

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 781

BY REPRESENTATIVE BOURRIAQUE

MTR VEHICLE/REGISTRATION: Provides for a fleet vehicle registration program

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 47:508(A)(2) and to enact R.S. 47:508.1, relative to fleet vehicle
3 registration and license plates; to provide for the establishment of a fleet vehicle
4 program administered by the Department of Public Safety, office of motor vehicles;
5 to provide for leasing and rental company authorization to participate as registered
6 fleet owners; to provide for registration cycles, proration, and biennial options; to
7 provide for fleet license plate inventory controls; to provide for records; electronic
8 data exchange, and audits; to provide for fees and taxes; to provide for rule
9 promulgation; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 47:508(A)(2) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 47:508.1
12 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

13 §508. Registration; commercial vehicles; fleet cycles; exemption

14 A.

15 * * *

16 (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, every
17 registration of an automobile or truck to be used as a commercial rental or leased
18 vehicle shall expire one year from the date of issuance and shall be renewed annually
19 thereafter. However, vehicles registered under the fleet registration program
20 established in R.S. 47:508.1 may be enrolled under an annual or biennial fleet cycle

1 administered by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor
2 vehicles, with proration for partial annual additions as provided in R.S. 47:508.1.

3 * * *

4 §508.1. Fleet vehicle registration program; procedures; fleet license plates; audits

5 A. When used in this Section, the following terms shall have the following
6 respective meanings:

7 (1) "Director" means the assistant secretary of the Department of Public
8 Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles.

9 (2) "Fleet" means a group of motor vehicles owned or leased and titled in the
10 name of a single registered fleet owner, consisting of ten or more vehicles required
11 to be registered under this Chapter.

12 (3) "Registered fleet owner" means an entity approved by the office of motor
13 vehicles under this Section to register vehicles as a fleet. The term includes a leasing
14 or rental company as defined in R.S. 22:1762.

15 B. Notwithstanding R.S. 47:501 and the renewal periods provided in R.S.
16 47:508, the director shall establish a system for the registration of all fleet vehicles
17 owned or purchased by a registered fleet owner pursuant to this Section. The
18 director shall establish forms and procedures for initial fleet registration and for
19 periodic updates.

20 C.(1) Any owner of ten or more motor vehicles required to be registered
21 under this Chapter may apply to be a registered fleet owner. Upon approval, the
22 director shall issue a unique fleet identification number to the registered fleet owner.

23 (2) The director may deny, suspend, or revoke fleet status for noncompliance
24 with this Section, including failure to maintain security, failure to remit fees or taxes,
25 the misuse of plates, failure to provide records, or any other rules adopted by the
26 director pursuant to this Section.

27 D.(1) A registered fleet owner may elect to register its fleet on an annual or
28 biennial basis in lieu of the standard cycles under R.S. 47:508.

1 (2) Fees for vehicles added after the cycle begins shall be prorated on a
2 quarterly basis using fractions of three-fourths of the annual fee for vehicles licensed
3 between July first and September thirtieth, one-half of the annual fee for vehicles
4 licensed between October first and December thirty-first, and one-fourth of the
5 annual fee for vehicles licensed on or after January first.

6 (3) When biennial registration is sought for vehicles added mid-cycle, an
7 additional full annual fee shall be added to the partial annual prorated fee.

8 E. Vehicles subject to Louisiana safety inspection requirements shall comply
9 prior to issuance or renewal as applicable. For rental or leased fleet vehicles, a valid
10 brake tag or inspection certification shall remain effective for the duration of the
11 rental or lease term. Reinspection or issuance of a new inspection sticker shall not
12 be required during that period. The director may authorize electronic proof of
13 inspection in fleet application.

14 F.(1) A registered fleet owner shall maintain proof of financial responsibility
15 meeting the Motor Vehicle Safety Responsibility Law, R.S. 32:851 et seq.

16 (2) For rental companies, allocation of primary and secondary coverage shall
17 be as provided in R.S. 22:1296, and the definitions applicable to motor vehicle rental
18 insurers shall be as provided in R.S. 22:1762.

19 G.(1) The director may issue a unique fleet license plate or validation device
20 for vehicles in a registered fleet. The registration plates may be transferred among
21 vehicles within the fleet subject to reporting and audit controls.

22 (2) Unassigned plate inventory shall be secured and reconciled in accordance
23 with the rules adopted by the director.

24 H. Automobiles, vans, and sport utility vehicles used as commercial rental
25 or daily leased vehicles shall be issued plates in accordance with the Department of
26 Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, policies or rules governing
27 commercial plate classifications, including any successor classifications.

1 I.(1) The director shall provide technical specifications for secure electronic
2 data exchange to support daily or periodic fleet registration updates, title
3 submissions, and plate transfers.

4 (2) A registered fleet owner shall retain records for at least five years and
5 maintain the records for audit.

6 J. All license taxes and registration fees shall be computed under this
7 Chapter, including R.S. 47:508, and applicable plate-class schedules. The director
8 may authorize consolidated monthly remittance and reconciliation of fees and taxes
9 for registered fleet owners.

10 K. The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor
11 vehicles, may adopt rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to
12 implement this Section and shall coordinate with the division of administration, the
13 Department of Revenue, and the Louisiana Public Service Commission with respect
14 to regulated carriers, as applicable.

15 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2028, or when the
16 Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, electronic vehicle
17 and registration system is updated to comply with the statutory provisions contained in this
18 Act, whichever occurs first.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 781 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Bourriaque

Abstract: Establishes a fleet registration program created by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles.

Present law (R.S. 47:508(A)(2)) requires that every automobile or truck registration to be used as a commercial rental or leased vehicle expire one year from the date of issues and be renewed annually.

Proposed law retains present law but provides for an exemption to vehicles registered under the fleet registration program established in proposed law. Further authorizes the vehicles to be enrolled under an annual or biennial fleet cycle administered by the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections (DPS&C), office of motor vehicles (OMV), with proration for partial annual additions provided in the fleet registration program.

Proposed law (R.S. 47:508.1(A)) provides for the following definitions:

- (1) "Director" defined as the assistant secretary of the DPS&C, OMV.
- (2) "Fleet" defined as a group of motor vehicles owned or leased and titled in the name of a single registered fleet owner, consisting of 10 or more vehicles required to be registered under present law.
- (3) "Registered fleet owner" defined as an entity approved by the OMV under proposed law to register vehicles as a fleet. Specifies the term includes a leasing or rental company defined in present law.

Proposed law (R.S. 47:508.1(B)) specifies that for the renewal periods provided in proposed law, the director must establish a system for the registration of all fleet vehicles owned or purchased by a registered fleet owner pursuant to proposed law. Further requires the director establish forms and procedures for initial fleet registration and for periodic updates.

Proposed law (R.S. 47:508.1(C)) specifies that any owner of 10 or more motor vehicles that is required to be registered under present law and proposed law may apply to be a registered fleet owner. Specifies that upon approval, the director must issue a unique fleet identification number to the registered fleet owner. Further authorizes the director to deny, suspend, or revoke fleet status for noncompliance with proposed law, including failure to maintain security, failure to remit fees or taxes, the misuse of plates, failure to provide records, or any other rules adopted by the director pursuant to proposed law.

Proposed law (R.S. 47:508.1(D)) authorizes a registered fleet owner to elect to register its fleet on an annual or biennial basis in lieu of the standard cycles under. Further requires that fees for vehicles added after the cycle begins be prorated on a quarterly basis using fractions of 3/4 of the annual fee for vehicles licensed between July 1st and Sept. 30th, 1/2 of the annual fee for vehicles licensed between Oct. 1st and Dec. 31st, and 1/4 of the annual fee for vehicles licensed on or after Jan. 1st. Requires an additional full annual fee be added to the partial annual prorated fee when a biennial registration is sought to add vehicles mid-cycle.

Proposed law (R.S. 47:508.1(E)) requires that vehicles subject to La. safety inspection requirements comply prior to issuance or renewal as applicable. Further requires that for rental or leased fleet vehicles, a valid inspection sticker or inspection certification remain effective for the duration of the rental or lease term. Additionally requires that reinspection or issuance of a new brake tag not be required during that period. Additionally specifies that the director may authorize electronic proof of inspection in fleet application.

Proposed law (R.S. 47:508.1(F)) requires a registered fleet owner maintain proof of financial responsibility meeting the Motor Vehicle Safety Responsibility Law. Requires that the rental companies allocation of primary and secondary coverage be as provided in present law, and the definitions applicable to vehicle rental insurers be as provided in present law.

Proposed law (R.S. 47:508.1(G)) authorizes the director to issue a unique fleet license plate or validation device for vehicles in a registered fleet. Further allows registration plates to be transferred among vehicles within the fleet subject to reporting and audit controls. Further requires that unassigned plate inventory be secured and reconciled in accordance with the rules adopted by the director.

Proposed law (R.S. 47:508.1(H)) requires that automobiles, vans, and sport utility vehicles used as commercial rental or daily leased vehicles be issued plates in accordance with the DPS&C, OMV, policies or rules governing commercial plate classifications, including any successor classifications.

Proposed law (R.S. 47:508.1(I)) requires the director provide technical specifications for secure electronic data exchange to support daily or periodic fleet registration updates, title

submissions, and plate transfers. Further requires that registered fleet owners retain records for at least five years and maintain the records for audit.

Proposed law (R.S. 47:508.1(J)) requires that all license taxes and registration fees be computed under present law and applicable plate-class schedules. Further provides that the director may authorize consolidated monthly remittance and reconciliation of fees and taxes for registered fleet owners.

Proposed law (R.S. 47:508.1(K)) authorizes the DPS&C, OMV, to adopt rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to implement proposed law and must coordinate with the division of administration, the Dept. of Revenue, and the La. Public Service Commission with respect to regulated carriers, as applicable.

Effective on Jan. 1, 2028, or when the DPS&C, OMV, electronic vehicle and registration system is updated to comply with the statutory provisions contained in proposed law, whichever occurs first.

(Amends R.S. 47:508(A)(2); Adds R.S. 47:508.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works to the original bill:

1. Change the effective date of proposed law from January 1, 2027, to January 1, 2028 or when the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, electronic vehicle and registration system is updated to comply with the statutory provisions contained in this proposed law, whichever occurs first.