

## No. 616

## AN ACT

To further amend the act, approved the first day of May, one thousand nine hundred twenty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 905), entitled "An act for the protection of the public safety; regulating the use of highways, and the operation of vehicles, tractors, street cars, trackless trolley omnibuses, bicycles, pedestrians, and the riding of animals upon the highways of this Commonwealth; providing for the titling, including liens, encumbrances, and legal claims; registration of certain vehicles and licensing the operators thereof, upon payment of prescribed fees; prescribing and limiting the powers of local authorities to deal with the subject matter of this act; conferring powers and imposing duties upon the Department of Revenue, the Department of Highways, peace officers, mayors, burgesses, magistrates, aldermen, justices of the peace, the courts and the clerks thereof, owners of vehicles, and garage keepers; providing that records are admissible as evidence; imposing upon owners, counties, cities, boroughs, incorporated towns, townships, within the Commonwealth, liability for damages caused by the negligent operation of their motor vehicles; imposing penalties; imposing certain costs upon counties; providing for the disposition of fines, forfeitures, fees, and miscellaneous receipts; making an appropriation and providing for refunds," by changing the registration year for commercial motor vehicles, motor buses, motor omnibuses, truck tractors, trailers and semi-trailers, and certain exemptions in accordance therewith.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows: "The Vehicle Code."

Section 1. Sections 413 and 510 of the act, approved the first day of May, one thousand nine hundred twenty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 905), entitled "An act for the protection of the public safety; regulating the use of highways, and the operation of vehicles, tractors, street cars, trackless trolley omnibuses, bicycles, pedestrians, and the riding of animals upon the highways of this Commonwealth; providing for the titling, including liens, encumbrances, and legal claims; registration of certain vehicles and licensing the operators thereof, upon payment of prescribed fees; prescribing and limiting the powers of local authorities to deal with the subject matter of this act; conferring powers and imposing duties upon the Department of Revenue, the Department of Highways, peace officers, mayors, burgesses, magistrates, aldermen, justices of the peace, the courts and the clerks thereof, owners of vehicles, and garage keepers; providing that records are admissible as evidence; imposing upon owners, counties, cities, boroughs, incorporated towns, townships, within the Commonwealth, liability for damages caused by the negligent operation of their motor vehicles; imposing penalties; imposing certain costs upon counties; providing for the disposition of fines, forfeitures, fees, and miscellaneous

Sections 413 and 510, act of May 1, 1929, P. L. 905, as last amended by act of May 18, 1949, P. L. 1412, further amended.

receipts; making an appropriation and providing for refunds," as last amended by the act, approved the eighteenth day of May, one thousand nine hundred forty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 1412), are hereby further amended to read as follows:

Section 413. Expiration of Registration.—All registrations shall be issued for a registration year commencing on April first of one year and expiring March thirty-first of the year following: *Provided, That all registrations for commercial motor vehicles, motor buses, motor omnibuses, truck tractors, trailers and semi-trailers, for the registration year one thousand nine hundred fifty-three, shall expire May thirty-first, one thousand nine hundred fifty-four: Provided further, That no registration for a commercial motor vehicle, motor bus, motor omnibus, truck tractor, trailer or semi-trailer shall be issued for the registration year one thousand nine hundred fifty-three prior to the first day of June, one thousand nine hundred fifty-three, unless the application therefor is accompanied by the annual fee prescribed, plus an additional fee equal to one-sixth thereof. Commencing with the registration year one thousand nine hundred fifty-four, and thereafter, registrations for commercial motor vehicles, motor buses, motor omnibuses, truck tractors, trailers and semi-trailers shall be issued for a registration year commencing on June first of one year and expiring May thirty-first of the year following.* Registrations shall also expire when suspended for cause by the secretary, and, immediately upon the transfer of ownership, or the destruction of the vehicle. Registrations for the succeeding year may, at the option of their holders, be used on and after [March fifteenth of the current year] *the fifteenth day of the month immediately preceding the beginning of the current registration year.*

Section 510. The Expiration of Registration Plates.—

(a) All registration plates shall be issued for a registration year commencing on April first of one year and expiring March thirty-first of the year following: *Provided, That all registration plates for commercial motor vehicles, motor buses, motor omnibuses, truck tractors, trailers and semi-trailers, for the registration year one thousand nine hundred fifty-three shall expire May thirty-first, one thousand nine hundred fifty-four. Commencing with the registration year one thousand nine hundred fifty-four and thereafter registration plate for commercial motor vehicles, motor buses, motor omnibuses, truck tractors, trailers and semi-trailers, shall be issued for a registration year commencing on June first of one year and expiring May thirty-first of the year following.* Registration plates shall also expire when

suspended for cause by the secretary. \* [Registration] *The registration plate or plates for the succeeding year may, at the option of the owner, be used on and after [March fifteenth of the current year] the fifteenth day of the month immediately preceding the beginning of the current registration year.*

(b) No motor vehicle, trailer, or semi-trailer shall be operated with a registration *plate or plates* which have expired nor without registration *plate or plates* on *as required by this act*, the claim by the owner or operator that the registration *plate or plates* for the current year have been applied for but not received.

Penalty.—Any person violating any of the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, shall, upon summary conviction before a magistrate, be sentenced to pay a fine of ten (\$10.00) dollars and costs of prosecution, and, in default of the payment thereof, shall undergo imprisonment for not more than five (5) days.

Section 2. Subsection (f) of section 722 of said act, as amended by the act, approved the twenty-sixth day of June, one thousand nine hundred thirty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 1102), is hereby further amended to read as follows:

Subsection (f) of section 722, said act, as amended by act of June 26, 1939, P. L. 1102, further amended.

Section 722. Exemptions From Fees.—

\* \* \* \* \*

(f) No fee shall be charged for transfer of registration for the succeeding year, when such transfer has been received and completed by the department prior to [April first of such succeeding year] *the first day of such succeeding registration year.*

Section 3. The purpose and intent of this act is, commencing with the registration year one thousand nine hundred fifty-four, to change the registration year for commercial motor vehicles, motor buses, motor omnibuses, truck tractors, trailers and semi-trailers from the period of April first to March thirty-first to the period June first to May thirty-first, without any ultimate loss of revenue for the use of the highways. To accomplish that end, registrations and registration plates issued for the registration year one thousand nine hundred fifty-three for commercial motor vehicles, motor buses, motor omnibuses, truck tractors, trailers and semi-trailers shall be valid until May thirty-first, one thousand nine hundred fifty-four.

Purpose and intent of act to change registration year for certain designated vehicles.

APPROVED—The 18th day of January, A. D. 1952.

JOHN S. FINE

\* "[Registration]" omitted in original.