

**SENATE BILL NO. 226**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATOR FRANK

Introduced: 1/19/96

Referred: TRA, FIN

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to biennial registration of motor vehicles; imposing biennial  
2 registration fees on motor vehicles and authorizing a scheduled biennial municipal  
3 tax on motor vehicles; relating to fees for motor vehicle emissions control  
4 programs; and providing for an effective date."

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

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

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

9 (1) under AS 28.10.011 and 28.10.421(b)(3) and (4) and (c)(1) - (4)  
10 shall have its initial registration, and may have its **biennial** [ANNUAL] registration,  
11 renewed during the month of December;

12 (2) under AS 28.10.181, 28.10.411, and 28.10.421(d)(3) and **(8)** [(9)]  
13 shall have its initial registration, and may have its **biennial** [ANNUAL] registration,  
14 renewed during the month of January.

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

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

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

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

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

10 (f) Upon request of the owner and payment of the proportionate prorated  
11 applicable fees, a vehicle registered under this section shall have its registration period  
12 extended in monthly increments to allow **biennial** [ANNUAL] registration to occur in  
13 the month of the owner's choice.

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

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

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

23 (a) For every year during any part of which a vehicle is subject to registration  
24 under this chapter, a registration fee shall be paid to the department at the time of  
25 original registration and at each **biennial** [ANNUAL] renewal of registration after that  
26 time.

27 \* **Sec. 7.** AS 28.10.411(f) is amended to read:

28 (f) A resident 65 years of age or older on January 1 of the year the vehicle is  
29 registered is entitled to an exemption once each **biennial registration period**  
30 [CALENDAR YEAR] from the registration fee required under this section for one  
31 motor vehicle subject to registration under AS 28.10.421(b)(1), (2), (5), or (6). An

1 exemption may not be granted except upon written application for the exemption on  
2 a form prescribed by the department.

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

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

6 (1) a passenger vehicle or motor home not used or maintained for the  
7 transportation of persons or property for hire or for other commercial use  
8 ..... **\$68** [\$35];

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

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

13 (4) a motor bus with a seating capacity for 20 or more persons and  
14 used exclusively for commercial purposes in the transporting of visitors or tourists  
15 ..... **\$168** [\$85];

16 (5) a motorcycle or a motor-driven cycle ..... **\$40** [\$20];

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

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

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

- 1 (1) up to and including 5,000 pounds . . . . . **\$100** [\$51];
- 2 (2) more than 5,000 pounds to and including 12,000 pounds
- 3 . . . . . **\$170** [\$86];
- 4 (3) more than 12,000 pounds to and including 18,000 pounds
- 5 . . . . . **\$310** [\$156];
- 6 (4) more than 18,000 pounds . . . . . **\$440** [\$221].

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

8 (d) The special registration fees under this subsection are imposed **biennially**  
 9 [ANNUALLY], unless otherwise specified, for

10 (1) an historic vehicle, [( one time only upon initial registration under  
 11 AS 28.10.181 ] . . . . . \$10;

- 12 (2) special request plates for
  - 13 (A) Alaska National Guard personnel . . . . . \$30;
  - 14 (B) veterans or retired veterans . . . . . \$30;
  - 15 (C) recipients of the Purple Heart . . . . . \$30;
  - 16 (D) owners of custom collection vehicles . . . . . \$50;
  - 17 (E) other special request plates . . . . . \$30;

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

21 (3) a vehicle owned by a disabled veteran or other handicapped person,  
 22 and registered under AS 28.10.181 or a resident 65 years of age or older who files a  
 23 written application for an exemption on a form prescribed by the department none;

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

25 (5) a vehicle owned by an elected state official . . . . . the fee  
 26 required for that vehicle under (b) of this section;

27 (6) [REPEALED

28 (7)] a vehicle owned by a rancher, farmer, or dairyman and registered  
 29 under AS 28.10.181 . . . . . **\$68** [\$35];

30 ~~(7)~~ [(8)] a snowmobile or off-highway vehicle . . . . . **\$10** [\$5];

31 ~~(8)~~ [(9)] an amateur mobile radio station vehicle,

1 (A) with a transceiver capable of less than 5-band operation...  
2 the fee required for that vehicle under (b) or (c) of this section;

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

11 (9) [(10)] dealer registration plates

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

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

14 (10) [(11)] a vehicle owned by a municipality or charitable  
15 organization meeting the requirements of AS 28.10.181(e) . . . . . \$10 [\$5];

16 (11) [(12)] REPEALED

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

19 (12) [(14)] REPEALED

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

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

30 (f) In addition to the fees imposed under (b) and (d) of this section, the  
31 following special **biennial** [ANNUAL] registration fee is imposed upon renewal of

1 registration for a passenger vehicle, motor home, pick-up truck, or a van with special  
 2 request Winter Olympics commemorative plates. . . **\$60** [\$30]; the annual estimated  
 3 balance in the account maintained by the commissioner of administration under  
 4 AS 37.05.142 may be appropriated by the legislature to the Alaska amateur sports fund  
 5 established under AS 05.35.150.

6 \* **Sec. 12.** AS 28.10.423 is amended to read:

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

12 \* **Sec. 13.** AS 28.10.431(b) is amended to read:

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

	Tax According to Age of								
	Vehicle								
	Since Model Year:								
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	
								or over	
22	Motor Vehicle								
23	(1) motorcycle	<b><u>\$17</u></b>	<b><u>\$15</u></b>	<b><u>\$13</u></b>	<b><u>\$10</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 7</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 5</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 4</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 4</u></b>
24		[\$ 9]	[\$ 8]	[\$ 7]	[\$ 6]	[\$ 4]	[\$ 3]	[\$ 2]	[\$ 2]
25	(2) vehicles specified	<b><u>121</u></b>	<b><u>99</u></b>	<b><u>77</u></b>	<b><u>55</u></b>	<b><u>39</u></b>	<b><u>28</u></b>	<b><u>19</u></b>	<b><u>16</u></b>
26	in AS 28.10.421(b)(1)	[66]	[55]	[44]	[33]	[22]	[17]	[11]	[ 8]
27	(3) vehicles specified	<b><u>121</u></b>	<b><u>99</u></b>	<b><u>77</u></b>	<b><u>55</u></b>	<b><u>39</u></b>	<b><u>28</u></b>	<b><u>19</u></b>	<b><u>16</u></b>
28	in AS 28.10.421(b)(3)	[66]	[55]	[44]	[33]	[22]	[17]	[11]	[ 8]
29	(4) vehicles specified in								
30	AS 28.10.421(c)(1)-(4)								
31	5,000 pounds or less	<b><u>121</u></b>	<b><u>99</u></b>	<b><u>77</u></b>	<b><u>55</u></b>	<b><u>39</u></b>	<b><u>28</u></b>	<b><u>19</u></b>	<b><u>16</u></b>

1		[66]	[55]	[44]	[33]	[22]	[17]	[11]	[ 8]
2	5,001-12,000	<b><u>198</u></b>	<b><u>154</u></b>	<b><u>121</u></b>	<b><u>99</u></b>	<b><u>77</u></b>	<b><u>55</u></b>	<b><u>33</u></b>	<b><u>22</u></b>
3	pounds	[110]	[88]	[66]	[55]	[44]	[33]	[22]	[11]
4	12,001-18,000	<b><u>297</u></b>	<b><u>242</u></b>	<b><u>198</u></b>	<b><u>154</u></b>	<b><u>110</u></b>	<b><u>77</u></b>	<b><u>55</u></b>	<b><u>44</u></b>
5	pounds	[165]	[132]	[110]	[88]	[66]	[44]	[33]	[22]
6	18,001 pounds	<b><u>396</u></b>	<b><u>319</u></b>	<b><u>253</u></b>	<b><u>198</u></b>	<b><u>154</u></b>	<b><u>110</u></b>	<b><u>66</u></b>	<b><u>44</u></b>
7	or over	[220]	[176]	[143]	[110]	[88]	[66]	[44]	[22]
8	(5) vehicles specified	<b><u>198</u></b>	<b><u>154</u></b>	<b><u>121</u></b>	<b><u>99</u></b>	<b><u>77</u></b>	<b><u>55</u></b>	<b><u>33</u></b>	<b><u>22</u></b>
9	in AS 28.10.421(b)(4)	[110]	[88]	[66]	[55]	[44]	[33]	[22]	[11]
10	(6) vehicles specified	<b><u>17</u></b>	<b><u>15</u></b>	<b><u>13</u></b>	<b><u>10</u></b>	<b><u>7</u></b>	<b><u>5</u></b>	<b><u>4</u></b>	<b><u>4</u></b>
11	in AS 28.10.421(b)(6)	[ 9]	[ 8]	[ 7]	[ 6]	[ 4]	[ 3]	[ 2]	[ 2]
12	(7) vehicles specified	<b><u>121</u></b>	<b><u>99</u></b>	<b><u>77</u></b>	<b><u>55</u></b>	<b><u>39</u></b>	<b><u>28</u></b>	<b><u>19</u></b>	<b><u>16</u></b>
13	in <b><u>AS 28.10.421(d)(8)</u></b>	[66]	[55]	[44]	[33]	[22]	[17]	[11]	[ 8]
14	[AS 28.10.421(d)(9)]								
15	(8) vehicles specified	<b><u>121</u></b>	<b><u>99</u></b>	<b><u>77</u></b>	<b><u>55</u></b>	<b><u>39</u></b>	<b><u>28</u></b>	<b><u>19</u></b>	<b><u>16</u></b>
16	in AS 28.10.421(b)(2)	[66]	[55]	[44]	[33]	[22]	[17]	[11]	[ 8]
17	(9) vehicles eligible	<b><u>88</u></b>							
18	for dealer plates under	[44]							
19	<b><u>AS 28.10.421(d)(9)</u></b>								
20	[AS 28.10.421(d)(10)].								

21 \* **Sec. 14.** AS 28.10.431(h) is amended to read:

22 (h) A vehicle owned by a former prisoner of war exempted from registration

23 fees under **AS 28.10.421(d)(11)** [AS 28.10.421(d)(13)] is subject to a motor vehicle

24 registration tax under this section.

25 \* **Sec. 15.** AS 28.35.155(a) is amended to read:

26 (a) It is unlawful to operate a motor vehicle with studded tires or tires with

27 chains attached on a paved highway or road from May 1 through September 15,

28 inclusive, north of 60 North Latitude and from April 15 through September 30,

29 inclusive, south of 60 North Latitude. The commissioner shall by emergency order

30 provide for additional lawful operating periods based on unusual seasonal or weather

31 conditions. An emergency order adopted under this section is not subject to AS 44.62

1 (Administrative Procedure Act). Upon application a special individual traction permit  
2 may be issued allowing the operation of a motor vehicle with studded tires or chains  
3 at any time at the discretion of the vehicle owner. The fee for the special individual  
4 permit is one-third of the **biennial** [ANNUAL] registration fee applicable to that class  
5 of vehicle under AS 28.10.421. The department may provide an appropriate sticker  
6 or other device identifying the vehicle to which the permit applies.

7 \* **Sec. 16.** TRANSITION. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Act, the biennial  
8 registration fees imposed under this Act shall be imposed by the Department of Public Safety  
9 upon registration or renewal of an existing registration and in a manner that allows  
10 approximately one-half of vehicle registrations to be issued or renewed under a biennial  
11 system by July 1, 1998, and the remaining biennial vehicle registrations or renewals to be  
12 imposed by July 1, 1999.

13 \* **Sec. 17.** This Act takes effect July 1, 1997.