

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 156 (HB 698)

2024 Regular Session

Schamerhorn

Existing law authorizes the department to suspend the driving and motor vehicle registration privileges of any person who pays taxes or fees to the office of motor vehicles with a check that is dishonored for insufficient funds, if the person fails to redeem the check within 30 days after the date notice of suspension is mailed to the licensee by the department. Specifies that the period of suspension begins 30 days after the date the notice of suspension is mailed to the licensee by the department.

New law retains existing law and adds a public license tag agent contracted with or acting on behalf of the office of motor vehicles to provisions authorizing the office of motor vehicles to suspend a person driver's license privileges if the person paid taxes or fees with an insufficient funds check or any form of payment that is subject to a chargeback.

Prior law provided that any license suspended would remain suspended until all pending assessments against the person, including a reinstatement fee have been paid in cash. It would have specified that no economic hardship license would be issued when a person's driving and motor vehicle registration privileges were suspended.

New law removes the requirement that assessments for suspended licenses must be paid in cash. Additionally, removes the prohibition against the issuance of an economic hardship license while a person's driving privileges are suspended.

New law authorizes the office of motor vehicles to suspend the driving and motor vehicle registration privileges of any person who pays taxes or fees to either the office of motor vehicles or to a public license tag agent contracted with the office of motor vehicles, with a credit or debit card or any form of electronic payment that is the subject of a chargeback, if the person fails to make the required payment within 30 days after the date notice of suspension is mailed to the licensee by the department. Further specifies the period of suspension will begin 30 days after the date the notice of suspension is mailed to the licensee by the department.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Amends R.S. 32:414(N))