A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

"An Act relating to biennial registration of motor vehicles; imposing biennial registration fees on motor vehicles and setting the statutory amounts of a scheduled biennial municipal tax on motor vehicles; relating to motor vehicle emissions control programs; amending the effective date in sec. 7, ch. 56, SLA 1995; and providing for an effective date."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

* Section 1. AS 28.10.108(b) is amended to read:

(b) Subject to the provisions of (f) of this section, a vehicle subject to registration

(1) under AS 28.10.011 and 28.10.421(b)(3) and (4) and (c)(1) - (4)

shall have its initial registration, and may have its biennial [ANNUAL] registration, renewed during the month of December;

(2) under AS 28.10.181, 28.10.411₁ and 28.10.421(d)(3) and (8) [(9)]
shall have its initial registration, and may have its biennial [ANNUAL] registration, renewed during the month of January.

* Sec. 2. AS 28.10.108(c) is amended to read:

(c) A vehicle subject to registration and not described in (b) of this section shall have its initial registration, and may have its biennial [ANNUAL] registration, renewed in the month of initial registration in the state, subject to the provisions of (f) of this section.

* Sec. 3. AS 28.10.108(d) is amended to read:

(d) A registered vehicle retains the same biennial [ANNUAL] expiration date regardless of the ownership of the vehicle.

* Sec. 4. AS 28.10.108(f) is amended to read:

(f) Upon request of the owner and payment of the proportionate prorated applicable fees, a vehicle registered under this section shall have its registration period extended in monthly increments to allow biennial [ANNUAL] registration to occur in the month of the owner’s choice. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this chapter, upon request of the owner and payment of the annual fee set out in AS 28.10.421(h), the department shall register a rental motor vehicle for a one-year period.

* Sec. 5. AS 28.10.111(b) is amended to read:

(b) The department may receive an application for the renewal of vehicle registration and issue a new certificate of registration at any time before the expiration of the biennial [ANNUAL] registration as prescribed in regulations adopted by the commissioner. Nothing in this section prevents the commissioner from providing for a longer [MULTI-YEAR] registration period; however, a person may not display the new registration plates on a vehicle before a date which may be set by the commissioner.

* Sec. 6. AS 28.10.411(a) is amended to read:

(a) For every year during any part of which a vehicle is subject to registration under this chapter, a registration fee shall be paid to the department at the time of original registration and at each biennial [ANNUAL] renewal of registration after that time.
* Sec. 7. AS 28.10.411(f) is amended to read:

(f) A resident 65 years of age or older on January 1 of the year the vehicle is registered is entitled to an exemption once each biennial registration period [CALENDAR YEAR] from the registration fee required under this section for one motor vehicle subject to registration under AS 28.10.421(b)(1), (2), (5), or (6). An exemption may not be granted except upon written application for the exemption on a form prescribed by the department.

* Sec. 8. AS 28.10.421(b) is amended to read:

(b) The biennial [ANNUAL] registration fees under this subsection are imposed within the following classifications for:

(1) a passenger vehicle or motor home not used or maintained for the transportation of persons or property for hire or for other commercial use .................................................. $68 [$35];

(2) a pick-up truck or a van not exceeding 6,000 pounds unladen weight and not used or maintained for the transportation of persons or property for hire or for other commercial use .................................................. $78 [$40];

(3) a taxicab ................................................. $138 [$70];

(4) a motor bus with a seating capacity for 20 or more persons and used exclusively for commercial purposes in the transporting of visitors or tourists .................................................. $168 [$85];

(5) a motorcycle or a motor-driven cycle .................. $38 [$20];

(6) a trailer not used or maintained for the transportation of persons or property for hire or for other commercial use, including, but not limited to, a boat trailer, baggage trailer, box trailer, utility trailer, house trailer, travel trailer, or a trailer rented or offered for rent .................................................. $10 [$5].

* Sec. 9. AS 28.10.421(c) is amended to read:

(c) The biennial [ANNUAL] registration fees under this subsection are imposed and are based upon the actual unladen weight as established by the manufacturer’s advertised weight or upon the actual weight which the owner shall furnish, subject to the approval of the commissioner or the commissioner’s representative, for a vehicle, including a motor vehicle pulling a trailer or semi-trailer,
that is registered in the name of a company or business, or is used or maintained for
the transportation of passengers for hire, excepting taxicabs and buses under (b) of this
section, or for the transportation of property for hire or for other commercial purposes,
including a trailer, semi-trailer, truck, wrecker, tow car, hearse, ambulance, and tractor,
as follows

(1) up to and including 5,000 pounds ................... $100 [$51];
(2) more than 5,000 pounds to and including 12,000 pounds

.................................................. $170 [$86];
(3) more than 12,000 pounds to and including 18,000 pounds

.................................................. $310 [$156];
(4) more than 18,000 pounds ..................... $440 [$221].

* Sec. 10. AS 28.10.421(d) is amended to read:

(d) The special registration fees under this subsection are imposed biennially

[ANNUALLY], unless otherwise specified, for

(1) an historic vehicle, [(one time only upon initial registration under

AS 28.10.181 [)] ......................... $10;
(2) special request plates for

(A) Alaska National Guard personnel ............... $30;
(B) veterans or retired veterans .................... $30;
(C) recipients of the Purple Heart .................. $30;
(D) owners of custom collection vehicles ........... $50;
(E) other special request plates ................... $30;

plus the fee required for that vehicle under (b) of this section; the fee required by this
paragraph shall be collected only on the first issuance and on the replacement of
special request plates;

(3) a vehicle owned by a disabled veteran or other handicapped person,

and registered under AS 28.10.181 or a resident 65 years of age or older who files a
written application for an exemption on a form prescribed by the department none;

(4) a vehicle owned by the state ....................... none;

(5) a vehicle owned by an elected state official ........ the fee

required for that vehicle under (b) of this section;
(6) [REPEALED]

(7) a vehicle owned by a rancher, farmer, or dairymen and registered under AS 28.10.181 ........................................... $68 [$35];

(7) [REPEALED]

(10) [11] a snowmobile or off-highway vehicle ........... $10 [$5];

(8) [REPEALED]

(13) an amateur mobile radio station vehicle,

(A) with a transceiver capable of less than 5-band operation...

the fee required for that vehicle under (b) or (c) of this section;

(B) in recognition of service to the public a mobile amateur radio station owned by an amateur with general class or higher license, provided the station must be satisfactorily proved capable of operating on at least five bands from 160 through 10 meters, must have an antenna, and must have a power supply and wiring as a permanent part of the vehicle; the transmitting unit may be removed from the car for service or dry storage . . . none for a mobile amateur radio station vehicle included in (b)(1) or (2) of this section;

(9) [(10)] dealer registration plates

(A) the initial set of plates .................. $88 [$45];

(B) each subsequent set of plates .............. $50 [$25];

(10) [(11)] a vehicle owned by a municipality or charitable organization meeting the requirements of AS 28.10.181(e) .................. $10 [$5];

(11) [REPEALED]

(13) a vehicle owned by a Pearl Harbor survivor or a former prisoner of war ......................................................... none;

(12) [REPEALED]

(15) special request university plates ......................... $50 plus the fee required for that vehicle under (b)(1) or (2) of this section; the fee required by this paragraph shall be collected only on the first issuance and on the replacement of special request plates; the commissioner of administration shall separately account by university campus designation for the fees received under this paragraph that the department deposits in the general fund; the annual estimated balance in the accounts that is in excess of the cost of issuing special request
university plates may be appropriated by the legislature for the support of programs at each campus.

* Sec. 11. AS 28.10.421(f) is amended to read:

  (f) In addition to the fees imposed under (b) and (d) of this section, the following special **biennial** [ANNUAL] registration fee is imposed upon renewal of registration for a passenger vehicle, motor home, pick-up truck, or a van with special request Winter Olympics commemorative plates. . . $60 [30]; the annual estimated balance in the account maintained by the commissioner of administration under AS 37.05.142 may be appropriated by the legislature to the Alaska amateur sports fund established under AS 05.35.150.

* Sec. 12. AS 28.10.421 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

  (h) The annual registration fees for rental motor vehicles under this subsection are imposed and are based upon the actual unladen weight as established by the manufacturer’s advertised weight or upon the actual weight which the owner shall furnish, subject to the approval of the commissioner or the commissioner’s representative, as follows

  (1) up to and including 5,000 pounds ............... $51;

  (2) more than 5,000 pounds to and including 12,000 pounds ...................................................... $86;

  (3) more than 12,000 pounds to and including 18,000 pounds ...................................................... $156;

  (4) more than 18,000 pounds ......................... $221.

* Sec. 13. AS 28.10.423 is amended to read:

  Sec. 28.10.423. EMISSION CONTROL INSPECTION PROGRAM FEES. In addition to the **biennial** [ANNUAL] registration fee specified in AS 28.10.421, a $2 fee is imposed upon every vehicle required to be inspected under an emission control program established under AS 46.14.400 or 46.14.510. This fee shall be collected at the same time and in the same manner as the registration fee.

* Sec. 14. AS 28.10.431(b) is amended to read:

  (b) The **biennial** tax is levied upon motor vehicles subject to the license fee under AS 28.10.411 and 28.10.421 and is based upon the age of vehicles as
determined by model year **in the first year of the biennial period**, according to the following schedule: Tax According to Age of Vehicle Since Model Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model Year</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
<th>5th</th>
<th>6th</th>
<th>7th</th>
<th>8th</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(1) motorcycle</td>
<td>$17</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$13</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>$7</td>
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<td>$99</td>
<td>$77</td>
<td>$55</td>
<td>$39</td>
<td>$28</td>
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<td>in AS 28.10.421(b)(1)</td>
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<td>(3) vehicles specified</td>
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<td>$99</td>
<td>$77</td>
<td>$55</td>
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<td>$44</td>
<td>$33</td>
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<td>$8</td>
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<td>(4) vehicles specified in AS 28.10.421(c)(1)-(4)</td>
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<td>5,000 pounds or less</td>
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<td>$19</td>
<td>$16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,001-12,000 pounds</td>
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<td>$242</td>
<td>$198</td>
<td>$154</td>
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<td>$77</td>
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<td>18,001 pounds or over</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

[AS 28.10.421(d)(9)]
(8) vehicles specified in AS 28.10.421(b)(2) [66] [55] [44] [33] [22] [17] [11] [ 8]

(9) vehicles eligible for dealer plates under [44]

**AS 28.10.421(d)(9)**

[AS 28.10.421(d)(10)].

*Sec. 15.* AS 28.10.431(h) is amended to read:

(h) A vehicle owned by a former prisoner of war exempted from registration fees under **AS 28.10.421(d)(11)** [AS 28.10.421(d)(13)] is subject to a motor vehicle registration tax under this section.

*Sec. 16.* AS 28.35.155(a) is amended to read:

(a) It is unlawful to operate a motor vehicle with studded tires or tires with chains attached on a paved highway or road from May 1 through September 15, inclusive, north of 60 North Latitude and from April 15 through September 30, inclusive, south of 60 North Latitude. The commissioner shall by emergency order provide for additional lawful operating periods based on unusual seasonal or weather conditions. An emergency order adopted under this section is not subject to AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act). Upon application a special individual traction permit may be issued allowing the operation of a motor vehicle with studded tires or chains at any time at the discretion of the vehicle owner. The fee for the special individual permit is one-third of the **biennial** [ANNUAL] registration fee applicable to that class of vehicle under AS 28.10.421. The department may provide an appropriate sticker or other device identifying the vehicle to which the permit applies.

*Sec. 17.* AS 46.14.510 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(g) In addition to the emission control inspection program fee imposed under AS 28.10.423, the department or a municipality may impose a fee upon a vehicle required to be inspected under a motor vehicle emission control program established under this chapter, but the fee may not exceed the actual costs of the department or the municipality in administering

(1) the motor vehicle emission control inspection program; and

(2) the related ambient air monitoring program.
Sec. 18. Section 2, ch. 56, SLA 1995, is amended to read:

Sec. 2. AS 28.10.421(a) is amended to read:

(a) Unless otherwise provided by law,

(1) the fees prescribed in this section shall be paid to the department at the times provided under AS 28.10.108 and 28.10.111; and

(2) an additional fee of $10 shall be added to the registration fee set out in this section for registration not conducted by mail or not conducted at an emissions inspection station or contract office offering vehicle registration services; the department may waive this additional fee for a good cause based on criteria established in regulations adopted by the department.

Sec. 19. Section 7, ch. 56, SLA 1995, is amended to read:

Sec. 7. Except as provided in sec. 6 of this Act, this Act takes effect

January 1, 1997 [JULY 1, 1996].

Sec. 20. TRANSITION. (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of this Act, the biennial registration fees imposed under this Act shall be imposed by the Department of Public Safety upon registration or renewal of an existing registration and in a manner that allows approximately one-half of vehicle registrations to be issued or renewed under a biennial system by January 1, 1998, and the remaining biennial vehicle registrations or renewals to be imposed by January 1, 1999.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of ch. 56, SLA 1995, the biennial motor vehicle emissions inspection program imposed under ch. 56, SLA 1995, shall be imposed by a municipality or the Department of Environmental Conservation in a manner that allows approximately one-half of vehicle inspections to occur by January 1, 1998, and the remaining emissions inspections to occur by January 1, 1999.

Sec. 21. Sections 18 and 19 of this Act take effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

Sec. 22. Except as provided under sec. 21 of this Act, this Act takes effect January 1, 1997.