

1 H.565

2 Introduced by Representative Wood of Waterbury

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Motor vehicles; registration; proof of insurance; proof of financial  
6 responsibility

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require all  
8 owners of motor vehicles required to be registered to show proof of financial  
9 responsibility at the time of registration.

10 An act relating to requiring proof of financial responsibility at the time of  
11 registration

12 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

13 \* \* \* Proof of Financial Responsibility \* \* \*

14 Sec. 1. 23 V.S.A. § 800(a) is amended to read:

15 (a) No owner of a motor vehicle required to be registered, or operator  
16 required to be licensed or issued a learner's permit, shall operate or permit the  
17 operation of the vehicle upon the highways of the State without having in  
18 effect either: an automobile liability policy or bond in the amounts of at least  
19 \$25,000.00 for one person and \$50,000.00 for two or more persons killed or  
20 injured and \$10,000.00 for damages to property in any one crash. ~~In lieu~~

1 ~~thereof, evidence of ; or~~ self-insurance in the amount of \$115,000.00 ~~must be~~  
2 ~~filed with the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, and shall be maintained and~~  
3 ~~evidenced in a form prescribed by the Commissioner.~~ The Commissioner ~~may~~  
4 shall require that evidence of financial responsibility be produced in a form  
5 prescribed by the Commissioner before a motor vehicle ~~inspections are~~  
6 ~~performed~~ is registered pursuant to subsection 304(a) of this title and as part of  
7 the inspection performed pursuant to the requirements of section 1222 of this  
8 title.

9 \* \* \* Proof of Financial Responsibility

10 Contingent Upon Regional Adoption \* \* \*

11 Sec. 2. 23 V.S.A. § 800(a) is amended to read:

12 (a) No owner of a motor vehicle required to be registered, or operator  
13 required to be licensed or issued a learner's permit, shall operate or permit the  
14 operation of the vehicle upon the highways of the State without having in  
15 effect either: an automobile liability policy or bond in the amounts of at least  
16 \$25,000.00 for one person and \$50,000.00 for two or more persons killed or  
17 injured and \$10,000.00 for damages to property in any one crash; or self-  
18 insurance in the amount of \$115,000.00. The Commissioner shall require that  
19 evidence of financial responsibility be produced in a form prescribed by the  
20 Commissioner before a motor vehicle is registered pursuant to subsection  
21 304(a) of this title and as part of the inspection performed pursuant to the

1 requirements of section 1222 of this title. The Commissioner may adopt rules  
2 governing the standards for insurance identification cards.

3 \* \* \* Effective Dates \* \* \*

4 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATES

5 (a) Secs. 1 (proof of financial responsibility) and 3 (effective dates) shall  
6 take effect on July 1, 2020.

7 (b) In accordance with 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 50, Secs. 6 and 34(b),  
8 Sec. 2 (proof of financial responsibility contingent upon regional adoption)  
9 shall take effect if and when five northeastern states require that insurance  
10 identification cards include machine-readable technology. As used in this  
11 subsection, “northeastern states” means the New England states, Pennsylvania,  
12 New York, and New Jersey.