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- The Committee on Transportation to which was referred Senate Bill No.

 309 entitled "An act relating to miscellaneous changes to the laws related to
 the Department of Motor Vehicles, motor vehicles, and vessels" respectfully
 reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the House propose
 to the Senate that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting
 clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:
- 8 * * * Transporters * * *
- 9 Sec. 1. 23 V.S.A. § 4 is amended to read:
- 10 § 4. DEFINITIONS

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- (8)(A)(i) "Dealer" means a person, partnership, corporation, or other entity engaged in the business of selling or exchanging new or used motor vehicles, snowmobiles, motorboats, or all-terrain vehicles. A dealer may, as part of or incidental to such business, repair such vehicles or motorboats, sell parts and accessories, or lease or rent such vehicles or motorboats. "Dealer" shall does not include a finance or auction dealer or a transporter.
- (ii)(I) For a dealer in new or used cars or motor trucks, "engaged in the business" means having sold or exchanged at least 12 cars or motor trucks, or a combination thereof, in the immediately preceding year, or 24 in the two immediately preceding years.
- (II) For a dealer in snowmobiles, motorboats, or all-terrain

1	vehicles, "engaged in the business" means having sold or exchanged at least
2	one snowmobile, motorboat, or all-terrain vehicle, respectively, in the
3	immediately preceding year or two in the two immediately preceding years.
4	(III) For a dealer in trailers, semi-trailers, or trailer coaches,
5	"engaged in the business" means having sold or exchanged at least one trailer,
6	semi-trailer, or trailer coach in the immediately preceding year or a
7	combination of two such vehicles in the two immediately preceding years.
8	However, the sale or exchange of a trailer with a gross vehicle weight rating or
9	3,500 pounds or less shall be excluded under this subdivision (III).
10	(IV) For a dealer in motorcycles or motor-driven cycles,
11	"engaged in the business" means having sold or exchanged at least one
12	motorcycle or motor-driven cycle in the immediately preceding year or a
13	combination of two such vehicles in the two immediately preceding years.
14	* * *
15	(42)(A) "Transporter" means:
16	(i) a person engaged in the business of delivering vehicles of a
17	type required to be registered from a manufacturing, assembling, or
18	distributing plant to dealers or sales agents of a manufacturer;
19	(ii) a person regularly engaged in the business of towing trailer
20	coaches, owned by them or temporarily in their custody, on their own wheels
21	over public highways, or towing office trailers owned by them or temporarily
22	in their custody, on their own wheels over public highways;

1	(iii) a person regularly engaged and properly licensed for the
2	short-term rental of "storage trailers" owned by them and who move these
3	storage trailers on their own wheels over public highways;
4	(iv) a person regularly engaged in the business of moving modular
5	homes over public highways;
6	(v) dealers, owners of motor vehicle auction sites, and automobile
7	repair shop owners when engaged in the transportation of motor vehicles to
8	and from their place of business for repair purposes; or
9	(vi) the following, provided that the transportation and delivery of
10	motor vehicles is a common and usual incident to their business:
11	(I) persons towing overwidth trailers owned by them in
12	connection with their business;
13	(II) persons whose business is the repossession of motor
14	vehicles; and
15	(III) persons whose business involves moving vehicles from
16	the place of business of a registered dealer to another registered dealer, or
17	between a motor vehicle auction site and a registered dealer or another motor
18	vehicle auction site, leased vehicles to the lessor at the expiration of the lease,
19	or vehicles purchased at the place of auction of an auction dealer to the
20	purchaser; and
21	(IV) persons who sell or exchange new or used motor vehicles
22	but who are not engaged in business as that phrase is defined in subdivision

1	(8)(4)	A)(ii)	of this	section.

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- 3 Sec. 2. 23 V.S.A. § 491 is amended to read:
- 4 § 491. TRANSPORTER APPLICATION; ELIGIBILITY; USE OF
- 5 TRANSPORTER PLATES
 - (a) A transporter may apply for and the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, in his or her the Commissioner's discretion, may issue a certificate of registration and a general distinguishing number plate. Before a person may be registered as a transporter, he or she the person shall present proof self-certify the following on a form provided by the Commissioner:
 - (1) of compliance with section 800 of this title; and
 - (2) that he or she the person either owns or leases a permanent place of business located in this State where business will be conducted during regularly established business hours and the required records stored and maintained.
 - (b) When he or she a transporter displays thereon his or her the transporter's registration plate, a the transporter or his or her the transporter's employee or contractor may transport a motor vehicle owned by the transporter, repossessed, or temporarily in the transporter's custody, and it shall be considered to be properly registered under this title. Transporter's A transporter's registration plates shall not be used for any other purposes and shall not be used by the holder of such number plates for personal purposes.

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1 * * * Definition of All-Surface Vehicle * * *

- 2 Sec. 3. 23 V.S.A. § 4(80) is amended to read:
 - (80) An "all-surface vehicle" or "ASV" means any non-highway recreational vehicle, except a snowmobile, when used for cross-country travel on trails or on any one of the following or combination of the following: land, water, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, and natural terrain. An all-surface vehicle shall be designed for use both on land and in water, with or without tracks, shall be capable of flotation and shall be equipped with a skid-steering system, a sealed body, a fully contained cooling system, and six or up to eight tires designed to be inflated with an operating pressure not exceeding 10 pounds per square inch as recommended by the manufacturer. An allsurface vehicle shall have a net weight of 1,500 pounds or less, shall have a width of 75 inches or less, shall be equipped with an engine of not more than 50 horsepower, and shall have a maximum speed of not more than 25 miles per hour. An ASV when operated in water shall be considered to be a motorboat and shall be subject to the provisions of chapter 29, subchapter 2 of this title. An ASV operated anywhere except in water shall be subject to the provisions of chapter 31 of this title.

1	* * * Record Keeping * * *
2	Sec. 4. 23 V.S.A. § 117 is added to read:
3	§ 117. RECORD-KEEPING REQUIREMENTS; CERTIFICATES OF TITLE
4	(a) Original records. Original certificate of title records, including
5	surrendered certificates of title and requests for salvage title, as issued pursuant
6	to chapters 21 and 36 of this title, shall be maintained as an electronic image or
7	electronic copy or other form of image, which allows for the tracing of
8	anything for which the Department of Motor Vehicles issues a certificate of
9	title, for a period of five years.
10	(b) Electronic format. Records of title shall be maintained in a format,
11	determined by the Commissioner, that allows for the tracing of anything for
12	which the Department of Motor Vehicles issues a certificate of title.
13	Sec. 5. 23 V.S.A. § 2017(c) is amended to read:
14	(c) The Commissioner shall maintain a record of all certificates of title
15	issued and of all exempt vehicle titles issued under a distinctive title number
16	assigned to the vehicle; under the identification number of the vehicle;
17	alphabetically, under the name of the owner; and, in the discretion of the
18	Commissioner, by any other method the Commissioner determines. The
19	original records may be maintained on microfilm or electronic imaging
20	pursuant to section 117 of this title.
21	Sec. 6. 23 V.S.A. § 2027(c) is amended to read:
22	(c) The Commissioner shall file and retain for five years every surrendered

1	certificate of title so as to permit the tracing of title of the corresponding
2	vehicles pursuant to section 117 of this title.
3	Sec. 7. 23 V.S.A. § 2092 is amended to read:
4	§ 2092. ISSUANCE OF SALVAGE TITLE
5	The Commissioner shall file and maintain in the manner provided in section
6	2017 117 of this title each application received and when satisfied as to its
7	genuineness and regularity and that the applicant is entitled to the issuance of a
8	salvage certificate of title, shall issue a salvage certificate of title to the vehicle.
9	Sec. 8. 23 V.S.A. § 3810(b)(1) is amended to read:
10	(b)(1) The Commissioner shall maintain at his or her central office a record
11	of all certificates of title issued by him or her:
12	(A) under a distinctive title number assigned to the vessel,
13	snowmobile, or all-terrain vehicle;
14	(B) under the identification number of the vessel, snowmobile, or all-
15	terrain vehicle;
16	(C) alphabetically, under the name of the owner; and, in the
17	discretion of the Commissioner, by any other method he or she determines the
18	Commissioner pursuant to section 117 of this title.
19	Sec. 9. 23 V.S.A. § 3820(c) is amended to read:
20	(c) The Commissioner shall file and retain every surrendered certificate of
21	title for five years. The file shall be maintained so as to permit the tracing of
22	title of the vessel, snowmobile, or all-terrain vehicle designated pursuant to

1	section 117 of this title.
2	* * * Registration; Residents * * *
3	Sec. 10. 23 V.S.A. § 301 is amended to read:
4	§ 301. PERSONS REQUIRED TO REGISTER
5	(a) As used in this section:
6	(1) "Resident" means an individual living in the State who intends to
7	make the State the individual's place of domicile either permanently or for an
8	indefinite number of years.
9	(2) "Temporary resident" means an individual living in the State for a
10	particular purpose involving a defined period, including students, migrant
11	workers employed in seasonal occupations, and individuals employed under a
12	contract with a fixed term, provided that the motor vehicle will be used in the
13	State on a regular basis.
14	(b) Residents, except as provided in chapter 35 of this title, shall annually
15	register motor vehicles owned or leased for a period of more than 30 days and
16	operated by them, unless currently registered in Vermont.
17	(c) Temporary residents and foreign partnerships, firms, associations, and
18	corporations having a place of business in this State may annually register
19	motor vehicles owned or leased for a period of more than 30 days and operated
20	by them or an employee.
21	(d) Notwithstanding this section, a resident who has moved into the State
22	from another jurisdiction shall register his or her the resident's motor vehicle

- 1 within 60 days of after moving into the State. A person
- (e) An individual shall not operate a motor vehicle nor draw a trailer or
 semi-trailer on any highway unless such vehicle is registered as provided in
 this chapter. Vehicle owners who have apportioned power units registered in
 this State under the International Registration Plan are exempt from the
 requirement to register their trailers in this State.
- 7 Sec. 11. 23 V.S.A. § 303(a) is amended to read:

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- (a) The Commissioner or his or her the Commissioner's duly authorized agent shall register a motor vehicle, trailer, or semi-trailer when that is required or permitted to be registered in Vermont upon application therefor, on a form prescribed by the Commissioner that is filed with the Commissioner, showing such motor vehicle to be properly equipped and in good mechanical condition; is filed with him or her, and accompanied by the required registration fee and evidence of the applicant's ownership of the vehicle in such form as the Commissioner may reasonably require. Except for State or municipal vehicles, registrants and titled owners shall be identical.
- * * * Weight Limitations on Low-Number Plates * * *
- 18 Sec. 12. 23 V.S.A. § 304(c) is amended to read:
 - (c) The Commissioner shall issue registration numbers 101 through 9999, which shall be known as reserved registration numbers, for pleasure cars, motor trucks that are registered at the pleasure car rate for less than 26,001
- 22 <u>pounds</u>, and motorcycles in the following manner:

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1	* * *
2	(4) A person holding a reserved registration number on a pleasure car, a
3	truck that is registered at the pleasure car rate for less than 26,001 pounds, or a
4	motorcycle may be issued the same reserved registration number for the other
5	authorized vehicle types, provided that the person receives no not more than
6	one such plate or set of plates for each authorized vehicle type.
7	* * * License Plates; Registration; Prorated Refunds * * *
8	Sec. 13. 23 V.S.A. § 327 is amended to read:
9	§ 327. REFUND WHEN PLATES NOT USED
10	Subject to the conditions set forth in subdivisions (1), (2), and (3) (1)–(4) of
11	this section, the Commissioner may cancel the registration of a motor vehicle,
12	snowmobile, or motorboat when the owner returns to the Commissioner either
13	the number plates, if any, or the registration certificate. Upon cancellation of
14	the registration, the Commissioner shall notify the Commissioner of Finance
15	and Management, who shall issue a refund as follows:
16	(1) For registrations cancelled canceled prior to the beginning of the
17	registration period, the refund is the full amount of the fee paid, less a charge
18	of \$5.00.
19	(2) For registrations cancelled canceled within 30 days of after the date
20	of issue, the refund is the full amount of the fee paid, less a charge of \$5.00.
21	The owner of a motor vehicle must prove to the Commissioner's satisfaction

that the number plates have not been used or attached to a motor vehicle.

1	(3) For registrations cancelled canceled prior to the beginning of the
2	second year of a two-year registration period, the refund is one-half of the full
3	amount of the two-year fee paid, less a charge of \$5.00.
4	(4) For registrations canceled prior to conclusion of a five-year
5	registration period, the refund is as follows:
6	(A) four-fifths of the full amount of the five-year fee paid less a
7	charge of \$5.00 if canceled prior to the beginning of the second year;
8	(B) three-fifths of the full amount of the five-year fee paid less a
9	charge of \$5.00 if canceled prior to the beginning of the third year;
10	(C) two-fifths of the full amount of the five-year fee paid less a
11	charge of \$5.00 if canceled prior to the beginning of the fourth year; and
12	(D) one-fifth of the full amount of the five-year fee paid less a charge
13	of \$5.00 if canceled prior to the beginning of the fifth year.
14	Sec. 14. [Deleted.]
15	Sec. 15. [Deleted.]
16	Sec. 16. [Deleted.]
17	* * * Rusted Brake Rotors; Safety Inspection * * *
18	Sec. 17. RUSTED BRAKE ROTORS; LEGISLATIVE INTENT;
19	BULLETIN; CONTACT INFORMATION FOR FAILURES
20	(a) Legislative intent. It is the intent of the General Assembly that:
21	(1) the Department of Motor Vehicles provide information on the
22	existing definition of "rust" in Department of Motor Vehicles, Inspection of

1	Motor Vehicles (CVR 14-050-022) (Periodic Inspection Manual), which is "a
2	condition of any swelling, delamination, or pitting," to all inspection
3	mechanics certified by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles so there is
4	consistency amongst inspection stations in how the Periodic Inspection Manual
5	is interpreted and applied.
6	(2) that the presence of rust on brake rotors, by itself, does not constitute
7	a failure for the purpose of the annual safety inspection required under
8	23 V.S.A. § 1222 and that the presence of rust that is temporary, also known as
9	surface rust, which sometimes results from the vehicle being parked for a
10	period of time, not be sufficient for a motor vehicle to fail inspection because
11	such rust does not cause diminished braking performance that prevents a motor
12	vehicle from adequately stopping.
13	(b) Bulletin. The Department of Motor Vehicles shall issue a clarifying
14	administrative bulletin to all inspection mechanics certified by the
15	Commissioner of Motor Vehicles that:
16	(1) details the rejection criteria for rotors and drums in the Periodic
17	Inspection Manual;
18	(2) explains the difference between surface rust and rust that is
19	considerable for purposes of determining if the rejection criteria are met, which
20	requires that the existing rust be "a condition of any swelling, delamination, or
21	pitting"; and
22	(3) provides information that an inspection mechanic shall provide to

1	the owner of a vehicle that fails inspection because of rusting on rotors and
2	<u>drums.</u>
3	(c) Contact information. The Department of Motor Vehicles shall include
4	how to contact the Department of Motor Vehicles with questions about the
5	annual safety inspection and the Periodic Inspection Manual on all notices of
6	failure issued by inspection mechanics certified by the Commissioner of Motor
7	Vehicles.
8	* * * Emergency Warning Lamps and Sirens * * *
9	Sec. 18. 23 V.S.A. § 1251 is amended to read:
10	§ 1251. SIRENS AND COLORED SIGNAL <u>EMERGENCY WARNING</u>
11	LAMPS; OUT-OF-STATE EMERGENCY AND RESCUE
12	VEHICLES
13	(a) <u>Prohibition.</u> A motor vehicle shall not be operated upon a highway of
14	this State equipped with any of the following:
15	(1) a siren or signal lamp colored other than amber unless either a permit
16	authorizing this equipment the siren, issued by the Commissioner of Motor
17	Vehicles, is carried in the vehicle or a permit is not required pursuant to section
18	1252 of this subchapter;
19	(2) an emergency warning lamp unless either a permit authorizing the
20	emergency warning lamp, issued by the Commissioner, is carried in the vehicle
21	or a permit is not required pursuant to section 1252 of this subchapter;
22	(3) a blue light of any kind unless either a permit authorizing the blue

1 light, issued by the Commissioner, is carried in the vehicle or a permit is not 2 required pursuant to section 1252 of this subchapter; or 3 (4) a lamp or lamps that are not emergency warning lamps and provide a 4 flashing light in a color other than amber. 5 (b) Permit transfer. A permit may be transferred following the same 6 procedure and subject to the same time limits as set forth in section 321 of this 7 title. The Commissioner may adopt additional rules as may be required to 8 govern the acquisition of permits and the use pertaining to sirens and colored 9 signal emergency warning lamps. 10 (b)(c) Exception for vehicles from another state. Notwithstanding the 11 provisions of subsection (a) of this section, when responding to emergencies, 12 law enforcement vehicles, ambulances, fire vehicles, or vehicles owned or 13 leased by, or provided to, volunteer firefighters or rescue squad members that 14 are registered or licensed by another state or province may use sirens and 15 signal emergency warning lamps in Vermont, and a permit shall not be 16 required for such use, as long as provided the vehicle is properly permitted or 17 otherwise permitted to use the sirens and emergency warning lamps without 18 permit in its home state or province.

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1	Sec. 19. 23 V.S.A. § 1252 is amended to read:
2	§ 1252. <u>LAW ENFORCEMENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES</u>
3	VEHICLES; ISSUANCE OF PERMITS FOR SIRENS OR
4	COLORED EMERGENCY WARNING LAMPS, OR BOTH; USE
5	OF AMBER LAMPS
6	(a) <u>Law enforcement vehicles.</u>
7	(1) When satisfied as to the condition and use of the vehicle, the
8	Commissioner shall issue and may revoke, for cause, permits for sirens and
9	colored signal lamps in the following manner Law enforcement vehicles
10	owned and operated by the government. The following are authorized for use,
11	without permit, on all law enforcement vehicles owned or leased by the federal
12	government, a municipality, a county, the State, or the Vermont Criminal
13	Justice Council:
14	(1)(A) Sirens, blue signal emergency warning lamps, or blue and white
15	signal emergency warning lamps, or a combination thereof, may be authorized
16	for all law enforcement vehicles owned or leased by a law enforcement
17	agency, a certified law enforcement officer, or the Vermont Criminal Justice
18	Council.
19	(B) A red signal emergency warning lamp or an a red and amber
20	signal emergency warning lamp, or a combination thereof, may be authorized
21	for all law enforcement vehicles owned or leased by a law enforcement
22	agency, a certified law enforcement officer, or the Vermont Criminal Justice

1	Council, provided that the Commissioner shall require the emergency warning
2	lamp or lamps be is mounted so as to be visible primarily from the rear of the
3	vehicle.
4	(C)(2) Law enforcement vehicles owned or leased by a certified law
5	enforcement officer.
6	(A) When satisfied as to the condition and use of the vehicle, the
7	Commissioner shall issue and may revoke, for cause, permits for sirens and
8	emergency warning lamps in the following manner:
9	(i) sirens, blue emergency warning lamps, or blue and white
10	emergency warning lamps, or a combination thereof; and
11	(ii) a red emergency warning lamp or a red and amber emergency
12	warning lamp, provided that the emergency warning lamp is mounted so as to
13	be visible primarily from the rear of the vehicle.
14	(B) No motor vehicle, other than one owned by the applicant, shall be
15	issued a permit until the Commissioner has recorded the information regarding
16	both the owner of the vehicle and the applicant for the permit.
17	(3) Law enforcement vehicles owned or leased by a certified constable.
18	(A) If the applicant is a The following are authorized for use, without
19	permit, on all law enforcement vehicles owned or leased by a Vermont
20	Criminal Justice Council certified constable, the application shall be
21	accompanied by a certification by the town clerk that the applicant is the duly
22	elected or appointed constable and attesting that the town for a municipality

1	that has not voted to limit the constable's authority to engage in enforcement
2	activities under 24 V.S.A. § 1936a: a red emergency warning lamp or a red
3	and amber emergency warning lamp, provided that the emergency warning
4	lamp is mounted so as to be visible primarily from the rear of the vehicle.
5	(B) A constable for a municipality that has voted to limit the
6	constable's authority to engage in enforcement activities under 24 V.S.A.
7	§ 1936a shall not operate, in the course of the constable's elected duties, a
8	motor vehicle with a siren or an emergency warning lamp.
9	(2)(b) Emergency services vehicles.
10	(1) Emergency services vehicles owned and operated by the
11	government. The following are authorized for use, without permit, on all
12	emergency services vehicles owned or leased by the federal government, a
13	municipality, or the State:
14	(A) sirens and red emergency warning lamps or red and white
15	emergency warning lamps; and
16	(B) a blue emergency warning lamp or a blue and amber emergency
17	warning lamp provided that the emergency warning lamp is mounted so as to
18	be visible primarily from the rear of the vehicle.
19	(2) Emergency services vehicles not owned and operated by the
20	government.
21	(A) When satisfied as to the condition and use of the vehicle, the
22	Commissioner shall issue and may revoke, for cause, permits for sirens and

(i) Sirens and red emergency warning lamps or red and white signal emergency warning lamps may be authorized for all ambulances and other emergency medical service (EMS) vehicles, vehicles owned or leased by a fire department, vehicles used solely in rescue operations, or vehicles owned or leased by, or provided to, volunteer firefighters and voluntary rescue squad members, including a vehicle owned by a volunteer's employer when the volunteer has the written authorization of the employer to use the vehicle for emergency fire or rescue activities.

(B)(ii) A blue signal emergency warning lamp or an a blue and amber signal emergency warning lamp, or a combination thereof, may be authorized for all EMS vehicles or vehicles owned or leased by a fire department, provided that the Commissioner shall require the emergency warning lamp or lamps be mounted so as to be visible primarily from the rear of the vehicle.

(3) [Repealed.]

- (4)(B) No motor vehicle, other than one owned by the applicant, shall be issued a permit until the Commissioner has recorded the information regarding both the owner of the vehicle and the applicant for the permit.
- (5)(C) Upon application to the Commissioner, the Commissioner may issue a single permit for all the vehicles owned or leased by the applicant.
- (6)(c) Sirens and Restored vehicles. A combination of one or more of red or signal lamps, red and white signal lamps or sirens and, blue signal

1	<u>lamps</u> , or blue and white signal lamps may be authorized for restored
2	emergency or enforcement vehicles used for exhibition purposes. Sirens and
3	lamps authorized under this subdivision subsection may only be activated
4	during an exhibition, such as a car show or parade.
5	(b)(d) Amber signal lamps. Amber signal lamps shall be used on road
6	maintenance vehicles, service vehicles, and wreckers and shall be used on all
7	registered snow removal equipment when in use removing snow on public
8	highways, and the amber lamps shall be mounted so as to be visible from all
9	sides of the motor vehicle.
10	Sec. 20. 23 V.S.A. § 1254 is added to read:
11	§ 1254. EMERGENCY WARNING LAMP; DEFINITION
12	As used in sections 1251–1255 of this subchapter, "emergency warning
13	<u>lamp":</u>
14	(1) means a lamp or lamps that provide a flashing light to identify an
15	authorized vehicle on an emergency mission that may be a rotating beacon or
16	pairs of alternately or simultaneously flashing lamps; and
17	(2) does not include a lamp or lamps that provide an exclusively amber
18	flashing light.
19	Sec. 21. 23 V.S.A. § 1255(b) is amended to read:
20	(b) All persons with motor vehicles equipped as provided in subdivisions
21	subsections 1252(a)(1) and (2)(b) of this title subchapter shall use the sirens or
22	colored signal emergency warning lamps, or both, only in the direct

- performance of their official duties. When any person individual other than a law enforcement officer is operating a motor vehicle equipped as provided in subdivision subsection 1252(a)(1) of this title subchapter, the eolored signal emergency warning lamps shall be either removed, covered, or hooded. When any person individual other than an authorized emergency medical service vehicle operator, firefighter, or authorized operator of vehicles used in rescue operations is operating a motor vehicle equipped as provided in subdivision subsection 1252(a)(2)(b) of this title subchapter, the colored signal emergency warning lamps shall be either removed, covered, or hooded unless the operator holds a senior operator license.
- Sec. 22. 23 V.S.A. § 4(1) is amended to read:
- (1) "Authorized emergency vehicle" means a vehicle of a fire department, police law enforcement vehicle, public and private ambulance, and a vehicle to which a permit has been issued pursuant to subdivision 1252(a)(1) or (2) equipped as provided in subsections 1252(a) and (b) of this title.
- 16 Sec. 23. 23 V.S.A. § 1050a(b) is amended to read:
 - (b) The driver of a vehicle shall yield the right of way to any authorized vehicle obviously and actually engaged in work upon a highway when the vehicle displays flashing lights meeting the requirements of subsection 1252(b)(d) of this title.

1	* * * Child Restraint Systems * * *
2	Sec. 24. 23 V.S.A. § 1258 is amended to read:
3	§ 1258. CHILD RESTRAINT SYSTEMS; PERSONS INDIVIDUALS
4	UNDER AGE 18 <u>YEARS OF AGE</u>
5	(a) No person individual shall operate a motor vehicle, other than a type I
6	school bus, in this State upon a public highway unless every occupant under
7	age 18 years of age is properly restrained in a federally approved child
8	passenger restraining restraint system as defined in 49 C.F.R. § 571.213, as
9	may be amended, or a federally approved safety belt, as follows:
10	(1) all children a child under the two years of age of one and all children
11	weighing less than 20 pounds, regardless of age, shall be restrained in a rear-
12	facing position, properly secured in a federally approved child passenger
13	restraining rear-facing child restraint system with a harness, which shall not be
14	installed in front of an active air bag as those terms are defined in 49 C.F.R.
15	§ 571.213, as may be amended;
16	(2) a child weighing more than 20 pounds, and who is one year of age or
17	older and under the age of eight five years, of age who is not properly secured
18	in a federally approved rear-facing child restraint system in accordance with
19	subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be restrained in a child passenger
20	restraining system properly secured in a forward-facing federally approved
21	child restraint system with a harness until the child reaches the weight or
22	height limit of the child restraint system as set by the manufacturer; and

1	(3) a child under eight years of age who is not properly secured in a
2	federally approved child restraint system in accordance with subdivision (1) or
3	(2) of this subsection shall be properly secured in a booster seat, as defined in
4	49 C.F.R. § 571.213, as may be amended;
5	(4) a child eight through 17 under 18 years of age who is not properly
6	secured in a federally approved child restraint system in accordance with
7	subdivision (1), (2), or (3) of this subsection shall be restrained in a safety belt
8	system or a child passenger restraining system;
9	(5) a child under 13 years of age shall always, if practical, ride in a rear
10	seat of a motor vehicle; and
11	(6) no child shall be secured in a rear-facing child restraint system in the
12	front seat of a motor vehicle that is equipped with an active passenger-side
13	airbag unless the airbag is deactivated.
14	(b) A person An individual shall not be adjudicated in violation of this
15	section if:
16	(1) the motor vehicle is regularly used to transport passengers for hire,
17	except a motor vehicle owned or operated by a child care facility;
18	(2) the motor vehicle was manufactured without safety belts; or
19	(3) the person individual has been ordered by an enforcement officer, a
20	firefighter, or an authorized civil authority to evacuate persons individuals
21	from a stricken area.
22	(c) The <u>civil</u> penalty for violation of this section shall be as follows:

1	(1) \$25.00 for a first violation;
2	(2) \$50.00 for a second violation; and
3	(3) \$100.00 for third and subsequent violations.
4	Sec. 25. CHILD RESTRAINT SYSTEMS; PUBLIC OUTREACH
5	CAMPAIGN
6	(a) The Department of Health, in consultation with the State Highway
7	Safety Office, shall implement a public outreach campaign on car seat safety
8	that builds upon the current Be Seat Smart program; utilizes materials on child
9	safety prepared by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Traffic Safety
10	Marketing; is consistent with the recommendations from the American
11	Academy of Pediatrics in the Child Passenger Safety Policy Statement
12	published in 2018; and educates Vermonters on 23 V.S.A. § 1258, as amended
13	by Sec. 24 of this act.
14	(b) The public outreach campaign shall disseminate information on car seat
15	safety through e-mail; a dedicated web page on car seat safety that is linked
16	through the websites for the Agency of Transportation and the Department of
17	Health; social media platforms; community posting websites; radio; television;
18	and informational materials that can be printed and shall be made available to
19	all pediatricians, obstetricians, and midwives licensed in the State and all Car
20	Seat Inspection Stations in the State.

1	* * * Exempt Vehicle Title * * *
2	Sec. 26. 23 V.S.A. § 2001(15) is amended to read:
3	(15) "Title or certificate of title" means a written instrument or
4	document that certifies ownership of a vehicle and is issued by the
5	Commissioner or equivalent official of another jurisdiction. These terms do not
6	include an exempt vehicle title authorized to be issued under subdivision
7	2013(a)(2) of this chapter.
8	Sec. 27. 23 V.S.A. § 2002(a)(1) is amended to read:
9	(1) for any certificate of title, including a salvage certificate of title, or
10	an exempt vehicle title, \$42.00;
11	Sec. 28. 23 V.S.A. § 2012 is amended to read:
12	§ 2012. EXEMPTED VEHICLES
13	No certificate of title need be obtained for:
14	* * *
15	(10) a vehicle that is more than 15 years old on January 1, 2024 that has
16	been registered in Vermont and has not had a change in ownership since
17	<u>January 1, 2024</u> .
18	Sec. 29. 23 V.S.A. § 2016 is amended to read:
19	§ 2016. COMMISSIONER TO CHECK IDENTIFICATION NUMBER
20	The Commissioner, upon receiving application for a first certificate of title
21	or exempt vehicle title, shall check the identification number of the vehicle
22	shown in the application against the records of vehicles required to be

1	maintained by section 2017 of this title and against the record of stolen and
2	converted vehicles required to be maintained by section 2084 of this title.
3	Sec. 30. 23 V.S.A. § 2021 is amended to read:
4	§ 2021. REFUSAL OF CERTIFICATE
5	The Commissioner shall refuse issuance of a certificate of title or an exempt
6	vehicle title if any required fee is not paid or if he or she the Commissioner has
7	reasonable grounds to believe that:
8	* * *
9	* * * Vessels * * *
10	* * * Fire Extinguishers * * *
11	Sec. 31. 23 V.S.A. § 3306 is amended to read:
12	§ 3306. LIGHTS AND EQUIPMENT
13	* * *
14	(c) Every motorboat, except a motorboat that is less than 26 feet in length,
15	that has an outboard motor and an open construction, and is not carrying
16	passengers for hire shall carry on board, fully charged and in good condition,
17	U.S. Coast Guard-approved hand portable fire extinguishers U.S. Coast Guard-
18	approved hand portable fire extinguishers that are unexpired, fully charged,
19	and in both good and serviceable condition shall be carried on board every
20	motorboat as follows:
21	(1) motorboats with no fixed fire extinguisher system in the machinery
22	space and that are:

1	(A) less than 26 feet in length, one extinguisher;
2	(B) 26 feet or longer, but less than 40 feet, two extinguishers; and
3	(C) 40 feet or longer, three extinguishers-; and
4	(2) motorboats with a fixed fire extinguisher system in the machinery
5	space and that are:
6	(A) less than 26 feet in length, no extinguishers required;
7	(B) 26 feet or longer but less than 40 feet, one extinguisher; and
8	(B)(C) 40 feet or longer, two extinguishers.
9	(d) Notwithstanding subsection (c) of this section, motorboats less than 26
10	feet in length, propelled by outboard motors, and not carrying passengers for
11	hire need not carry portable fire extinguishers if the construction of the boats
12	will not permit the entrapment of explosive or flammable gases or vapors.
13	(e)(1) The extinguishers referred to by this section are class B-I or 5-B
14	extinguishers, but one class B-II or 20-B extinguisher may be substituted for
15	two class B-I or 5-B extinguishers, in compliance with 46 C.F.R. Subpart
16	25.30, as amended.
17	(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of this subsection, motorboats with
18	a model year between 1953 and 2017 with previously approved fire
19	extinguishers that are not in compliance with the types identified in subdivision
20	(1) of this subsection need not be replaced until such time as they are no longer
21	in good and serviceable condition.
22	(e)(f) Every marine toilet on board any vessel operated on the waters of the

1	State shall also incorporate or be equipped with a holding tank. Any holding
2	tank or marine toilet designed so as to provide for an optional means of
3	discharge to the waters on which the vessel is operating shall have the
4	discharge openings sealed shut and any discharge lines, pipes, or hoses shall be
5	disconnected and stored while the vessel is in the waters of this State.
6	(f)(g) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the discharge of
7	adequately treated wastes from any vessel operating under the provisions of a
8	valid discharge permit issued by the Department of Environmental
9	Conservation.
10	(g)(h) Motorboats operated on waters that the U.S. Coast Guard has
11	determined to be navigable waters of the United States and therefore subject to
12	the jurisdiction of the United States must have lights and other safety
13	equipment as required by U.S. Coast Guard rules and regulations.
14	* * * Vermont Numbering Provisions * * *
15	Sec. 32. 23 V.S.A. § 3307(a) is amended to read:
16	(a) A motorboat is not required to have a Vermont number under this
17	chapter if it is:
18	(1) already covered by a number in effect that has been awarded to it
19	under federal law or a federally approved numbering system of another state if
20	the boat has not been within the State for more than 90 60 days;
21	(2) a motorboat from a country other than the United States if the boat
22	has not been within the State for more than 90 60 days;

1	* * *
2	* * * Commercial Driver's Licenses and Permits * * *
3	* * * Prohibition on Masking or Diversion * * *
4	Sec. 33. 23 V.S.A. § 4122 is amended to read:
5	§ 4122. DEFERRING IMPOSITION OF SENTENCE; PROHIBITION ON
6	MASKING OR DIVERSION
7	(a) No judge or court, State's Attorney, or law enforcement officer may
8	utilize the provisions of 13 V.S.A. § 7041 or any other program to defer
9	imposition of sentence or judgment if the defendant holds a commercial
10	driver's license or was operating a commercial motor vehicle when the
11	violation occurred and is charged with violating any State or local traffic law
12	other than a parking violation.
13	(b) In accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 384.226, no court, State's Attorney, or
14	law enforcement officer may mask or allow an individual to enter into a
15	diversion program that would prevent a commercial learner's permit holder's
16	or commercial driver's license holder's conviction for any violation, in any
17	type of motor vehicle, of a state or local traffic control law other than parking,
18	vehicle weight, or vehicle defect violations from appearing on the Commercial
19	Driver's License Information System (CDLIS) driver record.

1	* * * Airbags * * *
2	Sec. 34. 13 V.S.A. § 2026 is amended to read:
3	§ 2026. INSTALLATION OF OBJECT IN LIEU OF AIR BAG
4	(a) No person shall knowingly:
5	(1) manufacture, import, distribute, offer for sale, sell, lease, transfer,
6	install or, reinstall or knowingly, cause to be installed, or cause to be
7	reinstalled: a counterfeit automobile supplemental restraint system component,
8	a nonfunctional airbag, or
9	(1) an object in lieu of a vehicle air bag that was designed in accordance
10	with the federal safety regulation an automobile supplement restraint system
11	component, when the object does not comply with the requirements of
12	49 C.F.R. § 571.208, as amended, for the make, model, and year of a vehicle;
13	or
14	(2) an inoperable vehicle air bag, knowing the air bag is inoperable
15	install or reinstall as an automobile supplemental restraint system component
16	anything that causes the diagnostic system for a motor vehicle to fail to warn
17	the motor vehicle operator that an airbag is not installed or fail to warn the
18	motor vehicle operator that a counterfeit automobile supplemental restraint
19	system component or nonfunctional airbag is installed in the motor vehicle.
20	(b) A person who violates subsection (a) of this section shall be imprisoned
21	for not more than three years or fined not more than \$10,000.00, or both.
22	(c) A person who violates subsection (a) of this section, and serious bodily

1	injury, as defined in section 1021 of this title, or death results, shall be
2	imprisoned for not more than 15 years or fined not more than \$10,000.00, or
3	both.
4	(d) As used in this section:
5	(1) "Airbag" means an inflatable restraint device for occupants of motor
6	vehicles that is part of an automobile supplemental restraint system.
7	(2) "Automobile supplemental restraint system" means a passive
8	inflatable crash protection system that a vehicle manufacturer designs to
9	protect automobile occupants in the event of a collision in conjunction with a
10	seat belt assembly, as defined in 49 C.F.R. § 571.209, and that consists of one
11	or more airbags and all components required to ensure that each airbag:
12	(A) operates as designed in a crash; and
13	(B) meets federal motor vehicle safety standards for the specific
14	make, model, and year of manufacture of the vehicle in which the airbag is
15	installed.
16	(3) "Counterfeit automobile supplemental restraint system component"
17	means a replacement component, including an airbag, for an automobile
18	supplemental restraint system that without the authorization of a manufacturer
19	or a person that supplies parts to the manufacturer, displays a trademark that is
20	identical or substantially similar to the manufacturer's or supplier's genuine
21	trademark.
22	(4) "Install" and "reinstall" require the completion of installation work

1	related to the automobile supplemental restraint system of a motor vehicle and
2	either:
3	(A) for the motor vehicle to be returned to the owner or operator; or
4	(B) for the transfer of title for the motor vehicle.
5	(5) "Nonfunctional airbag" means a replacement airbag that:
6	(A) was previously deployed or damaged;
7	(B) has a fault that the diagnostic system for a motor vehicle detects
8	once the airbag is installed;
9	(C) may not be sold or leased under 49 U.S.C. § 30120(j); or
10	(D) includes a counterfeit automobile supplemental restraint system
11	component or other part or object that is installed for the purpose of misleading
12	a motor vehicle owner or operator into believing that a functional airbag is
13	installed.
14	(6) "Nonfunctional airbag" does not include an unrepaired deployed
15	airbag or an airbag that is installed in a motor vehicle:
16	(A) that is a totaled motor vehicle, as defined in 23 V.S.A.
17	<u>§ 2001(14); or</u>
18	(B) for which the owner was issued a salvaged certificate of title
19	pursuant to 23 V.S.A. § 2091 or a similar title from another state.

1	* * * Licensed Dealers; Used Vehicle Sales; Disclosures * * *
2	Sec. 35. 23 V.S.A. § 466 is amended to read:
3	§ 466. RECORDS; <u>DISCLOSURES</u> ; CUSTODIAN
4	(a) On a form prescribed or approved by the Commissioner, every licensed
5	dealer shall maintain and retain for six years a record containing the following
6	information, which shall be open to inspection by any law enforcement officer
7	or motor vehicle inspector or other agent of the Commissioner during
8	reasonable business hours:
9	(1) Every vehicle or motorboat that is bought, sold, or exchanged by the
10	licensee or received or accepted by the licensee for sale or exchange.
11	(2) Every vehicle or motorboat that is bought or otherwise acquired and
12	dismantled by the licensee.
13	(3) The name and address of the person from whom such vehicle or
14	motorboat was purchased or acquired, the date thereof, the name and address
15	of the person to whom any such vehicle or motorboat was sold or otherwise
16	disposed of and the date thereof, and a sufficient description of every such
17	vehicle or motorboat by name and identifying numbers thereon to identify the
18	same.
19	(4) [Repealed.]
20	(b)(1) On a form prescribed or approved by the Commissioner, a licensed
21	dealer shall provide written disclosure to each buyer of a used motor vehicle
22	regarding the following:

1	(A) the month in which the vehicle was last inspected pursuant to
2	section 1222 of this title;
3	(B) the month in which the inspection shall expire;
4	(C) whether the most recent inspection was by the dealer currently
5	selling the motor vehicle;
6	(D) a statement that the condition of the motor vehicle may be
7	different than the condition at the last inspection, unless inspected by the dealer
8	selling the vehicle for the current transaction;
9	(E) a statement regarding the right of a potential buyer to have the
10	vehicle inspected by an independent qualified mechanic of their choice and at
11	their own expense; and
12	(F) a clear and conspicuous statement, if applicable, that the vehicle
13	is being transferred without an inspection sticker, with an expired inspection
14	sticker, or with an inspection sticker from another state.
15	(2) The licensed dealer shall maintain and retain record of the disclosure
16	statement, signed by both the dealer and the buyer, for two years after transfer
17	of ownership. The record shall be open to inspection by any law enforcement
18	officer or motor vehicle inspector or other agent of the Commissioner during
19	reasonable business hours.
20	(c) Every licensed dealer shall designate a custodian of documents who
21	shall have primary responsibility for administration of documents required to
22	be maintained under this title. In the absence of the designated custodian, the

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1	dealer shall have an ongoing duty to make such records available for
2	inspection by any law enforcement officer or motor vehicle inspector or other
3	agent of the Commissioner during reasonable business hours.
4	* * * DMV Credentials and Number Plates; Veteran Designations * * *
5	Sec. 36. LEGISLATIVE INTENT
6	(a) It is the intent of the General Assembly for the State to properly honor
7	veterans, which includes Vermonters who have served in the active military,
8	naval, air, or space service, and who have been discharged or released from
9	active service under conditions other than dishonorable, where active military,
10	naval, air, or space service includes:
11	(1) active duty;
12	(2) any period of active duty for training during which the individual
13	concerned was disabled or died from a disease or injury incurred or aggravated
14	in line of duty; and
15	(3) any period of inactive duty training during which the individual
16	concerned was disabled or died from an injury incurred or aggravated in line of
17	duty or from an acute myocardial infarction, a cardiac arrest, or a
18	cerebrovascular accident occurring during such training.
19	(b) It is also the intent of the General Assembly that the Department of
20	Motor Vehicles and the Vermont Office of Veterans' Affairs:

1	(1) jointly determine which specialty plates should be offered to
2	veterans so as to ensure specific recognition for those who have received a
3	military award or decoration and those who have served in combat; and
4	(2) allow for a means for a veteran to request that a new specialty plate
5	be designed and offered to veterans when an existing specialty plate does not
6	provide for specific recognition of the veteran.
7	Sec. 37. 23 V.S.A. § 7(b) is amended to read:
8	(b) In addition to any other requirement of law or rule, before an enhanced
9	license may be issued to a person an individual, the person individual shall
10	present for inspection and copying satisfactory documentary evidence to
11	determine identity and U.S. citizenship. An application shall be accompanied
12	by: a photo identity document, documentation showing the person's
13	<u>individual's</u> date and place of birth, proof of the <u>person's</u> <u>individual's</u> Social
14	Security number, and documentation showing the person's individual's
15	principal residence address. New and renewal application forms shall include
16	a space for the applicant to request that a "veteran" designation be placed on
17	the enhanced license. If a veteran, as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(2) and
18	including an individual disabled during active military, naval, air, or space
19	service, as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(24), requests a veteran designation and
20	provides a Department of Defense Form 214 or other proof of veteran status
21	specified by the Commissioner, and the Office of Veterans Veterans' Affairs
22	confirms his or her the individual's status as an honorably discharged veteran

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1 or; a veteran discharged under honorable conditions; or an individual disabled 2 during active military, naval, air, or space service, the identification card shall 3 include the term "veteran" on its face. To be issued, an enhanced license must 4 meet the same requirements as those for the issuance of a U.S. passport. 5 Before an application may be processed, the documents and information shall 6 be verified as determined by the Commissioner. Any additional personal 7 identity information not currently required by the U.S. Department of 8 Homeland Security shall need the approval of either the General Assembly or 9 the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules prior to the 10 implementation of the requirements. 11 Sec. 38. 23 V.S.A. § 115 is amended to read: 12 § 115. NONDRIVER IDENTIFICATION CARDS 13 (a) Any Vermont resident may make application to the Commissioner and 14 be issued an identification card that is attested by the Commissioner as to true 15 name, correct age, residential address unless the listing of another address is 16 requested by the applicant or is otherwise authorized by law, and any other 17 identifying data as the Commissioner may require that shall include, in the case 18 of minor applicants, the written consent of the applicant's parent, guardian, or 19 other person standing in loco parentis. Every application for an identification

card shall be signed by the applicant and shall contain such evidence of age

and identity as the Commissioner may require, consistent with subsection (1) of

this section. New and renewal application forms shall include a space for the

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applicant to request that a "veteran" designation be placed on the applicant's identification card. If a veteran, as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(2) and including an individual disabled during active military, naval, air, or space service, as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(24), requests a veteran designation and provides a Department of Defense Form 214 or other proof of veteran status specified by the Commissioner, and the Office of Veterans Veterans' Affairs confirms the veteran's status as an honorably discharged veteran or; a veteran discharged under honorable conditions; or an individual disabled during active military, naval, air, or space service, the identification card shall include the term "veteran" on its face. The Commissioner shall require payment of a fee of \$29.00 at the time application for an identification card is made, except that an initial nondriver identification card shall be issued at no charge to an individual who surrenders the individual's license in connection with a suspension or revocation under subsection 636(b) of this title due to a physical or mental condition. * * * Sec. 39. 23 V.S.A. § 304 is amended to read: § 304. REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES; NUMBER PLATES; VANITY AND OTHER SPECIAL PLATES * * *

(i) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall, upon proper application,

issue special plates to Vermont veterans, as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(2) and

including an individual disabled during active military, naval, air, or space
service, as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(24), and to members of the U.S. Armed
Forces, as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(10), for use on vehicles registered at the
pleasure car rate, on vehicles registered at the motorcycle rate, and on trucks
registered for less than 26,001 pounds and excluding vehicles registered under
the International Registration Plan. The type and style of the plate plates shall
be determined by the Commissioner, except that an American flag, or a
veteran or military related emblem selected by the Commissioner and the
Vermont Office of Veterans' Affairs shall appear on one side of the plate. At a
minimum, emblems shall be available to recognize recipients of the Purple
Heart, Pearl Harbor survivors, former prisoners of war, and disabled veterans.
An applicant shall apply on a form prescribed by the Commissioner, and the
applicant's eligibility as a member of one of the groups recognized will be
certified by the Office of Veterans' Affairs. The plates shall be reissued only
to the original holder of the plates or the surviving spouse. The Commissioner
may adopt rules to implement the provisions of this subsection. Except for
new or renewed registrations, applications for the issuance of plates under this
subsection shall be processed in the order received by the Department subject
to normal workflow considerations. The costs associated with developing new
emblems shall be borne by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

- 1 Sec. 40. 23 V.S.A. § 610(a) is amended to read:
- 2 (a) The Commissioner shall assign a distinguishing number to each
- 3 licensee and shall furnish the licensee with a license certificate that shows the
- 4 number and the licensee's full name, date of birth, and residential address,
- 5 except that at the request of the licensee, the licensee's mailing address may be
- 6 listed, or an alternative address may be listed if otherwise authorized by law.
- 7 The certificate also shall include a brief physical description and a space for
- 8 the signature of the licensee. The license shall be void until signed by the
- 9 licensee. If a veteran, as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(2) and including an
- individual disabled during active military, naval, air, or space service, as
- defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(24), requests a veteran designation and provides
- proof of veteran status as specified in subdivision 603(a)(3) of this title, and
- the Office of Veterans Veterans' Affairs confirms his or her the individual's
- status as an honorably discharged veteran or; a veteran discharged under
- honorable conditions; or an individual disabled during active military, naval,
- air, or space service, the license certificate shall include the term "veteran" on
- its face.
- 18 Sec. 41. 23 V.S.A. § 4111 is amended to read:
- 19 § 4111. COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE
- 20 (a) Contents of license. A commercial driver's license shall be marked
- "commercial driver's license" or "CDL" and shall be, to the maximum extent
- practicable, tamper proof and shall include the following information:

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(12) A veteran designation if a veteran, as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(2) and including an individual disabled during active military, naval, air, or space service, as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(24), requests the designation and provides proof of veteran status as specified in subdivision 4110(a)(5) of this title, and if the Office of Veterans Veterans' Affairs confirms his or her the individual's status as an honorably discharged veteran or; a veteran discharged under honorable conditions; or an individual disabled during active military, naval, air, or space service.

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* * * Conservation Motor Vehicle License Plates; Motorcycles * * *
Sec. 42. 23 V.S.A. § 304b is amended to read:

§ 304b. CONSERVATION MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION PLATES

(a) The Commissioner shall, upon application, issue conservation registration plates for use only on vehicles registered at the pleasure car rate, on motorcycles, on trucks registered for less than 26,001 pounds, and on vehicles registered to State agencies under section 376 of this title, but excluding vehicles registered under the International Registration Plan. Plates so acquired shall be mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle, except that a motorcycle plate shall be mounted only on the rear of the motorcycle. The Commissioners of Motor Vehicles and of Fish and Wildlife shall determine the graphic design of the special plates in a manner that serves to enhance the

public awareness of the State's interest in restoring and protecting its wildlife and major watershed areas. The Commissioners of Motor Vehicles and of Fish and Wildlife may alter the graphic design of these special plates, provided that plates in use at the time of a design alteration shall remain valid subject to the operator's payment of the annual registration fee. Applicants shall apply on forms prescribed by the Commissioner and shall pay an initial fee of \$32.00 in addition to the annual fee for registration. In following years, in addition to the annual registration fee, the holder of a conservation plate shall pay a renewal fee of \$32.00. The Commissioner may adopt rules under 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to implement the provisions of this subsection.

11 ***

* * * Use of Roadway by Pedestrians, Bicycle Operators, and

Vulnerable Users * * *

14 Sec. 43. 23 V.S.A. § 4(67) is amended to read:

(67) "Pedestrian" means any person individual afoot or operating a wheelchair or other personal mobility device, whether motorized or not, and shall also include any person 16 years of age or older operating including an electric personal assistive mobility device. The age restriction of this subdivision shall not apply to a person who has an ambulatory disability as defined in section 304a of this title.

1 Sec. 44. 23 V.S.A. § 1033 is amended to read:

§ 1033. PASSING MOTOR VEHICLES AND VULNERABLE USERS

3 ***

- (b) Approaching or passing vulnerable users. The operator of individual operating a motor vehicle approaching or passing a vulnerable user as defined in subdivision 4(81) of this title shall exercise due care, which includes reducing speed and increasing clearance to a recommended distance of at least four feet, to pass the vulnerable user safely, and shall cross the center of the highway only as provided in section 1035 of this title. A person An individual who violates this subsection shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$200.00.
- (c) Approaching or passing certain stationary vehicles. The operator of individual operating a motor vehicle approaching or passing a stationary sanitation, maintenance, utility, or delivery vehicle with flashing lights shall exercise due care, which includes reducing speed and increasing clearance to a recommended distance of at least four feet, to pass the vehicle safely, and shall cross the center of the highway only as provided in section 1035 of this title. A person An individual who violates this subsection shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$200.00.

1 Sec. 45. 23 V.S.A. § 1055 is amended to read:

- 2 § 1055. PEDESTRIANS ON ROADWAYS
- (a) Where public sidewalks are provided, no person may walk along or
 upon an adjacent roadway. [Repealed.]
- 5 (b) Where public sidewalks are not provided, any Any pedestrian walking
 6 along and upon a highway shall, when practicable, walk only on the left side of
 7 the roadway or its shoulder facing the direction of possible oncoming traffic.
- 8 Sec. 46. AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION; DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
- 9 SAFETY; IDAHO STOP STUDY; REPORT
- 10 The Agency of Transportation, in collaboration with the Department of 11 Public Safety and in consultation with bicycle safety organizations and other 12 relevant stakeholders, shall study the potential effects of implementing a 13 statewide policy that grants an individual operating a bicycle rights and 14 responsibilities at traffic-control devices and traffic-control signals that differ 15 from those applicable to operators of motor vehicles. The study shall include consideration of the potential effects of allowing individuals operating bicycles 16 17 to treat stop signs as yield signs and red lights at traffic signals as stop signs. also known as an "Idaho Stop," and of allowing individuals operating bicycles 18 19 to cross intersections during a pedestrian phase at pedestrian-control devices 20 and pedestrian-control signals. On or before December 15, 2024, the Agency 21 shall report to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation with its 22 findings and recommendations.

1	Sec. 47. AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION; ACTIVE
2	TRANSPORTATION POLICY REPORT
3	(a) The Agency of Transportation shall prepare an Active Transportation
4	Policy Report that provides a comprehensive review of Vermont statutes,
5	including those in Titles 19 and 23, relating to the rights and responsibilities of
6	vulnerable road users, in order to inform best practices and policy outcomes.
7	The Agency shall develop the Report in consultation with relevant
8	stakeholders identified by the Agency, which shall include bicycle safety
9	organizations.
10	(b) On or before January 15, 2025, the Agency shall submit the written
11	Active Transportation Policy Report, which shall include a summary of the
12	Agency's review efforts and any recommendations for revisions to Vermont
13	statutes, to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation.
14	* * * License Plates for Plug-In Electric Vehicles * * *
15	Sec. 48. LICENSE PLATES FOR PLUG-IN ELECTRIC VEHICLES;
16	FINDINGS
17	The General Assembly finds that:
18	(1) Plug-in electric vehicles (PEVs), which include plug-in hybrid
19	electric vehicles and battery electric vehicles, provide new and unique
20	challenges for first responders and firefighters when responding to the scene of
21	a crash that may involve a PEV.

1	(2) PEVs are powered by high-voltage batteries, which means that if a
2	PEV is involved in a crash resulting in a fire or in the need for extrication or
3	rescue, or a combination of these, then fire and rescue personnel must invoke
4	special operations to suppress the fire or initiate the extrication or rescue
5	operation.
6	(3) Other states and countries have begun noting whether or not a motor
7	vehicle is a PEV with a designation on the vehicle's license plate.
8	(4) First responders and firefighters in Vermont will be in a better
9	position to safely respond to a fire, extrication, or rescue involving a motor
10	vehicle crash if they know whether one or more vehicles involved are a PEV,
11	which can be done, in most instances, with a license plate designation.
12	Sec. 49. 23 V.S.A. § 304 is amended to read:
13	§ 304. REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES; NUMBER PLATES; VANITY
14	AND OTHER SPECIAL PLATES
15	* * *
16	(k) Not later than July 1, 2026, the Commissioner shall begin issuing
17	number and vanity plates for plug-in electric vehicles, as defined in
18	subdivision 4(85) of this title, indicating that the vehicle is a plug-in electric
19	vehicle. Not later than July 1, 2028, all plug-in electric vehicles registered in
20	this State shall display plates indicating that the vehicle is a plug-in electric
21	vehicle.

1	Sec. 50. LICENSE PLATES FOR PLUG-IN ELECTRIC VEHICLES;
2	IMPLEMENTATION PROVISIONS; REPORT
3	(a) In accordance with 23 V.S.A. § 304(k), not later than July 1, 2026, the
4	Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall begin issuing number and vanity plates
5	for plug-in electric vehicles (PEV) indicating that the vehicle is a PEV.
6	(b)(1) Upon the purchase of a PEV, the purchaser shall not transfer a non-
7	PEV plate to the newly purchased PEV unless the plate is a vanity or special
8	number plate.
9	(2) For the purchaser of a PEV whose previous plate was not a vanity or
10	special number plate, the Commissioner shall issue a new PEV plate, which
11	the purchaser shall install upon receipt.
12	(3) For the purchaser of a PEV whose previous plate was a vanity or
13	special number plate and who wishes to retain that plate for the newly
14	purchased PEV, the purchaser may transfer and display the existing plate until
15	the Commissioner issues the purchaser a new vanity or special number plate
16	indicating that the vehicle is a PEV, except as set forth in subsection (d) of this
17	section. The purchaser shall install the new PEV plate upon receipt.
18	(c) An individual who owns a PEV on the effective date of this act may
19	continue to display the individual's existing plate until the individual receives a
20	new PEV plate from the Department of Motor Vehicles. The owner shall
21	install the new PEV plate upon receipt.

1	(d) The Commissioner is authorized to reject existing plates for transfer or
2	renewal due to space limitations on the new PEV plates.
3	(e) On or before March 15, 2025, the Department of Motor Vehicles shall
4	provide testimony to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation
5	regarding the status of its efforts to implement license plates for PEVs as set
6	forth in this section and in 23 V.S.A. § 304(k).
7	* * * Effective Dates * * *
8	Sec EFFECTIVE DATES
9	(a) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, this section and Sec. 28 (certificate of
10	title exemptions; 23 V.S.A. § 2012) shall take effect retroactively on January 1
11	<u>2024.</u>
12	(b) Sec. 35 (records; disclosures; custodian; 23 V.S.A. § 466) shall take
13	effect on July 1, 2025.
14	(c) Secs. 36-41 (DMV credentials and number plates; veteran credentials)
15	shall take effect on passage.
16	(d) All other sections shall take effect on July 1, 2024.
17	
18	
19	(Committee vote:)
20	
21	Representative
22	FOR THE COMMITTEE