
DIGEST

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HB 846 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

Bayham

Abstract: Prohibits drivers from obscuring license plates with films, coatings, spray, frame, bracket, or devices placed over the license plate. Additionally, defines "obscure" and establishes penalties for violations.

Present law (R.S. 32:53(A)(3)) requires that a permanent registration license plate be securely fastened, clearly visible, and free from foreign materials. Prohibits application of any covering or substance to the license plate or using an electronic or electrochromatic film that obscures the numbers, characters, registration sticker, or name of the issuing jurisdiction.

Proposed law modifies present law by clarifying that the prohibition applies to any covering, film, including electrochromatic film, coating, spray, frame, bracket, substance, electronic and nonelectronic device, or any material over or on the license plate. Defines "obscure" as impairing the visibility, legibility, or reflectivity of any feature of the license plate, including the numbers, letters, symbols, registration stickers, or security features, when viewed from any angle. Establishes a tiered penalty structure, different from present law (R.S. 32:57), under which a first offense results in a fine not to exceed \$75 and a fine of \$250 for a second and any subsequent offense.

Effective on January 1, 2027.

(Amends R.S. 32:53(A)(3))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Establish an effective date of January 1, 2027, for proposed law.