

February 12, 1953.  
Motor Vehicles,  
Commerce and Trade.

*Rec. Insuf. Party. 2/24*

**House File 290**  
By BURROWS, RINGGENBERG  
and SCHWENGEL.

Passed House, Date.....  
Vote: Ayes..... Nays.....  
Passed Senate, Date.....  
Vote: Ayes..... Nays.....  
Approved .....

## A BILL FOR

An Act relating to the registration of vehicles and to amend  
and repeal various sections of the Code 1950. relating thereto.

*Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

1 Section 1. Section three hundred twenty-one point thirty-  
2 four (321.34), Code 1950, as amended, is hereby amended by  
3 striking from lines eleven (11) and twelve (12) of the second  
4 paragraph thereof the words "bearing the numerals indicating  
5 the year" and by inserting in lieu thereof the words "indicating  
6 the twelve calendar month period".

1 Sec. 2. Section three hundred twenty-one point thirty-  
2 five (321.35), Code 1950, is hereby amended by striking all of  
3 that part of the said section following the word "abbreviated"  
4 in line five (5) thereof and inserting in lieu thereof the  
5 following: ". A metal plate indicating the month and year in  
6 which the registration expires shall be issued which shall be  
7 attached to the plate bearing the registration numerals. The  
8 commissioner of public safety is authorized to adopt a system  
9 of colors for such metal plates assigning a color for each  
10 month of the year."

1     Sec. 3. Section three hundred twenty-one point thirty-  
2     nine (321.39), Code 1950, as amended, is hereby amended by  
3     striking from the fifth line thereof the following: "the  
4     thirty-first day of December of each year." and by inserting  
5     in lieu thereof the following: "the last day of the twelfth  
6     calendar month of such registration."

1     Sec. 4. Section three hundred twenty-one point forty  
2     (321.40), Code 1950, is hereby amended by striking from lines  
3     three (3) and four (4) thereof the following: "on or after  
4     December 1, of the year for which it is registered" and by  
5     inserting in lieu thereof the following: "after the eleventh  
6     month of the period in which the current registration expires".

1     Sec. 5. Sections three hundred twenty-one point one  
2     hundred six (321.106) to three hundred twenty-one point one  
3     hundred eight (321.108), inclusive, Code 1950, are hereby  
4     repealed.

1     Sec. 6. Section three hundred twenty-one point one  
2     hundred twelve (321.112), Code 1950, is hereby amended by  
3     striking from the last line thereof the words "for a full year".

1     Sec. 7. Section three hundred twenty-one point one  
2     hundred twenty-six (321.126), Code 1950, is hereby amended by  
3     striking from line one (1) thereof the word "year" and by  
4     inserting in lieu thereof the words "twelve calendar month  
5     period".

6     Section three hundred twenty-one point one hundred twenty-  
7     six (321.126), Code 1950, is further amended by striking from

8 line five (5) of sub-section three (3) thereof the words  
9 "December 1 of the year" and by inserting in lieu thereof the  
10 words "the first day of the twelfth month of the period".

1 Sec. 8. Section one (1) of chapter one hundred fifteen  
2 (115), Acts of the Fifty-fourth General Assembly, is amended  
3 by striking lines six (6) to ten (10) inclusive thereof and  
4 inserting in lieu thereof the following: "for a period of  
5 twelve (12) calendar months dating from the first day of the  
6 month in which such vehicle is reregistered."

1 Sec. 9. Section three hundred twenty-one point one  
2 hundred twenty-seven (321.127), Code 1950, is hereby repealed  
3 and the following enacted in lieu thereof:

4 "Refunds made under the provisions of section three  
5 hundred twenty-one point one hundred twenty-six (321.126),  
6 Code 1950, as amended, shall be computed on the basis of one-  
7 twelfth of the annual registration fee multiplied by the  
8 number of the unexpired full calendar months of the  
9 registration period. Whenever any such fee so computed  
10 contains a fractional part of a dollar, it shall be computed  
11 as of the nearest fractional quarter dollar thereto and said  
12 amount shall be the amount of the fee refunded."

1 Sec. 10. Section three hundred twenty-one point one  
2 hundred thirty-four (321.134), Code 1950, is hereby amended by  
3 striking from lines one (1) and two (2) thereof the words:  
4 "On February 1 of each year" and by inserting in lieu thereof  
5 the words: "On the first day of the second month following the

6 expiration of the registration of any vehicle”.

7 Section three hundred twenty-one point one hundred thirty-  
8 four (321.134), Code 1950, is further amended by striking from  
9 line four (4) thereof the word “that” and by inserting in lieu  
10 thereof the word “such”.

11 Section three hundred twenty-one point one hundred thirty-  
12 four (321.134), Code 1950, is further amended by striking from  
13 lines ten (10) and eleven (11) thereof the words: “before  
14 February 1 of any year” and by inserting in lieu thereof the  
15 words: “within the first calendar month after the registration  
16 of such vehicle has expired”.

17 Section three hundred twenty-one point one hundred thirty-  
18 four (321.134), Code 1950, is further amended by striking all  
19 of the first three lines of the second paragraph thereof and  
20 by striking from line four (4) of the said second paragraph the  
21 word: “year” and by inserting in lieu of the matter stricken the  
22 following:

23 “In the case of vehicles for which registration fees may  
24 be paid in installments, during the first six months delinquent  
25 penalties are assessable the penalties provided in the preceding  
26 paragraph shall be computed on the first installment only. On  
27 the first day of the seventh month such penalties are assessable”.

1 Sec. 11. Section three hundred twenty-one point one  
2 hundred thirty-six (321.136), Code 1950, is hereby amended by  
3 striking lines one (1) to five (5) inclusive thereof, and by  
4 striking from line six (6) thereof the following: “1 of that

5 year" and by inserting in lieu of the matter stricken the  
6 following: "On or before the 15th day of the months of March,  
7 July and November of each year the county treasurer shall cause  
8 to be made a list of all vehicles owned within his county upon  
9 which the registration fee was due and unpaid and upon which  
10 penalties are assessable".

11 Section three hundred twenty-one point one hundred thirty-  
12 six (321.136), Code 1950, is further amended by striking from  
13 lines eleven (11) and twelve (12) thereof the words: "on or  
14 prior to February 1 of said year" and by inserting in lieu  
15 thereof the words: "as provided by statute".

16 Section three hundred twenty-one point one hundred thirty-  
17 six (321.136), Code 1950, is further amended by striking from  
18 the last line thereof the words: "as of March 1".

1 Sec. 12. Section three hundred twenty-one point one  
2 hundred thirty-seven (321.137), Code 1950, is amended by  
3 striking from lines two (2) and three (3) thereof the words:  
4 "on or before March 15 thereafter" and by inserting in lieu  
5 thereof the words: "within ten days after the last day for making  
6 each such list".

1 Sec. 13. Except as otherwise provided, the annual renewal  
2 of registration of every vehicle which has been registered in  
3 this state prior to December 1, 1953, shall be for a period of  
4 twelve calendar months dating from the first day of January of  
5 each year.

1 Sec. 14. Every vehicle subject to registration under the

2 provisions of chapter three hundred twenty-one (321), Code 1950,  
3 which was not registered in this state for the year 1953, prior  
4 to December 1, 1953, shall be registered for a period of twelve  
5 calendar months dating from the first day of the month in which  
6 such vehicle is registered in this state, and after the first  
7 such registration such vehicle shall thereafter be annually  
8 registered for periods of twelve calendar months dating from  
9 the date of expiration of the registration which such renewal  
10 follows.

1 Sec. 15. Section three hundred twenty-one point one  
2 hundred sixty-six (321.166), Code 1950, is amended by  
3 striking from lines four (4) to seven (7) thereof inclusive  
4 the following: ", and numerals indicating the year for which it  
5 is issued. They shall be of a distinctively different color  
6 each year".

7 Section three hundred twenty-one point one hundred sixty-  
8 six (321.166), Code 1950, is further amended by striking from  
9 the last line of the second paragraph thereof the words:  
10 "during the same year".

1 Sec. 16. Section three hundred twenty-one point one  
2 hundred sixty-seven (321.167), Code 1950, is amended by striking  
3 from line eight (8) thereof the word: "year" and by inserting in  
4 lieu thereof the words: "twelve months".

1 Sec. 17. Section three hundred twenty-one point one  
2 hundred sixty-eight (321.168), Code 1950, is amended by striking  
3 from line two (2) thereof the following: "during the year,".

## EXPLANATION OF H. F. 290

This bill provides for the staggering of vehicle registrations. At the present time the office of county treasurer is confronted between the months of January and March of each year with the handling of vehicle registrations, real estate tax and personal property tax matters. The staggering of vehicle registrations throughout the year would make for a more level work load. Numerous difficulties are encountered when it is attempted to make a rapid change-over to the staggered system. This bill would continue all registrations of vehicles registered prior to the effective date of the Act (when the provisions come into operation) on the January to January basis. However, new vehicles and vehicles being registered in Iowa which have previously been registered in some other state would be registered for twelve month periods rather than to register for the first time for a fractional period to the first of the year. As vehicles drop by the wayside at the rate of about 150,000 per year, the peak resulting from old vehicles being registered as of the first of the year would annually be diminished accordingly and eventually a complete change-over to the staggered system would be accomplished. Further relief is given the office of the county treasurer in that under our present fee system, each year a treasurer must figure approximately 14,000 different fees. Under this bill fees would have to be computed only once. It eliminates the necessity of computing fees for eleven-twelfths of a year, ten-twelfths of a year, nine-twelfths of a year, etc., and thus the number of fees to be computed is essentially reduced. It was necessary to amend numerous sections of the code to make them applicable to the staggered system.

