

1 Introduced by Committee on Transportation

2 Date:

3 Subject: Motor vehicles; Department of Motor Vehicles; plug-in electric

4 vehicles (PEVs); veterans; documentation of anatomical gift;

5 disability placards; registration certificates; fees; learner’s permits;

6 licensing examinations; commercial driving instructors; taxes; non-

7 Real ID; operator’s licenses and privilege cards; nondriver

8 identification cards; odometer alteration; convictions; drunken

9 driving; bulk electronic record fees; truck registration fees; excessive

10 speed; tinted windows; number plates

11 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to make

12 miscellaneous changes to the laws related to motor vehicles.

13 An act relating to miscellaneous changes to laws related to motor vehicles

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

15 * * * Plug-in Electric Vehicles * * *

16 Sec. 1. 23 V.S.A. § 4(28) is amended to read:

17 (28) “Pleasure car” shall include all motor vehicles not otherwise

18 defined in this title and shall include plug-in electric vehicles, battery electric

19 vehicles, or plug-in hybrid electric vehicles as defined pursuant to subdivision

20 (85) of this section.

1 renewal by an individual required to have a photograph or imaged likeness
2 under this subsection must be made in person so that an updated imaged
3 likeness of the individual is obtained not less often than once every nine years.

4 * * *

5 (k) At the option of the applicant, ~~his or her~~ the applicant's valid Vermont
6 license may be surrendered in connection with an application for an
7 identification card. In those instances, the fee due under subsection (a) of this
8 section shall be reduced by:

9 * * *

10 (n) The Commissioner shall provide a form that, upon the individual's
11 execution, shall serve as a document of an anatomical gift under 18 V.S.A.
12 chapter 110. An indicator shall be placed on the nondriver identification card
13 of any individual who has executed an anatomical gift form in accordance with
14 this section.

15 * * * Disability Placards for Volunteer Drivers * * *

16 Sec. 4. 23 V.S.A. § 304a is amended to read:

17 § 304a. SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES AND PLACARDS FOR
18 INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

19 (a) As used in this section:

1 registered nurse. The Commissioner shall file the form for future reference
2 and issue the placard or plate. A new application shall be submitted every four
3 years in the case of placards and at every third registration renewal for plates
4 but in no case greater than every four years. When a licensed physician,
5 licensed physician assistant, or licensed advanced practice registered nurse has
6 previously certified to the Commissioner that an applicant’s condition is both
7 permanent and stable, a special registration plate or placard need not be
8 renewed.

9 * * *

10 (3) An individual with a disability who abuses such privileges or allows
11 individuals not disabled to abuse the privileges provided in this section may
12 have this privilege revoked after suitable notice and opportunity for hearing
13 has been given ~~him or her~~ the individual by the Commissioner. Hearings
14 under the provisions of this section shall be held in accordance with sections
15 105–107 of this title and shall be subject to review by the Civil Division of the
16 Superior Court of the county where the individual with a disability resides.

17 (4) An applicant for a registration plate or placard for individuals with
18 disabilities may request the Civil Division of the Superior Court in the county
19 in which ~~he or she~~ the applicant resides to review a decision by the
20 Commissioner to deny ~~his or her~~ the applicant’s application for a special
21 registration plate or placard.

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(6) On a form prescribed by the Commissioner, a nonprofit organization that provides volunteer drivers to transport individuals who have an ambulatory disability or are blind may apply to the Commissioner for a placard. ~~Placards shall be marked “volunteer driver.”~~ The organization shall ensure proper use of placards and maintain an accurate and complete record of the volunteer drivers to whom the placards are given by the organization. Placards shall be returned to the organization when the volunteer driver is no longer performing that service. Abuse of the privileges provided by the placards may result in the privileges being revoked and the placards repossessed by the Commissioner. Revocation may occur only after suitable notice and opportunity for a hearing. Hearings shall be held in accordance with sections 105–107 of this title.

* * *

(e)(1) An individual, other than an eligible person, who for ~~his or her~~ the individual’s own purposes parks a vehicle in a space for individuals with disabilities shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$200.00 for each violation and shall be liable for towing charges.

(2) An individual, other than an eligible person, who displays a special registration plate or removable windshield placard not issued to ~~him or her~~ the individual under this section and parks a vehicle in a space for individuals with

1 disabilities, shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$400.00 for each
2 violation and shall be liable for towing charges.

3 * * *

4 (f) Individuals who have a temporary ambulatory disability may apply for a
5 temporary removable windshield placard to the Commissioner on a form
6 prescribed by ~~him or her~~ the Commissioner. The placard shall be valid for a
7 period of up to six months and displayed as required under the provisions of
8 subsection (c) of this section. The application shall be signed by a licensed
9 physician, licensed physician assistant, or licensed advanced practice
10 registered nurse. The validation period of the temporary placard shall be
11 established on the basis of the written recommendation from a licensed
12 physician, licensed physician assistant, or licensed advanced practice
13 registered nurse. The Commissioner shall adopt rules to implement the
14 provisions of this subsection.

15 * * * Fees * * *

16 Sec. 5. 23 V.S.A. § 115(a) is amended to read:

17 (a)(1) Any Vermont resident may make application to the Commissioner
18 and be issued an identification card that is attested by the Commissioner as to
19 true name, correct age, residential address unless the listing of another address
20 is requested by the applicant or is otherwise authorized by law, and any other
21 identifying data as the Commissioner may require that shall include, in the case

1 of minor applicants, the written consent of the applicant’s parent, guardian, or
2 other person standing in loco parentis.

3 (2) Every application for an identification card shall be signed by the
4 applicant and shall contain such evidence of age and identity as the
5 Commissioner may require, consistent with subsection (l) of this section. New
6 and renewal application forms shall include a space for the applicant to request
7 that a “veteran” designation be placed on the applicant’s identification card. If
8 a veteran, as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(2) and including an individual
9 disabled during active military, naval, air, or space service, as defined in 38
10 U.S.C. § 101(24), requests a veteran designation and provides a Department of
11 Defense Form 214 or other proof of veteran status specified by the
12 Commissioner, and the Office of Veterans’ Affairs confirms the veteran’s
13 status as an honorably discharged veteran; a veteran discharged under
14 honorable conditions; or an individual disabled during active military, naval,
15 air, or space service, the identification card shall include the term “veteran” on
16 its face.

17 (3) The Commissioner shall require payment of a fee of \$29.00 at the
18 time application for an identification card is made, except that an initial
19 nondriver identification card shall be issued at no charge to:

1 (A) owned by a volunteer fire department or other volunteer
2 firefighting organization, an ambulance service, or an organization conducting
3 rescue operations; and

4 (B) used solely for firefighting, emergency medical, or rescue
5 purposes, or any combination of those activities.

6 (2) A motor vehicle or trailer subject to the provisions of this subsection
7 shall be plainly marked on both sides of the body or cab to indicate its
8 ownership.

9 Sec. 7. 23 V.S.A. § 378 is amended to read:

10 § 378. VETERANS' EXEMPTIONS

11 No fees, including the annual emissions fee required pursuant to 3 V.S.A.
12 § 2822(m)(1) and the electric vehicle infrastructure fees required pursuant to
13 section 361 of this subchapter, shall be charged ~~an honorably discharged to a~~
14 veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces who received a discharge under other than
15 dishonorable conditions and is a resident of the State of Vermont for the
16 registration of a motor vehicle that the veteran has acquired with financial
17 assistance from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, or for the registration
18 of a motor vehicle owned by ~~him or her~~ the veteran during ~~his or her~~ the
19 veteran's lifetime obtained as a replacement thereof, when ~~his or her~~ the
20 veteran's application is accompanied by a copy of an approved VA Form 21-

1 4502 issued by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs certifying ~~him or her~~
2 the veteran to be entitled to the financial assistance.

3 Sec. 8. 23 V.S.A. § 608 is amended to read:

4 § 608. FEES

5 * * *

6 (b) Individuals receiving Supplemental Security Income or Social Security
7 Disability Income and individuals with a disability as defined in 9 V.S.A.
8 § 4501 shall be provided with operator’s licenses or operator privilege cards
9 for the following fees:

10 (1) Original issuance: \$20.00.

11 (2) Renewal every four years: \$20.00.

12 (3) Replacement of lost, destroyed, or mutilated card or a new name is
13 required: \$10.00.

14 (c) An additional fee of \$4.00 per year shall be paid for a motorcycle
15 endorsement. The endorsement may be obtained for either a two-year or four-
16 year period, to be coincidental with the length of the operator’s license.

17 (d)(1) Individuals under 23 years of age who were in the care and custody
18 of the Commissioner for Children and Families pursuant to 33 V.S.A.
19 § 4903(4) in Vermont after attaining 14 years of age shall be provided with
20 operator’s licenses or operator privilege cards at no charge.

1 may issue to the applicant a learner’s permit that entitles the applicant, subject
2 to subsection 615(a) of this title, to operate a three-wheeled motorcycle only,
3 or to operate any motorcycle, upon the public highways for a period of 120
4 days from the date of issuance. The fee for the examination shall be \$11.00,
5 except that no fee shall be charged for an individual under 23 years of age who
6 was in the care and custody of the Commissioner for Children and Families
7 pursuant to 33 V.S.A. § 4903(4) in Vermont after attaining 14 years of age.

8 (3) A motorcycle learner’s permit may be renewed only twice upon
9 payment of a \$24.00 fee. An individual under 23 years of age who was in the
10 care and custody of the Commissioner for Children and Families pursuant to
11 33 V.S.A. § 4903(4) in Vermont after attaining 14 years of age shall not be
12 charged a fee for the renewal of a motorcycle learner’s permit.

13 (4) If, during the original permit period and two renewals the permittee
14 has not successfully passed the applicable skill test or motorcycle rider training
15 course, the permittee may not obtain another motorcycle learner’s permit for a
16 period of 12 months from the expiration of the permit unless:

17 (A) ~~he or she~~ the permittee has successfully completed the applicable
18 motorcycle rider training course; or

19 (B) the learner’s permit and renewals thereof authorized the
20 operation of any motorcycle and the permittee is seeking a learner’s permit for
21 the operation of three-wheeled motorcycles only.

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(c) No learner’s permit may be issued to any person under 18 years of age unless the parent or guardian of, or a person standing in loco parentis to, the applicant files ~~his or her~~ written consent to the issuance with the Commissioner.

(d)(1) An applicant shall pay \$24.00 to the Commissioner for each learner’s permit or a duplicate or renewal thereof.

(2) An applicant under 23 years of age who was in the care and custody of the Commissioner for Children and Families pursuant to 33 V.S.A. § 4903(4) in Vermont after attaining 14 years of age shall not be charged a fee for a learner’s permit or a duplicate or renewal thereof.

(3) A replacement learner’s permit for the operation of a motorcycle may be generated from the applicant’s electronic account for no charge.

(e)(1) A learner’s permit, ~~which is not a learner’s permit~~ for the operation of a motorcycle, shall contain a photograph or imaged likeness of the individual. A learner’s permit for a motor vehicle shall contain a photograph or imaged likeness of the individual if the permit is obtained in person. ~~The photographic learner’s permit shall be available at locations designated by the Commissioner.~~

(2) An individual issued a permit under this subsection may renew ~~his or her~~ the individual’s permit by mail or online, but a permit holder who chooses

1 to have a photograph or imaged likeness under this subsection must renew in
2 person so that an updated imaged likeness of the individual is obtained not less
3 often than once every nine years.

4 * * *

5 * * * Commercial Learner's Permit * * *

6 Sec. 10. 23 V.S.A. § 4111a is amended to read:

7 § 4111a. COMMERCIAL LEARNER'S PERMIT

8 (a) Contents of permit. A commercial learner's permit shall contain the
9 following:

10 * * *

11 (3) physical and other information to identify and describe the permit
12 holder, including the month, day, and year of birth; sex; ~~and~~ height; and
13 photograph;

14 * * *

15 Sec. 11. 23 V.S.A. § 4122 is amended to read:

16 § 4122. DEFERRING IMPOSITION OF SENTENCE; PROHIBITION ON
17 MASKING OR DIVERSION

18 (a) No court, State's Attorney, or law enforcement officer may utilize the
19 provisions of 13 V.S.A. § 7041 or any other program to defer imposition of
20 sentence or judgment if the defendant holds a commercial driver's license,
21 commercial learner's permit, or was operating a commercial motor vehicle

1 when the violation occurred and is charged with violating any State or local
2 traffic law other than a parking violation.

3 * * *

4 * * * License Examinations * * *

5 Sec. 12. 23 V.S.A. § 632 is amended to read:

6 § 632. EXAMINATION REQUIRED; WAIVER

7 (a) Before an operator's or a junior operator's license is issued to an
8 applicant for the first time in this State, or before a renewal license is issued to
9 an applicant whose previous Vermont license had expired more than three
10 years prior to the application for renewal, the applicant shall pass a satisfactory
11 examination, except that the Commissioner may, in ~~his or her~~ the
12 Commissioner's discretion, waive the examination when the applicant holds a
13 chauffeur's, junior operator's, or operator's license in force at the time of
14 application or within three years prior to the application in some other
15 jurisdiction where an examination is required similar to the examination
16 required in this State.

17 (b) The examination shall consist of:

18 * * *

19 (3) at the discretion of the Commissioner, such other examination or
20 demonstration as ~~he or she~~ the Commissioner may prescribe, including an oral
21 eye examination.

1 (c) An applicant may have an individual of ~~his or her~~ the applicant's
2 choosing at the oral examination or road test to serve as an interpreter,
3 including to translate any oral commands given as part of the road test.

4 Sec. 13. 23 V.S.A. § 634 is amended to read:

5 § 634. FEE FOR EXAMINATION

6 * * *

7 (b) ~~A scheduling fee of \$29.00 shall be paid by the applicant before the~~
8 ~~applicant may schedule the road test required under section 632 of this title.~~
9 ~~Unless an applicant gives the Department at least 48 hours' notice of~~
10 ~~cancellation, if the applicant does not appear as scheduled, the \$29.00~~
11 ~~scheduling fee is forfeited. If the applicant appears for the scheduled road test,~~
12 ~~the fee shall be applied toward the license examination fee. The Commissioner~~
13 ~~may waive the scheduling fee until the Department is capable of administering~~
14 ~~the fee electronically. [Repealed.]~~

15 * * *

16 * * * Non-Real ID Operator's Privilege Cards * * *

17 Sec. 14. 23 V.S.A. § 603 is amended to read:

18 § 603. APPLICATION FOR AND ISSUANCE OF LICENSE

19 (a)(1) The Commissioner or ~~his or her~~ the Commissioner's authorized
20 agent may license operators and junior operators when an application, on a
21 form prescribed by the Commissioner, signed and sworn to by the applicant for

1 the license, is filed with ~~him or her~~ the Commissioner, accompanied by the
2 required license fee and any valid license from another state or Canadian
3 jurisdiction is surrendered.

4 (2) The Commissioner may, however, in ~~his or her~~ the Commissioner's
5 discretion, refuse to issue a license to any person whenever ~~he or she~~ the
6 Commissioner is satisfied from information given ~~him or her~~ the
7 Commissioner by credible persons, and upon investigation, that the person is
8 mentally or physically unfit or, because of ~~his or her~~ the person's habits or
9 record as to crashes or convictions, is unsafe to be trusted with the operation of
10 motor vehicles. A person refused a license under the provisions of this
11 subsection shall be entitled to hearing as provided in sections 105–107 of this
12 title.

13 * * *

14 (d) Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section:

15 (1) ~~A~~ An applicant who is a citizen of a foreign country shall produce
16 ~~his or her~~ the applicant's passport and visa, alien registration receipt card
17 (green card), or other proof of legal presence for inspection and copying as a
18 part of the application process for an operator's license, junior operator's
19 license, or learner's permit.

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(h) A privilege card issued under this section shall:

(1) on its face bear the phrase ~~“privilege card”~~ “non-Real ID” and text indicating that it is not valid for federal identification or official purposes; and

* * *

* * * License Extension * * *

Sec. 15. 23 V.S.A § 604 is added to read:

§ 604. EARLY RENEWAL

(a) The holder of an operator’s license or privilege card issued under the provisions of this subchapter may renew the operator’s license or privilege card at any time prior to the expiration of the operator’s license or privilege card. If one or more years remain before the expiration of the operator’s license or privilege card, the Commissioner shall reduce the cost of the renewed operator’s license or privilege card by an amount that is proportionate to the number of years rounded down to the next whole year remaining before the expiration of the operator’s license or privilege card.

(b) All application and documentation requirements for the renewal of an operator’s license or privilege card shall apply to the early renewal of an operator’s license or privilege card.

1 **Sec. 16.** 23 V.S.A. § 115b is added to read:

2 § 115b. EARLY RENEWAL

3 (a) The holder of nondriver identification card issued under the provisions
4 of section 115 of this chapter may renew the nondriver identification card at
5 any time prior to the expiration of the nondriver identification card. If one or
6 more years remain before the expiration of the nondriver identification card,
7 the Commissioner shall reduce the cost of the renewed nondriver identification
8 card by an amount that is proportionate to the number of years rounded down
9 to the next whole year remaining before the expiration of the nondriver
10 identification card.

11 (b) All application and documentation requirements for the renewal of a
12 nondriver identification card pursuant to section 115 of this chapter shall apply
13 to the early renewal of a nondriver identification card.

14 **Sec. 17.** INFORMATION REGARDING PRIVILEGE CARDS AND

15 NONDRIVER IDENTIFICATION CARDS; INTENT

16 It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Commissioner of Motor
17 Vehicles shall ensure that any individual who is unable to or does not wish to
18 comply with the requirements of the REAL ID Act of 2005, Pub. L. No. 109-
19 13, §§ 201-202 shall be informed of the option of obtaining an operator's
20 privilege card pursuant to the provisions of 23 V.S.A. § 603(f) or a nondriver
21 identification card pursuant to the provisions of 23 V.S.A. § 115.

1 **Sec. 18. OUTREACH**

2 On or before November 15, 2025, the Department of Motor Vehicles shall
3 develop and implement a public education and outreach campaign to inform
4 Vermont residents about:

5 (1) an individual’s rights to obtain an operator’s license, privilege card,
6 or nondriver identification card;

7 (2) an individual’s rights to self-attest with respect to the gender marker
8 on the individual’s operator’s license, privilege card, or nondriver
9 identification card; and

10 (3) reduced fees that are available to individuals who meet certain
11 requirements.

12 * * * Commercial Driving Instructors * * *

13 Sec. 19. 23 V.S.A. § 705 is amended to read:

14 § 705. QUALIFICATIONS FOR INSTRUCTOR’S LICENSE

15 (a) In order to qualify for an instructor’s license, each applicant shall:

16 (1) not have been convicted of:

17 (A) a felony nor incarcerated for a felony within the 10 years prior to
18 the date of application;

19 (B) a violation of section 1201 of this title or a like offense in another
20 jurisdiction reported to the Commissioner pursuant to subdivision 3905(a)(2)
21 of this title within the three years prior to the date of application;

1 (C) a subsequent violation of an offense listed in subdivision
2 2502(a)(5) of this title or of section 674 of this title; or

3 (D) a sex offense that requires registration pursuant to 13 V.S.A.
4 chapter 167, subchapter 3;

5 (2) pass ~~such~~ an examination as required by the Commissioner ~~shall~~
6 ~~require~~ on:

7 (A) traffic laws;

8 (B) safe driving practices;

9 (C) operation of motor vehicles; and

10 (D) qualifications as a teacher;

11 (3) be physically able to operate a motor vehicle and to train others in
12 such operation;

13 (4) have five years' experience as a licensed operator and be at least 21
14 years of age on date of application; and

15 (5) pay the application and license fees prescribed in section 702 of this
16 title.

17 (b) Commercial motor vehicle instructors shall satisfy the requirements of
18 subdivisions (a)(1), (2), (3), and (5) of this section, and:

19 (1) If the commercial motor vehicle instructor is a behind the wheel

20 (BTW) instructor, shall either:

1 (A)(i) hold a CDL of the same or higher class and with all
2 endorsements necessary to operate the commercial motor vehicle for which
3 training is to be provided;

4 (ii) have at least two years of experience driving a commercial
5 motor vehicle requiring the same or higher class of CDL and any applicable
6 endorsements required to operate the commercial motor vehicle for which
7 training is to be provided; and

8 (iii) meet any additional applicable State requirements for
9 commercial motor vehicle instructors; or

10 (B)(i) hold a CDL of the same or higher class and with all
11 endorsements necessary to operate the commercial motor vehicle for which
12 training is to be provided;

13 (ii) have at least two years' experience as a BTW instructor; and

14 (iii) meet any additional applicable State requirements for
15 commercial motor vehicle instructors.

16 (2) If the commercial motor vehicle instructor is a theory instructor, the
17 instructor shall:

18 (A)(i) hold a CDL of the same or higher class and with all
19 endorsements necessary to operate the commercial motor vehicle for which
20 training is to be provided;

1 (3) the instructor shall have at least ~~four~~ two years of licensed
2 experience as a motorcycle riding experience operator during the last ~~five~~ four
3 years;

4 * * *

5 (7) an applicant shall not be eligible for instructor status until ~~his or her~~
6 the applicant's driving record for the preceding five years, or the maximum
7 number of years less than five for which a state retains driving records, is
8 furnished; and

9 * * *

10 * * * Motor Vehicle Taxes * * *

11 Sec. 21. 32 V.S.A. § 8902 is amended to read:

12 § 8902. DEFINITIONS

13 Unless otherwise expressly provided, as used in this chapter:

14 * * *

15 (5)(A) “Taxable cost” means the purchase price as defined in
16 subdivision (4) of this section or the taxable cost as determined under section
17 8907 of this title.

18 (B) For any purchaser who has paid tax on the purchase or use of a
19 motor vehicle that was sold or traded by the purchaser or for which the
20 purchaser received payment under a contract of insurance, the taxable cost of
21 the replacement motor vehicle other than a leased vehicle shall exclude:

1 ~~(A)~~(i) The value allowed by the seller on any motor vehicle accepted
2 by the seller as part of the consideration of the motor vehicle, provided the
3 motor vehicle accepted by the seller is owned and previously or currently
4 registered or titled by the purchaser, with no change of ownership since
5 registration or titling, except for motor vehicles for which registration is not
6 required under the provisions of Title 23 or motor vehicles received under the
7 provisions of subdivision 8911(8) of this title.

8 ~~(B)~~(ii) The amount received from the sale of a motor vehicle last
9 registered or titled in the seller’s name, the amount not to exceed the clean
10 trade-in value of the same make, type, model, and year of manufacture as
11 designated by the manufacturer and as shown in the ~~NADA Official Used Car~~
12 ~~Guide (New England edition)~~ J.D. Power Values, or any comparable
13 publication, provided ~~such~~ the sale occurs within three months after the taxable
14 purchase. However, this three-month period shall be extended day-for-day for
15 any time that a member of a guard unit or of the U.S. Armed Forces, as defined
16 in 38 U.S.C. § 101(10), spends outside Vermont due to activation or
17 deployment and an additional 60 days following the individual’s return from
18 activation or deployment. ~~Such~~ The amount shall be reported on forms
19 supplied by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.

20 ~~(C)~~(iii) The amount actually paid to the purchaser within three
21 months prior to the taxable purchase by any insurer under a contract of

1 Sec. 22. 32 V.S.A. § 8907 is amended to read:

2 § 8907. COMMISSIONER; COMPUTATION OF TAXABLE COSTS

3 (a) The Commissioner may investigate the taxable cost of any motor
4 vehicle transferred subject to the provisions of this chapter. If the motor
5 vehicle is not acquired by purchase in Vermont or is received for an amount
6 that does not represent actual value, or if no tax form is filed or it appears to
7 the Commissioner that a tax form contains fraudulent or incorrect information,
8 the Commissioner may, in the Commissioner’s discretion, fix the taxable cost
9 of the motor vehicle at the clean trade-in value of vehicles of the same make,
10 type, model, and year of manufacture as designated by the manufacturer, as
11 shown in ~~the NADA Official Used Car Guide (New England Edition)~~ J.D.
12 Power Values or any comparable publication, less the lease end value of any
13 leased vehicle. The Commissioner may develop a process to determine the
14 value of vehicles that do not have clean trade-in value in J.D. Power Values.
15 The Commissioner may compute and assess the tax due and notify the
16 purchaser verbally, if the purchaser is at a DMV location, or immediately by
17 certified mail, and the purchaser shall remit the same within 15 days ~~thereafter~~
18 after notice is sent or provided.

19 * * *

1 Sec. 23. 32 V.S.A. § 8914 is amended to read:

2 § 8914. REFUND

3 Any overpayment of such tax as determined by the Commissioner shall be
4 refunded. To be eligible to receive a refund, a person shall submit a request for
5 a refund within one year after paying the tax.

6 * * * Refund of Registration Fee * * *

7 Sec. 24. 23 V.S.A. § 326 is amended to read:

8 § 326. REFUND UPON LOSS OF VEHICLE

9 The Commissioner may cancel the registration of a motor vehicle when the
10 owner of the motor vehicle proves to the Commissioner's satisfaction that the
11 motor vehicle has been totally destroyed by fire or, through crash or wear, has
12 become wholly unfit for use and has been dismantled. After the Commissioner
13 cancels the registration and the owner returns to the Commissioner either the
14 registration certificate or the number plate or number plates, or other proof of
15 cancellation to the satisfaction of the Commissioner, the Commissioner shall
16 certify to the Commissioner of Finance and Management the fact of the
17 cancellation, giving the name of the owner of the motor vehicle, the owner's
18 address, the amount of the registration fee paid, and the date of cancellation.
19 The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall issue the Commissioner
20 of Finance and Management's warrant in favor of the owner for such percent
21 of the registration fee paid as the unexpired term of the registration bears to the

1 entire registration period, but in no case shall the Commissioner of Finance and
2 Management retain less than \$5.00 of the fee paid.

3 * * * Fuel Tax Refunds * * *

4 Sec. 25. 23 V.S.A. § 3020 is amended to read:

5 § 3020. CREDITS AND REFUNDS

6 (a) Credits.

7 (1) A user who purchased fuel within this State from a dealer or
8 distributor upon which ~~he or she~~ the user paid the tax at the time of purchase,
9 or a user exempt from the payment of the tax under subsection 3003(d) of this
10 title who purchased fuel within this State upon which ~~he or she~~ the user paid
11 tax at the time of purchase, shall be entitled to a credit equal to the amount of
12 tax per gallon in effect when the fuel was purchased. When the amount of the
13 credit to which any user is entitled for any reporting period exceeds the amount
14 of ~~his or her~~ the user's tax for the same period, the excess shall be credited to
15 the user's tax account and the user shall be notified of the date and amount of
16 the credit by mail.

17 * * *

18 (3) A user who also sells or delivers fuel subject to the tax imposed by
19 32 V.S.A. chapter 233 upon which the tax imposed by this chapter has been
20 paid shall be entitled to a credit equal to the amount of such tax paid pursuant
21 to this chapter. When the amount of the credit to which any user is entitled for

1 any reporting period exceeds the amount of ~~his or her~~ the user's tax for the
2 same period, the excess shall be credited to the user's tax account and the user
3 shall be notified of the date and amount of the credit by mail.

4 * * *

5 (b) Refunds. A user may request, in writing by mail, a refund of any
6 credits in the user's tax account, but in no case may a user collect a refund
7 requested more than ~~33~~ 12 months following the date the amount was credited
8 to the user's tax account.

9 * * *

10 * * * Alteration of Odometers * * *

11 Sec. 26. 23 V.S.A. § 1704a is amended to read:

12 § 1704a. ALTERATION OF ODOMETERS

13 (a) ~~Any person who sells~~ No person shall:

14 (1) sell, attempts attempt to sell, or causes cause to be sold any motor
15 vehicle, highway building appliance, motorboat, all-terrain vehicle, or
16 snowmobile ~~and has actual knowledge that if~~ the odometer, hubometer
17 reading, or clock meter reading has been changed, tampered with, or defaced
18 without first disclosing ~~same and a person who changes, tampers with, or~~
19 ~~defaces, or who attempts~~ that information to the buyer;

20 (2) change, tamper with, or deface, or attempt to change, tamper with, or
21 deface; any gauge, dial, or other mechanical instrument, commonly known as

1 an odometer, hubometer, or clock meter; in a motor vehicle, highway building
2 appliance, motorboat, all-terrain vehicle, or snowmobile, ~~which, under normal~~
3 ~~circumstances and without being changed, tampered with, or defaced, is~~
4 ~~designed to show by numbers or words the distance that the motor vehicle,~~
5 ~~highway building appliance, motorboat, all-terrain vehicle, or snowmobile~~
6 ~~travels;~~ or who

7 (3) willfully ~~misrepresents~~ misrepresent the odometer, hubometer, or
8 clock meter reading on the odometer disclosure statement or similar statement,
9 title, or bill of sale.

10 (b) A person who violates subsection (a) of this section shall be fined not
11 more than \$1,000.00 for a first offense and fined not more than \$2,500.00 for
12 each subsequent offense.

13 * * * Definition of Conviction * * *

14 Sec. 27. 23 V.S.A. § 102 is amended to read:

15 § 102. DUTIES OF COMMISSIONER

16 * * *

17 (d)(1) The Commissioner may authorize background investigations for
18 potential employees, which may include criminal, traffic, and financial records
19 checks; provided, however, that the potential employee is notified and has the
20 right to withdraw ~~his or her~~ their name from application. Additionally,
21 employees who are involved in the manufacturing or production of operator's

1 licenses and identification cards, including enhanced licenses, or who have the
2 ability to affect the identity information that appears on a license or
3 identification card, or current employees who will be assigned to such
4 positions, shall be subject to appropriate background checks and shall be
5 provided notice of the background check and the contents of that check. These
6 background checks shall include a name-based and fingerprint-based criminal
7 history records check using at a minimum the Federal Bureau of
8 Investigation’s National Crime Information Center and the Integrated
9 Automated Fingerprint Identification database and State repository records on
10 each covered employee.

11 (2) Employees may be subject to further appropriate security clearances
12 if required by federal law, including background investigations that may
13 include criminal and traffic records checks and providing proof of U.S.
14 citizenship.

15 (3) The Commissioner may, in connection with a formal disciplinary
16 investigation, authorize a criminal or traffic record background investigation of
17 a current employee; provided, however, that the background review is relevant
18 to the issue under disciplinary investigation. Information acquired through the
19 investigation shall be provided to the Commissioner or designated division
20 director and must be maintained in a secure manner. If the information
21 acquired is used as a basis for any disciplinary action, it must be given to the

1 employee during any pretermination hearing or contractual grievance hearing
2 to allow the employee an opportunity to respond to or dispute the information.
3 If no disciplinary action is taken against the employee, the information
4 acquired through the background check shall be destroyed.

5 (e) As used in this section, “conviction” has the same meaning as in
6 subdivision 4(60) of this title.

7 Sec. 28. 23 V.S.A. § 108 is amended to read:

8 § 108. APPLICATION FORMS

9 (a) The Commissioner shall prepare and furnish all forms for applications,
10 crash reports, conviction reports, a pamphlet containing the full text of the
11 motor vehicle laws of the State, and all other forms needed in the proper
12 conduct of ~~his or her~~ the Commissioner’s office. ~~He or she~~ The Commissioner
13 shall furnish an adequate supply of ~~such~~ registration forms, license
14 applications, and motor vehicle laws each year to each town clerk, and to ~~such~~
15 other persons ~~as may so~~ upon request.

16 (b) As used in this section, “conviction” has the same meaning as in
17 subdivision 4(60) of this title.

18 Sec. 29. 23 V.S.A. § 1709 is amended to read:

19 § 1709. REPORT OF CONVICTIONS TO COMMISSIONER OF MOTOR
20 VEHICLES

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(h) Final hearing.

(1) If the defendant requests a hearing on the merits, the court shall schedule a final hearing on the merits to be held within 21 days after the date of the preliminary hearing. In no event may a final hearing occur more than 42 days after the date of the alleged offense without the consent of the defendant or for good cause shown. The final hearing may only be continued by the consent of the defendant or for good cause shown. The issues at the final hearing shall be limited to the following:

* * *

(D) Whether the test was taken and the test results indicated that the person’s alcohol concentration was at or above a legal limit specified in subsection 1201(a) or (d) of this title, at the time of operating, attempting to operate, or being in actual physical control of a vehicle in violation of section 1201 of this title, whether the testing methods used were valid and reliable, and whether the test results were accurate and accurately evaluated. Evidence that the test was taken and evaluated in compliance with rules adopted by the Department of Public Safety shall be prima facie evidence that the testing methods used were valid and reliable and that the test results are accurate and were accurately evaluated.

* * *

1 (i) Finding by the court. The court shall electronically forward a report of
2 the hearing to the Commissioner. Upon a finding by the court that the law
3 enforcement officer had reasonable grounds to believe that the person was
4 operating, attempting to operate, or in actual physical control of a vehicle in
5 violation of section 1201 of this title and that the person refused to submit to a
6 test, or upon a finding by the court that the law enforcement officer had
7 reasonable grounds to believe that the person was operating, attempting to
8 operate, or in actual physical control of a vehicle in violation of section 1201
9 of this title and that the person submitted to a test and the test results indicated
10 that the person’s alcohol concentration was at or above a legal limit specified
11 in subsection 1201(a) or (d) of this title, at the time the person was operating,
12 attempting to operate, or in actual physical control, the person’s operating
13 license, or nonresident operating privilege, or the privilege of an unlicensed
14 operator to operate a vehicle shall be suspended or shall remain suspended for
15 the required term and until the person complies with section 1209a of this title.
16 Upon a finding in favor of the person, the Commissioner shall cause the
17 suspension to be canceled and removed from the record, without payment of
18 any fee.

19 * * *

20 (n) Presumption. In a proceeding under this section, if at any time within
21 two hours of operating, attempting to operate, or being in actual physical

1 control of a vehicle a person had an alcohol concentration ~~of~~ at or above a legal
2 limit specified in subsection 1201(a) or (d) of this title, it shall be a rebuttable
3 presumption that the person’s alcohol concentration was at or above the
4 applicable limit at the time of operating, attempting to operate, or being in
5 actual physical control.

6 * * *

7 Sec. 32. 23 V.S.A. § 1205(d) is amended to read:

8 (d) Form of notice. The notice of intention to suspend and of suspension
9 shall be in a form prescribed by the Supreme Court. The notice shall include
10 an explanation of rights, a form to be used to request a hearing, and, if a
11 hearing is requested, the date, time, and location of the Criminal Division of
12 the Superior Court where the person must appear for a preliminary hearing.

13 The notice shall also contain, in boldface print, the following:

14 (1) You have the right to ask for a hearing to contest the suspension of
15 your operator’s license.

16 (2) ~~This notice shall serve as a temporary operator’s license and is valid~~
17 ~~until 12:01 a.m. of the date of suspension.~~ If this is your first violation of
18 section 1201 of this title and if you do not request a hearing, your license will
19 be suspended as provided in this notice. If this is your second or subsequent
20 violation of section 1201 of this title, your license will be suspended on the
21 11th day after you receive this notice. It is a crime to drive while your license

1 is suspended unless you have been issued an ignition interlock restricted
2 driver’s license or ignition interlock certificate.

3 * * *

4 * * * Fee for Bulk Electronic Records Request * * *

5 Sec. 33. 23 V.S.A. § 114 is amended to read:

6 § 114. FEES

7 (a) The Commissioner shall be paid the following fees for miscellaneous
8 transactions:

9 * * *

10 (24) Bulk electronic records request \$0.303 per record

11 * * *

12 * * * Registration Fees for Trucks * * *

13 Sec. 34. 23 V.S.A. § 367 is amended to read:

14 § 367. TRUCKS

15 (a)(1) The annual fee for registration of tractors, truck-tractors, or motor
16 trucks except truck cranes, truck shovels, road oilers, bituminous distributors,
17 and farm trucks used as specified in subsection (f) of this section shall be based
18 on the total weight of the truck-tractor or motor truck, including body and cab
19 plus the heaviest load to be carried. In computing the fees for registration of
20 tractors, truck-tractors, or motor trucks with trailers or semi-trailers attached,
21 except trailers or semi-trailers with a gross weight of less than ~~6,000~~ 6,099

1 pounds, the fee shall be based upon the weight of the tractor, truck-tractor, or
2 motor truck, the weight of the trailer or semi-trailer, and the weight of the
3 heaviest load to be carried by the combined vehicles. In addition to the fee set
4 out in the following schedule, the fee for vehicles weighing between ~~10,000~~
5 10,100 and ~~25,999~~ 26,099 pounds inclusive shall be an additional \$42.53, the
6 fee for vehicles weighing between ~~26,000~~ 26,100 and ~~39,999~~ 40,099 pounds
7 inclusive shall be an additional \$85.03, the fee for vehicles weighing between
8 ~~40,000~~ 40,100 and ~~59,999~~ 60,099 pounds inclusive shall be an additional
9 \$297.68, and the fee for vehicles ~~60,000~~ 60,100 pounds and over shall be an
10 additional \$467.80. The fee shall be computed at the following rates per 1,000
11 pounds of weight determined pursuant to this subdivision and rounded up to
12 the nearest whole dollar; the minimum fee for registering a tractor, truck-
13 tractor, or motor truck to ~~6,000~~ 6,099 pounds shall be the same as for the
14 pleasure car type:

15 \$18.21 when the weight ~~exceeds 6,000 pounds but does not exceed~~
16 ~~8,000 pounds~~ is at least 6,100 pounds but not more than 8,099 pounds.

17 \$20.83 when the weight ~~exceeds 8,000 pounds but does not exceed~~
18 ~~12,000 pounds~~ is at least 8,100 pounds but not more than 12,099 pounds.

19 \$22.97 when the weight ~~exceeds 12,000 pounds but does not exceed~~
20 ~~16,000 pounds~~ is at least 12,100 pounds but not more than 16,099 pounds.

1 Sec. 35. 32 V.S.A. § 8902 is amended to read:

2 § 8902. DEFINITIONS

3 Unless otherwise expressly provided, as used in this chapter:

4 * * *

5 (6) “Motor vehicle” ~~shall have~~ has the same ~~definition~~ meaning as in 23
6 V.S.A. § 4(21).

7 * * *

8 (12) “Mail” has the same meaning as in 23 V.S.A. § 4(87).

9 Sec. 36. 32 V.S.A. § 8905 is amended to read:

10 § 8905. COLLECTION OF TAX; EDUCATION; APPEALS

11 (a) Every purchaser of a motor vehicle subject to a tax under subsection
12 8903(a) of this title shall forward ~~such~~ the tax form to the Commissioner,
13 together with the amount of tax due at the time of first registering or
14 transferring a registration to ~~such~~ the motor vehicle as a condition precedent to
15 registration ~~thereof~~ of the vehicle.

16 (b) Every person subject to a use tax under subsection 8903(b) of this title
17 shall forward ~~such~~ the tax form and the tax due to the Commissioner with the
18 registration application or transfer, as the case may be, and fee at the time of
19 first registering or transferring a registration to ~~such~~ the motor vehicle as a
20 condition precedent to registration ~~thereof~~ of the vehicle.

21 * * *

1 (d) Every person required to collect the use tax under subsection 8903(d) of
2 this title shall forward ~~such~~ the tax and a report of ~~same~~ the tax on forms
3 prescribed and furnished by the Commissioner at the frequency determined by
4 the Commissioner.

5 * * *

6 (f) Every person subject to the tax imposed by subsection 8903(g) of this
7 title shall forward the tax form and the tax due to the Commissioner along with
8 the title application and fee at the time of applying for a certificate of title to
9 ~~such~~ the motor vehicle as a condition precedent to the titling ~~thereof~~ of the
10 motor vehicle.

11 (g) The Commissioner shall establish procedures for taxpayers to file an
12 appeal regarding the taxpayer's liability for the tax due pursuant to section
13 8903 of this chapter and compliance with the requirements of this section. The
14 procedures shall include a process by which a taxpayer can resolve the dispute
15 prior to the issuance of a final administrative decision on the appeal.

16 (h) The Commissioner shall create educational and outreach materials for
17 taxpayers that provide information regarding the appeal process established
18 pursuant to subsection (g) of this section and opportunities to resolve disputes.

19 * * * Excessive Speed * * *

1 Sec. 37. 23 V.S.A. § 2502 is amended to read:

2 § 2502. POINT ASSESSMENT; SCHEDULE

3 (a) Unless the assessment of points is waived by a Superior judge or a
4 Judicial Bureau hearing officer in the interests of justice and in accordance
5 with subsection 2501(b) of this title, a person operating a motor vehicle shall
6 have points assessed against ~~his or her~~ the person's driving record for
7 convictions for moving violations of the indicated motor vehicle statutes in
8 accord with the following schedule: (All references are to this title of the
9 Vermont Statutes Annotated.)

10 * * *

11 (9) Eight points assessed for sections 1003 ~~and~~, 1007, and 1097. State
12 speed zones and local speed limits, more than 30 miles per hour over and in
13 excess of the speed limit.

14 * * *

15 * * * Tinted Windows * * *

16 Sec. 38. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 165, Secs. 14, 15, and 16 are amended to
17 read:

1 Sec. 14. [Deleted.]

2 Sec. 15. [Deleted.]

3 Sec. 16. [Deleted.]

4 Sec. 39. 23 V.S.A. § 1125 is amended to read:

5 § 1125. OBSTRUCTING WINDSHIELDS, AND WINDOWS

6 (a) Prohibition. Except as otherwise provided in this section, ~~a person~~ an
7 individual shall not operate a motor vehicle on which material or items have
8 been painted or adhered on or over, or hung in back of, any transparent part of
9 a motor vehicle windshield, vent windows, or side windows located
10 immediately to the left and right of the operator. The prohibition of this
11 section on hanging items shall apply ~~only~~ to shading or tinting material or
12 when a hanging item materially obstructs the driver's view.

13 (b) General exemptions. Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, a
14 ~~person~~ an individual may operate a motor vehicle with material or items
15 painted or adhered on or over, or hung in back of, the windshield, vent
16 windows, or side windows:

17 (1) in a space not over four inches high and 12 inches long in the lower
18 right-hand corner of the windshield;

19 (2) in ~~such~~ any space as the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may
20 specify for location of any sticker required by governmental regulation;

1 (3) in a space not over two inches high and two and one-half inches long
2 in the upper left-hand corner of the windshield;

3 (4) if the operator is ~~a person~~ an individual employed by the federal,
4 State, or local government or a volunteer emergency responder operating an
5 authorized emergency vehicle, who places any necessary equipment in back of
6 the windshield of the vehicle, provided the equipment does not interfere with
7 the operator’s control of the driving mechanism of the vehicle;

8 (5) on a motor vehicle that is for sale by a licensed automobile dealer
9 prior to the sale of the vehicle, in a space not over three inches high and six
10 inches long in the upper left-hand corner of the windshield, and in a space not
11 over four inches high and 18 inches long in the upper right-hand corner of the
12 windshield; ~~or~~

13 (6) if the object is a rearview mirror; or is an electronic toll-collection
14 transponder located either between the roof line and the rearview mirror post
15 or behind the rearview mirror; or

16 (7) if the object is shading or tinting material and the visible light
17 transmission of the motor vehicle windshield, vent window, or side window
18 with that shading or tinting material is not less than 70 percent.

19 (c) Medical exemption. The Commissioner may grant an exemption to the
20 prohibition of this section upon application from ~~a person~~ an individual
21 required for medical reasons to be shielded from the rays of the sun and who

1 attaches to the application a document signed by a licensed physician or
2 optometrist certifying that shielding from the rays of the sun is a medical
3 necessity. The physician or optometrist certification shall be renewed every
4 four years. However, when a licensed physician or optometrist has previously
5 certified to the Commissioner that an applicant’s condition is both permanent
6 and stable, the exemption may be renewed by the applicant without submission
7 of a form signed by a licensed physician or optometrist. Additionally, the
8 window shading or tinting permitted under this subsection shall be limited to
9 the vent windows or side windows located immediately to the left and right of
10 the operator. The exemption provided in this subsection shall terminate upon
11 the transfer of the approved vehicle and at that time the applicable window
12 tinting shall be removed by the seller. ~~Furthermore, if the material described in~~
13 ~~this subsection tears or bubbles or is otherwise worn to prohibit clear vision, it~~
14 ~~shall be removed or replaced.~~

15 (d) Rear side window obstructions. The rear side windows and the back
16 window may be obstructed only if the motor vehicle is equipped on each side
17 with a securely attached mirror, ~~which~~ that provides the operator with a clear
18 view of the roadway in the rear and on both sides of the motor vehicle.

19 (e) Removal. Any shading or tinting material that is painted or adhered on
20 or over, or hung in back of, the windshield, vent windows, or side windows in

1 accordance with subdivision (b)(7) or subsection (c) of this section shall be
2 removed if it tears, bubbles, or is otherwise worn to prohibit clear vision.

3 (f) Definition. As used in this section, “visible light transmission” means
4 the amount of visible light that can pass through shading, tinting, or glazing
5 material applied to or within the transparent portion of a window or windshield
6 of a motor vehicle.

7 Sec. 40. LEGISLATIVE INTENT; TINTED WINDOWS

8 It is the intent of the General Assembly that a motor vehicle with shading or
9 tinting material that is not allowed under 23 V.S.A. § 1125, as amended by
10 Sec. 39 of this act, poses a danger to the individual operating the motor
11 vehicle, any passengers in the motor vehicle, and other highway users and that
12 such a motor vehicle shall fail the annual safety inspection required under
13 23 V.S.A. § 1222.

14 Sec. 41. RULEMAKING; PERIODIC INSPECTION MANUAL; TINTED
15 WINDOWS; OUTREACH

16 (a) The Department of Motor Vehicles shall, unless extended by the
17 Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules, adopt amendments to
18 Department of Motor Vehicles, Inspection of Motor Vehicles (CVR 14-050-
19 022) consistent with the legislative intent in Sec. 40 of this act to be effective
20 not later than July 1, 2026. The amendments shall include the level of visible

1 light transmission required for windshields and the windows to the immediate
2 right and left of the driver as of the effective date of the amendments.

3 (b) The Department of Motor Vehicles, in consultation with the
4 Department of Public Safety, shall implement a public outreach campaign on
5 window tinting to provide information on the prohibitions and exceptions
6 under 23 V.S.A. § 1125, as amended by Sec. 39 of this act, and the
7 requirements of the Inspection of Motor Vehicles (CVR 14-050-022), with
8 amendments adopted under the Administrative Procedure Act consistent with
9 subsection (a) of this section, including what level of visible light transmission
10 is currently required for windshields and the windows to the immediate right
11 and left of the driver. The Department of Motor Vehicles shall start to
12 disseminate information as required under this subsection (b) not later than two
13 months prior to the effective date of Sec. 39 of this act and shall disseminate
14 information on window tinting through e-mail, bulletins, software updates, and
15 the Department of Motor Vehicles’ website.

16 * * * All-Terrain Vehicles * * *

17 Sec. 42. 23 V.S.A. § 3501 is amended to read:

18 § 3501. DEFINITIONS

19 As used in this chapter:

20 (1) “All-terrain vehicle” or “ATV” means any nonhighway recreational
21 vehicle, except snowmobiles, having not less than two low pressure tires (10

1 pounds per square inch, or less); not wider than ~~64~~ 72 inches, with two-wheel
2 ATVs having permanent, full-time power to both wheels; and having a dry
3 weight of less than 2,500 pounds, when used for cross-country travel on trails
4 or on any one of the following or a combination thereof: land, water, snow, ice,
5 marsh, swampland, and natural terrain. An ATV on a public highway shall be
6 considered a motor vehicle, as defined in section 4 of this title, only for the
7 purposes of those offenses listed in subdivisions 2502(a)(1)(H), (N), (R), (U),
8 (Y), (FF), (GG), (II), and (AAA); (2)(A) and (B); (3)(A), (B), (C), and (D);
9 (4)(A) and (B); and (5) of this title and as provided in section 1201 of this title.
10 An ATV does not include an electric personal assistive mobility device, a
11 motor-assisted bicycle, or an electric bicycle.

12 * * *

13 * * * Used Motor Vehicles Tax and Inspections Study Committee * * *

14 Sec. 43. USED MOTOR VEHICLES; PURCHASE AND USE TAX;
15 INSPECTIONS; STUDY COMMITTEE; REPORT

16 (a) Creation. There is created the Used Motor Vehicle Tax and Inspections
17 Study Committee to examine the assessment of purchase and use tax on used
18 motor vehicles and the inspection of motor vehicles whose onboard diagnostic
19 malfunction indicator light is on.

20 (b) Membership. The Committee shall be composed of the following
21 members:

1 (1) the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or designee;

2 (2) a member, appointed by the Vermont Vehicle and Automotive

3 Distributors Association or designee;

4 (3) a member, appointed by the Vermont Insurance Agents Association;

5 and

6 (4) a member, appointed by the Vermont Community Action

7 Partnership.

8 (c) Powers and duties. The Committee shall study the assessment of
9 purchase and use tax on used motor vehicles and the inspection of motor
10 vehicles whose onboard diagnostic malfunction indicator light is on, including
11 the following issues:

12 (1) the potential fiscal impact to the State of assessing the purchase and
13 use tax against the amount that a used vehicle was purchased for, rather than
14 the clean trade-in value of the vehicle;

15 (2) the potential for assessing the purchase and use tax against the
16 amount that a used vehicle was purchased for, if the difference between the
17 purchase price and the clean trade-in value of the vehicle is equal to or less
18 than the cost of repairs necessary for the vehicle to pass inspection pursuant to
19 23 V.S.A. § 1222; and

20 (3) potential modifications to the periodic inspection manual to permit
21 vehicles whose onboard diagnostic malfunction indicator light is illuminated to

1 pass inspection pursuant to 23 V.S.A. § 1222 if the issue causing the indicator
2 light to illuminate does not affect the safety of the vehicle with respect to the
3 operator, any passengers, or any other vehicles.

4 (d) Assistance. The Committee shall have the administrative, technical,
5 and legal assistance of the Department of Motor Vehicles.

6 (e) Report. On or before January 15, 2026, the Committee shall submit a
7 written report to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation with its
8 findings and any recommendations for legislative action.

9 (f) Meetings.

10 (1) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or designee shall call the first
11 meeting of the Committee to occur on or before September 1, 2025.

12 (2) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or designee shall be the Chair.

13 (3) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

14 (4) The Committee shall cease to exist on January 30, 2026.

15 (g) Compensation and reimbursement. Members of the Committee who
16 are not otherwise compensated for their attendance at meetings shall be entitled
17 to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses as permitted under
18 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for not more than four meetings. These payments shall be
19 made from monies appropriated to Department of Motor Vehicles.

20 * * * Effective Dates * * *

21 Sec. 44. EFFECTIVE DATES

1 (a) Secs. 39 and 40 shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

2 (b) This section and the remaining sections of this act shall take effect on

3 July 1, 2025.