is satisfied that the facts as
38 set forth in the statement are substantially true, issue a duplicate or
39 amended registration certificate or motorized bicycle registration
40 certificate to the original holder thereof, upon the payment to the
41 [director] chief administrator of a fee of \$5 for each duplicate or
42 amended registration certificate or motorized bicycle registration
43 certificate so issued. The [director] chief administrator, upon
44 presentation of a statement, duly sworn to, stating that the original
45 driver's license has been destroyed, lost or stolen, or requesting a new
46 color picture, may, if he is satisfied that the facts as set forth in the

1 statement are substantially true, issue a duplicate driver's license to the
2 original holder thereof, upon payment to the [director] chief
3 administrator of a fee of \$5 in addition to the digitized picture fee.
4 Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the fee for
5 a duplicate or amended registration certificate for any new passenger
6 automobile required to be registered for a 48 month term or for any
7 new passenger automobile leased for a term of more than 12 months
8 pursuant to R.S.39:3-4, shall be \$11.

9 (cf: P.L.2001, c.391, s.9)

10
11 4. Section 1 of P.L.1961, c.77 (C.39:3-31.1) is amended to read
12 as follows:

13 1. The [Director] chief administrator of the [Division of Motor
14 Vehicles] New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, upon presentation
15 of a statement by the holder of an original registration certificate that
16 he requires a duplicate registration certificate for use by members of
17 his family, shall issue a duplicate original registration certificate to the
18 holder of the original registration certificate upon the payment to the
19 [director] chief administrator of a fee of \$5. Notwithstanding any
20 other provision of law to the contrary, the fee for a duplicate
21 registration certificate for any new passenger automobile required to
22 be registered for a 48 month term or for any new passenger
23 automobile leased for a term of more than 12 months, pursuant to
24 R.S.39:3-4, shall be \$11.

25 Any such duplicate original registration certificate may be used in
26 the same manner and for the same purpose as the original registration
27 certificate but may be used only by the holder of the original
28 registration certificate or a member of his family. Any reference to the
29 original registration certificate in the chapter to which this act is
30 supplementary or in Title 39 of the Revised Statutes as amended and
31 supplemented shall be deemed to include any and all duplicate original
32 registration certificates issued pursuant to this act and, in the event
33 that the holder of the original registration certificate shall be required
34 to surrender the same by virtue of the provisions of any law, he shall
35 also be required to surrender the duplicate original registration
36 certificate if he shall have had such duplicate original registration
37 certificate issued to him. The [said director] chief administrator shall
38 make and promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary
39 to effectuate the purposes of this act.

40 This section shall also apply to registration certificates for
41 motorized bicycles.

42 (cf: P.L.1994, c.60, s.19)

43
44 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR **SENATE, No. 1658**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 14, 2004

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1658.

This committee substitute establishes a four-year registration period for new passenger automobiles. It provides that registration for those that are leased expire upon expiration of the lease, but the registration period for a leased automobile may not be more than 48 months. Also, it provides that after the four-year registration period has expired, registration is annually required.

The bill requires full payment of the registration fee upon initial registration. The bill also establishes an \$11 fee for a duplicate or amended registration.

The bill provides that the accelerated revenues generated through this new four-year registration program are not among those motor vehicle fees which are remitted on a proportional basis to the Motor Vehicle Commission. Rather, all of the incremental revenue becomes a general fund resource.

The date of the implementation of the four-year registration requirement will be determined by the Chief Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Commission, but not later than October 1, 2004. Registration of new vehicles by car rental companies will be exempt from the requirement after February 1, 2005.

FISCAL IMPACT:

It is estimated that the four-year registration requirement will increase State revenue by \$90 million per year, but a delay in implementing the requirement will yield a lower amount during Fiscal Year 2005.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE
SENATE, No. 1658
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
211th LEGISLATURE

DATED: JUNE 29, 2004

SUMMARY

Synopsis: Establishes four-year registration period for new passenger automobiles.

Type of Impact: Unknown Revenue Increase. General Fund.

Agencies Affected: Department of Transportation; Division of Motor Vehicles

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	<u>FY 2005</u>	<u>FY 2006</u>	<u>FY 2007</u>
State Cost		Indeterminate	
State Revenue		Unknown Revenue Increase	

- ! Requires new passenger automobiles to register up-front for a four-year period.
- ! Establishes that leased vehicles shall register up-front for the term of the lease, not to exceed a 48-month period.
- ! Provides for an \$11 fee for duplicate or amended registration certificates on new passenger vehicles or leased new vehicles.

BILL DESCRIPTION

Senate Bill No. 1658 of 2004 establishes four-year registration period for new passenger automobiles.

Registration for new passenger automobiles that are leased will expire upon expiration of the lease, but the registration period for a leased automobile may not exceed 48 months. After the four-year registration period has expired, registration would be required annually. The bill requires full payment of the registration fee upon initial registration. Currently, all vehicles are required to register annually.

Additionally, this bill provides for an \$11 fee for duplicate or amended registration certificates on new passenger vehicles or leased new vehicles. Currently, there is a \$5 fee for duplication or amending of registration certificates for all vehicles.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

The 2005 Governor's Budget estimates \$90 million from the pre-payment of four years worth of registration fees on new car purchases, the same as the inspection period for new cars, with leased vehicles paying in accordance with the term of the particular lease. The estimates takes in consideration the number of new cars sold annually and the cost of registration.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) estimates the State will experience an unknown increase in revenue initially from the collection of advanced registration fees, however, an indeterminate expenditure may occur through the upgrading of the Motor Vehicle Commissions (MVC) computer systems to calculate "new" car registrations.

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New Passenger Vehicles Sold				
<i>Light vehicles including trucks and S.U.V.'s</i>				
<u>CY 1990</u>	<u>CY 1994</u>	<u>CY 1999</u>	<u>CY 2004</u>	<u>CY 2005*</u>
497,000	440,000	476,000	549,282	554,000

* 554,000 new cars are forecasted to be sold in CY 2005

The OLS assumes, based on the NJCAR estimate and the lesser MVC weight class seven fee for a vehicle fewer than two years old, \$56.00, the following:

OLS Revenue Assumptions for New Car Registrations				
	<u>FY 2005</u>	<u>FY 2006</u>	<u>FY 2007</u>	<u>FY 2008</u>
New Car Registration Revenue - Annual Registration	\$31,024,000	\$62,048,000	\$93,072,000	\$124,096,000
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Revenue Gain	\$93,072,000	\$62,048,000	\$31,024,000	\$0

The OLS notes additional revenue will be generated in the first three years, however, the revenue declines and in the fourth year is expected to level creating no additional revenue.

Additionally, OLS has estimated the potential revenue at the lowest MVC fee for newer cars, thus additional revenue may occur depending on the weight of the vehicle and the economic climate.

The OLS also notes that it is uncertain if MVC has the resources necessary to track "new" car registration vs. "initial" automobile registrations. If not, expenditures may increase as well as the time frame of enactment of this legislation.

Section: *Law and Public Safety*

Analyst: *Kristin A. Brunner*
Associate Fiscal Analyst

Approved: *David J. Rosen*
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer

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