

Senate File 2140 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2140

BY SCHULTZ

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the display of a validation sticker on a
2 vehicle registration plate.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.34, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code
2 2024, is amended to read as follows:

3 a. In lieu of issuing new registration plates each
4 registration year for a vehicle renewing registration, the
5 department may reassign the registration plates previously
6 issued to the vehicle and may adopt and prescribe an annual
7 validation sticker indicating payment of annual registration
8 fees. The department shall issue one validation sticker for
9 each set of registration plates. The sticker ~~shall~~ must
10 specify the month and year of expiration of the registration
11 plates. The sticker shall be displayed only on the rear
12 registration plate, except that the sticker shall be displayed
13 on the front registration plate of a truck tractor. A
14 validation sticker issued for the upcoming registration year
15 prior to the expiration of the applicable current registration
16 year does not invalidate the registration, and is not required
17 to be displayed on the registered vehicle's registration plate
18 until the owner would be considered to be driving a motor
19 vehicle with an expired registration under section 321.39.

20 EXPLANATION

21 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
22 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

23 Under current law, the department of transportation
24 is authorized to issue validation stickers in lieu of new
25 registration plates each registration year. The validation
26 sticker indicates a vehicle is properly registered for the
27 registration year described on the sticker when it is displayed
28 on the vehicle's registration plate. A person is authorized to
29 apply to renew the registration of a vehicle one month prior to
30 the expiration of the current registration year, and must apply
31 for renewal no later than the last day of the month following
32 the month of registration to avoid a penalty. Pursuant to
33 Code section 321.39, a person is not considered to be driving
34 a motor vehicle with an expired registration for a period
35 of one month following the expiration date of the vehicle

1 registration, which is indicated on a validation sticker.

2 Code section 321.34(1) requires, as part of a transfer, the
3 owner of a vehicle to immediately affix registration plates
4 retained by the owner to another vehicle owned or acquired
5 by the owner, provided the owner complies with provisions
6 regulating the process required for new title and registration
7 upon transfer of ownership of a vehicle.

8 This bill clarifies that a validation sticker issued for
9 the upcoming registration year to a vehicle owner prior to the
10 expiration of the applicable current registration year does
11 not invalidate the registration, and is not required to be
12 displayed on the registered vehicle's plate until the owner
13 would be considered to be driving a motor vehicle with an
14 expired registration under Code section 321.39.