

Fifty-sixth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

HOUSE BILL NO. 1352

Introduced by

Representatives Kempenich, Dorso, Grosz, Weisz

Senators Christmann, Klein

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact sections 39-04-08, 39-04-10.4, and 39-04-11 of the
2 North Dakota Century Code, relating to number plates; and to provide an effective date.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 39-04-08 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **39-04-08. Number plates furnished by the department.** The department shall
7 furnish to every motor vehicle owner ~~two number plates for each registered motor vehicle, and~~
8 one number plate for each registered motor vehicle, motorcycle, trailer, or housetrailer. The
9 department ~~may, in its discretion,~~ shall furnish ~~only~~ one number plate for each registered
10 apportioned vehicle licensed under the international registration plan as authorized in section
11 39-19-04, truck tractor, or semitrailer.

12 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 39-04-10.4 of the North Dakota Century Code is
13 amended and reenacted as follows:

14 **39-04-10.4. Antique motor vehicles - License and fee - Use.**

15 1. Any motor vehicle which is at least forty years old may be permanently licensed by
16 the department upon the payment of a registration fee of ten dollars. The
17 department shall design and issue a distinctive number plate for this purpose. In
18 lieu of the distinctive number plate, the owner of the motor vehicle may, at the
19 discretion of the director, display on the motor vehicle a number plate from the year
20 in which the motor vehicle was manufactured. The number plate from the year of
21 manufacture may not be used in lieu of a distinctive number plate when it would
22 create a duplication of a number in the recordkeeping system of the department. A
23 number plate from the year of manufacture must be legible and must be restored to
24 the satisfaction of the department. ~~Notwithstanding section 39-04-11, only one~~

~~number plate needs to be displayed on a motor vehicle licensed under this~~

~~subsection.~~ Motor vehicles registered under the provisions of this section may not
be used in the routine functions of a business or farming operation.

2. Any motor vehicle which is at least forty years old may, if not licensed under
subsection 1, be permanently licensed using a personalized plate issued under
section 39-04-10.3, in which case a one-time fee of one hundred dollars is due.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Section 39-04-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is
amended and reenacted as follows:

39-04-11. Display of number plates and tabs. Except as otherwise specifically
provided, no person may operate or drive a vehicle on the public highways of this state unless
the vehicle has a distinctive number assigned to it by the department, and ~~two a number plates~~
plate, bearing the distinctive number conspicuously displayed, horizontally and in an upright
position, ~~one on the front and one on the rear of the vehicle, each and~~ securely fastened,
~~except number plates assigned to a motorcycle, trailer, or house trailer must be attached to the~~
~~rear thereof.~~ When ~~only~~ one number plate is furnished for an apportioned vehicle licensed
under the international registration plan as authorized in section 39-19-04, truck tractor, or
semitrailer, the plate must be attached to the front of the apportioned vehicle or truck tractor
and the rear of the semitrailer. The bottom of ~~each a~~ a number plate must be at a height of not
less than twelve inches [30.48 centimeters] above the level surface upon which the vehicle
stands. As far as is reasonably possible, the ~~plates~~ plate must at all times be kept free and
clear of mud, ice, or snow so as to be clearly visible and all number plates, markers, or
evidence of registration or licensing except for the current year must be removed from the
vehicle. All vehicle license plates issued by the department continue to be the property of the
state of North Dakota for the period for which the plates are valid. An annual registration tab or
sticker for the current registration year must be displayed on each number plate in those years
for which tabs or stickers are issued in lieu of number plates.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act becomes effective upon the date of the
issuance of a new plate design by the department of transportation as certified by the director to
the legislative council, but only if that day is before August 1, 2001, and if that date is before
August 1, 1999, the effective date is August 1, 1999.