



# LAWS OF ALASKA

2014

**Source**

SCS CSHB 378(FIN)

**Chapter No.**

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**AN ACT**

Relating to motor vehicle registration; relating to drivers' licenses; relating to instruction permits; relating to commercial motor vehicles and commercial motor carriers; and providing for an effective date.

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

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1



**AN ACT**

1 Relating to motor vehicle registration; relating to drivers' licenses; relating to instruction  
2 permits; relating to commercial motor vehicles and commercial motor carriers; and providing  
3 for an effective date.

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5 \* **Section 1.** AS 28.10.041(a) is amended to read:

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(a) The department may refuse to register a vehicle if

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(1) the application contains a false or fraudulent statement;

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(2) the applicant fails to furnish information required by the

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department;

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(3) the applicant is not entitled to the issuance of a certificate of title or

11

registration under this chapter;

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(4) the vehicle is determined to be mechanically unsafe to be driven or

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moved on a highway, vehicular way or area, or other public property in the state;

14

(5) the department has reasonable grounds to believe that the vehicle

1 was stolen or fraudulently acquired or that the granting of registration would be a  
2 fraud against the rightful owner or other person having a valid lien on [UPON] the  
3 vehicle;

4 (6) the registration of the vehicle has been suspended or revoked for  
5 any reason under the laws of the state;

6 (7) the required fees or taxes have not been paid;

7 (8) the vehicle or applicant fails to comply with this chapter or  
8 regulations implementing this section;

9 (9) the vehicle is without a certificate of inspection required under  
10 AS 19.10.310;

11 (10) except for a vehicle to be registered under AS 28.10.152, the  
12 vehicle is subject to a state-approved emission inspection program adopted under  
13 AS 46.14.400 or 46.14.510, and the vehicle does not meet the standards of that  
14 program;

15 (11) the applicant fails to certify to the department the existence of a  
16 motor vehicle liability policy that complies with AS 28.22.101 for the vehicle being  
17 registered unless the owner of the vehicle qualifies as a self-insurer under  
18 AS 28.20.400 or is exempted from obtaining liability insurance under AS 28.22.011;

19 **(12) the applicant is a commercial motor carrier prohibited from**  
20 **operating by a federal agency.**

21 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 28.10.051(a) is amended to read:

22 (a) The department may suspend or revoke the registration of a vehicle, the  
23 certificate of registration or registration plates for a vehicle, or a special permit when

24 (1) the department determines that the registration or certificate, plate,  
25 or permit was fraudulently procured or erroneously issued;

26 (2) the department determines that a registered vehicle is mechanically  
27 unsafe to be driven or moved on a highway, vehicular way or area, or other public  
28 property in this state and the vehicle has been seized or impounded under  
29 AS 28.05.091;

30 (3) a registered vehicle has been scrapped, dismantled, or destroyed  
31 beyond repair;

1 (4) the department determines that a required fee or tax has not been  
2 paid and the fee or tax is not paid upon reasonable notice and demand;

3 (5) a registration plate, permit, or certificate is knowingly displayed **on**  
4 [UPON] a vehicle other than the vehicle for which issued;

5 (6) the department determines that the owner of a vehicle has  
6 committed an offense under this chapter involving the registration or the certificate,  
7 plate, or permit to be suspended or revoked;

8 (7) the vehicle has been reported to the department as stolen or  
9 unlawfully converted;

10 (8) the department is otherwise required to do so under the laws of this  
11 state;

12 (9) the department determines that the vehicle owner has violated the  
13 requirements of AS 28.10.146 or 28.10.147;

14 (10) the department determines that a repair to a commercial motor  
15 vehicle, ordered by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities or the  
16 Department of Public Safety under regulations adopted under AS 19, was not  
17 completed after the owner or operator represented to the Department of Transportation  
18 and Public Facilities, the Department of Public Safety, or the Department of  
19 Administration that the repair had been completed; [OR]

20 (11) the owner or operator of a commercial motor vehicle has placed a  
21 commercial motor vehicle back in service after it has been placed out of service by the  
22 Department of Transportation and Public Facilities or the Department of Public Safety  
23 without having it reinspected as required under regulations adopted under AS 19;

24 **(12) the owner or operator is a commercial motor carrier**  
25 **prohibited from operating by a federal agency; or**

26 **(13) the commercial motor vehicle is subject to an out-of-service**  
27 **order issued by a state or federal agency.**

28 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 28.10.411(f) is amended to read:

29 (f) A resident 65 years of age or older on January 1 of the year the vehicle is  
30 registered or a resident with a disability that limits or impairs the ability to walk and  
31 who provides proof of that disability as provided in 23 C.F.R. 1235.2 is entitled to an

1 exemption from the registration fee required under this section for one vehicle subject  
2 to registration under AS 28.10.421(b)(1)(A), (b)(2), (b)(4), or (b)(5)  
3 [AS 28.10.421(b)(1), (2), (5), OR (6)]. An exemption may not be granted except upon  
4 written application for the exemption on a form prescribed by the department.

5 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 28.10.411 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

6 (g) A person who presents satisfactory proof of current membership in the  
7 Alaska National Guard is entitled to an exemption from the registration fee required  
8 under this section for one vehicle subject to registration under AS 28.10.421(b)(1)(A),  
9 (b)(2), or (b)(4). An exemption may not be granted except upon written application for  
10 the exemption on a form prescribed by the department.

11 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 28.10.421(b) is repealed and reenacted to read:

12 (b) The biennial registration fees under this subsection are imposed within the  
13 following classifications for

14 (1) a vehicle not exceeding 10,000 pounds unladen weight as  
15 established by the manufacturer's advertised weight or on the actual weight, which the  
16 owner shall furnish, subject to the approval of the commissioner or the commissioner's  
17 representative that is a

18 (A) passenger vehicle, low-speed vehicle, pick-up truck, truck,  
19 or van not used or maintained for the transportation of persons or property for  
20 hire or for other commercial use and not registered in the name of a company  
21 or business ..... \$100;

22 (B) a taxicab ..... \$160;

23 (2) a motor home not used or maintained for the transportation of  
24 persons or property for hire or for other commercial use and not registered in the name  
25 of a company or business ..... \$100;

26 (3) a motor bus with a seating capacity of

27 (A) less than 20 persons and used exclusively for commercial  
28 purposes in the transporting of visitors or tourists ..... \$100;

29 (B) 20 or more persons and used exclusively for commercial  
30 purposes in the transporting of visitors or tourists ..... \$300;

31 (4) a motorcycle or a motor-driven cycle ..... \$60;

1 (5) a trailer not used or maintained for the transportation of persons or  
2 property for hire or for other commercial use, including a boat trailer, baggage trailer,  
3 box trailer, utility trailer, house trailer, travel trailer, or trailer rented or offered for rent  
4 ..... \$30.

5 \* **Sec. 6.** AS 28.10.421(c) is amended to read:

6 (c) The biennial registration fees under this subsection are imposed **for a**  
7 **vehicle not subject to registration under (b) of this section** and are based **on**  
8 [UPON] the actual unladen weight as established by the manufacturer's advertised  
9 weight or **on** [UPON] the actual weight, which the owner shall furnish, subject to the  
10 approval of the commissioner or the commissioner's representative, [FOR A  
11 VEHICLE, INCLUDING A LOW-SPEED VEHICLE AND A MOTOR VEHICLE  
12 PULLING A TRAILER OR SEMI-TRAILER, THAT IS REGISTERED IN THE  
13 NAME OF A COMPANY OR BUSINESS, OR IS USED OR MAINTAINED FOR  
14 THE TRANSPORTATION OF PASSENGERS FOR HIRE, EXCEPTING  
15 TAXICABS AND BUSES UNDER (b) OF THIS SECTION, OR FOR THE  
16 TRANSPORTATION OF PROPERTY FOR HIRE OR FOR OTHER  
17 COMMERCIAL PURPOSES, INCLUDING A LOW-SPEED VEHICLE, TRUCK,  
18 WRECKER, TOW CAR, HEARSE, AMBULANCE, AND TRACTOR,] as follows:

- 19 (1) up to and including 5,000 pounds ..... \$180;  
20 (2) more than 5,000 pounds to and including 12,000 pounds ..... \$268;  
21 (3) more than 12,000 pounds to and including 18,000 pounds ... \$516;  
22 (4) more than 18,000 pounds ..... \$662.

23 \* **Sec. 7.** AS 28.10.421(d)(8) is amended to read:

24 (8) an amateur mobile radio station vehicle,

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

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

28 (B) in recognition of service to the public a mobile amateur  
29 radio station owned by an amateur with general class or higher license,  
30 provided the station must be satisfactorily proved capable of operating on at  
31 least five bands from 160 through 10 meters, must have an antenna, and must

1           have a power supply and wiring as a permanent part of the vehicle; the  
 2           transmitting unit may be removed from the car for service or dry storage  
 3           ..... none  
 4           for a mobile amateur radio station vehicle included in **(b)(1)(A)** [(b)(1) OR (2)]  
 5           of this section;

6   \* **Sec. 8.** AS 28.10.431(b) is amended to read:

7           (b) The biennial tax is levied upon motor vehicles subject to the registration  
 8           fee under AS 28.10.411 and 28.10.421 and is based **on** [UPON] the age of vehicles as  
 9           determined by model year in the first year of the biennial period, according to the  
 10          following schedule:

	Tax According to Age of								
	Vehicle								
	Since Model Year:								
								8th	
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	or over	
16	Motor Vehicle								
17	(1) motorcycle	\$ 17	\$ 15	\$ 13	\$ 10	\$ 7	\$ 5	\$ 4	\$ 4
18	(2) vehicles specified in	121	99	77	55	39	28	19	16
19	<b><u>AS 28.10.421(b)(1)(A)</u></b>								
20	<b><u>or (3)(A)</u></b>								
21	[AS 28.10.421(b)(1)]								
22	(3) vehicles specified in	121	99	77	55	39	28	19	16
23	<b><u>AS 28.10.421(b)(1)(B)</u></b>								
24	[AS 28.10.421(b)(3)]								
25	(4) vehicles specified								
26	in AS 28.10.421(c)(1)-(4)								
27	5,000 pounds or less	121	99	77	55	39	28	19	16
28	5,001-12,000 pounds	198	154	121	99	77	55	33	22
29	12,001-18,000 pounds	447	392	348	304	260	227	205	194
30	18,001 pounds or over	546	469	403	348	304	260	216	194
31	(5) vehicles specified in	198	154	121	99	77	55	33	22

1 **AS 28.10.421(b)(3)(B)**

2 [AS 28.10.421(b)(4)]

3 (6) vehicles specified in 17 15 13 10 7 5 4 4

4 **AS 28.10.421(b)(5)**

5 [AS 28.10.421(b)(6)]

6 (7) vehicles specified 121 99 77 55 39 28 19 16  
7 in AS 28.10.421(d)(8)

8 (8) [VEHICLES 121 99 77 55 39 28 19 16  
9 SPECIFIED IN

10 AS 28.10.421(b)(2)

11 (9)] vehicles eligible 88

12 for dealer

13 plates under

14 AS 28.10.421(d)(9).

15 \* **Sec. 9.** AS 28.15.051(a) is amended to read:

16 (a) Except as provided in (b) of this section, a person who is at least 14 years  
17 of age may apply to the department for **a noncommercial** [AN] instruction permit.  
18 The department may, after the applicant has successfully passed all parts of the  
19 examination under AS 28.15.081 other than the driving test, issue to the applicant an  
20 instruction permit. The permit allows a person, while having the permit in the person's  
21 immediate possession, to drive a specified **noncommercial** type or class of motor  
22 vehicle on a highway or vehicular way or area for a period not to exceed two years.  
23 The permittee shall be accompanied by a person at least 21 years of age who has been  
24 licensed at least one year to drive the type or class of vehicle being used, who is  
25 capable of exercising control over the vehicle and who occupies a seat beside the  
26 driver, or who accompanies and immediately supervises the driver when the permittee  
27 drives a motorcycle. An instruction permit may be renewed one time. Once a license is  
28 issued to drive a specified type or class of motor vehicle, a driver is not eligible to  
29 obtain an instructional permit for that specified type or class of motor vehicle **unless**  
30 **five years have passed since the expiration of the license.**

31 \* **Sec. 10.** AS 28.15.051 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

1 (f) A person who is at least 18 years of age may apply to the department for a  
2 commercial instruction permit. The department may, after the applicant has  
3 successfully passed all parts of the examination under AS 28.15.081 other than the  
4 driving test, issue to the applicant a commercial instruction permit. The permit allows  
5 a person, while having the permit in the person's immediate possession, to drive a  
6 specified commercial type or class of motor vehicle on a highway or vehicular way or  
7 area for a period not to exceed 180 days. The permittee shall be accompanied by a  
8 person at least 21 years of age who has been licensed at least one year to drive the type  
9 or class of vehicle being used, who is capable of exercising control over the wheel,  
10 and who occupies a seat beside the driver. A commercial instruction permit may be  
11 renewed one time for a period of 180 days. Once a license is issued to drive a  
12 specified type or class of motor vehicle, a driver is not eligible to obtain a commercial  
13 instructional permit for that specified type or class of motor vehicle unless

14 (1) five years have passed since the expiration of the previous license;

15 or

16 (2) the commercial instruction permit is obtained for the purpose of  
17 adding an endorsement to a current class of commercial license.

18 \* **Sec. 11.** AS 28.33.140(a) is amended to read:

19 (a) In addition to any court action or administrative action in this or any other  
20 jurisdiction, conviction of a person who holds or is required to have a commercial  
21 driver's license **or commercial instruction permit** of any of the following offenses is  
22 grounds for immediate disqualification from driving a commercial motor vehicle for  
23 the periods set out in this section:

24 (1) operating a commercial motor vehicle while under the influence of  
25 an alcoholic beverage, inhalant, or controlled substance in violation of AS 28.33.030;

26 (2) refusal to submit to a chemical test in violation of AS 28.35.032;

27 (3) operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of an alcoholic  
28 beverage, inhalant, or controlled substance in violation of AS 28.35.030;

29 (4) leaving the scene of an accident in violation of AS 28.35.060, or  
30 failing to file, or providing false information in, an accident report in violation of  
31 AS 28.35.110;

1 (5) a felony under state or federal law that was facilitated because the  
2 person used a motor vehicle;

3 (6) a serious traffic violation;

4 (7) **taking one of the following actions** [DRIVING AFTER BEING  
5 PLACED OUT OF SERVICE] in violation of regulations adopted under  
6 AS 19.10.060(c) or AS 28.05.011;

7 **(A) driving after being placed out of service; or**

8 **(B) operating a commercial vehicle that has been placed out**  
9 **of service;**

10 (8) operating a commercial motor vehicle in violation of a federal or  
11 state statute or regulation, or a local law or ordinance, relating to railroad-highway  
12 grade crossings;

13 (9) operating a commercial motor vehicle while the driver's  
14 commercial motor vehicle license is suspended, revoked, or canceled, or the driver is  
15 disqualified;

16 (10) causing a fatality through the negligent operation, or operation in  
17 violation of a felony criminal law, of a commercial motor vehicle.

18 \* **Sec. 12.** AS 28.33.140(m) is amended to read:

19 (m) A person who violates the standards for operating a commercial motor  
20 vehicle **or who knowingly operates a commercial motor vehicle that has been**  
21 **placed out of service as** set out by the department in regulation is subject to civil  
22 penalties established by the department in regulation. An employer who knowingly  
23 allows an employee to drive in violation of an out-of-service order or in violation of a  
24 railroad-highway grade crossing is subject to civil penalties as described in 49 U.S.C.  
25 521(b) as established by the department in regulation. The department may adopt  
26 regulations under AS 44.62 to implement this subsection. The regulations adopted  
27 under this subsection must be substantially similar to any applicable federal  
28 regulations. In this subsection, "knowingly [,]" has the meaning given in  
29 AS 11.81.900.

30 \* **Sec. 13.** AS 28.33.190(16) is amended to read:

31 (16) "serious traffic violation" means

1 (A) speeding 15 miles per hour or more above the posted limit;  
2 (B) reckless or negligent driving, in violation of AS 28.35.400  
3 or 28.35.410 or an ordinance with substantially similar elements;

4 (C) violation of a provision of this title, or a regulation adopted  
5 under this title, relating to improper lane changes or following too closely, or  
6 an ordinance with substantially similar elements;

7 (D) violation of a law or ordinance relating to traffic control,  
8 which was determined by the court by a preponderance of the evidence to have  
9 been a factor in causing physical injury to a person;

10 (E) driving a commercial motor vehicle without obtaining a  
11 license to drive a commercial motor vehicle;

12 (F) driving a commercial motor vehicle without a license to  
13 drive a commercial motor vehicle in the driver's possession; however, if an  
14 individual provides proof to the department by the date that the individual was  
15 required to appear in court or pay any fine for that violation that the individual  
16 held a valid license to drive a commercial motor vehicle on the date the  
17 citation was issued, the driving may not be considered as a serious traffic  
18 violation under this paragraph; [OR]

19 (G) driving a commercial motor vehicle without the proper  
20 class of license to drive a commercial motor vehicle and any required  
21 endorsements for the specific vehicle group being operated, or for the  
22 passengers or type of cargo being transported; **or**

23 **(H) driving a commercial motor vehicle in violation of**  
24 **AS 28.35.161.**

25 \* **Sec. 14.** AS 28.90.990(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

26 (31) "commercial motor carrier" means a person that provides  
27 transportation for compensation, or that provides a vehicle to a person or entity that  
28 provides transportation for compensation, including the person's agents, officers,  
29 representatives, employees responsible for hiring, supervising, training, assigning, or  
30 dispatching of drivers, and employees overseeing the safety, installation, inspection,  
31 and maintenance of motor vehicle equipment and accessories.

1     \* **Sec. 15.** Sections 1, 2, and 9 - 14 of this Act take effect immediately under  
2 AS 01.10.070(c).

3     \* **Sec. 16.** Sections 3 - 8 of this Act take effect January 1, 2015.