

ALABAMA

Definitions

Reconstructed vehicle. Every vehicle of a type required to be registered hereunder materially altered from its original construction by the removal, addition or substitution of essential parts, new or used.

Specially constructed vehicle. Every vehicle of a type required to be registered hereunder not originally constructed under a distinctive name, make, model or type by a generally recognized manufacturer of vehicles and not materially altered from its original construction.

Vintage vehicle. (i) a private passenger automobile, truck or truck tractor which weighs not more than 26,000 pounds gross weight, motorcycle, or fire truck, (ii) over 30 years old, (iii) operated as a collector's item, including participation in club activities, exhibitions, tours, parades, and not used for general transportation purposes, (iv) a vehicle having the original or substantially similar vehicle body, chassis, engine, and transmission as designated for that make, model, year, and age vehicle.

Titling & Registration

From Alabama Department of Motor Vehicles:



Vintage Vehicle

Sponsoring Organization: N/A
Code Section: Section 40-12-290
Primary Tag Type(s): VQ (Pre-numbered)
Secondary Tag Type (s): N/A

Who may purchase license plates in this category? All residents of Alabama who are vintage vehicle owners and will use the vehicle in accordance with the provisions of Section 40-12-290.

Is there any documentation required to be presented by the registrant prior to purchasing this plate? No

What registration fees are associated with the purchase of this license plate? \$10.00

May the plates be personalized? No

Additional fees: N/A

How often are the additional fees paid? N/A

Are plates in this category transferable? If so, to whom? "Vintage vehicle" license plates shall remain with the vehicle when sold or otherwise disposed of, and the new owner shall transfer the registration into his or her name in accordance with the provisions of Sections 40-12-260 and 40-12-261, if the vehicle will be operated in accordance with this section, and, if not, standard license plates shall be obtained.

What type of vehicles may this plate be displayed upon? A "vintage vehicle" is: (i) a private passenger automobile, truck or truck tractor which weighs not more than 26,000 pounds gross weight, motorcycle, or fire truck, (ii) over 30 years old, (iii) operated as a collector's item, including participation in club activities, exhibitions, tours, parades, and not used for general transportation purposes, (iv) a vehicle having the original or substantially similar vehicle body, chassis, engine, and transmission as designated for that make, model, year, and age vehicle.

How are the net proceeds from the purchase of this plate distributed? N/A

How often does the license plate design change? Permanent design.

What year model motor vehicles does the State of Alabama title?

Every 1975 and subsequent year model motor vehicle which is domiciled in Alabama and is required to be registered in Alabama is required to have an Alabama certificate of title. Travel trailers and folding and collapsible camping trailers designated as 1990 and subsequent year models also are required to have an Alabama certificate of title. Manufactured homes not more than 20 model years old are also required to be titled.

DEFINITIONS: The term motor vehicle shall include every automobile, motorcycle, mobile trailer, semitrailer, truck, truck tractor, trailer and other device that is self-propelled or drawn, in, upon, or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a public highway except such as is moved by animal power or used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks. Every trailer coach and travel trailer manufactured upon a chassis or undercarriage as an integral part thereof drawn by a self-propelled vehicle.

EXCLUSIONS: No Alabama certificate of title shall be obtained for:

- (a) A vehicle owned by the United States or any agency thereof.
- (b) A vehicle owned by a manufacturer or dealer and held for sale, even though incidentally moved on the highway or used for the purpose of testing or demonstration, or a vehicle used by a manufacturer solely for testing.
- (c) A vehicle owned by a non-resident of Alabama and not required by law to be registered in Alabama.
- (d) A vehicle moved solely by animal power.
- (e) An implement of husbandry.
- (f) Special mobile equipment.
- (g) A pole trailer.
- (h) ATVs.
- (i) Snowmobiles.
- (j) Off road vehicles.
- (k) Junked vehicles.
- (l) Boats.
- (m) Mobile homes, travel trailers, and mobile trailers designated 1989 year models and prior year models.
- (n) Utility trailers, other than folding and collapsible camping trailers designated 1990 and subsequent year models. A utility trailer is defined as "A vehicle without motive power designed to be drawn by a passenger car or pickup truck including folding or collapsible camping trailers."
- (o) A vehicle for which the Alabama license plate issuing official has verified that the current owner or operator is recorded as the owner or operator on a currently effective certificate of title issued by another state and the certificate of title is being held by the recorded lienholder.

Where do I apply for an Alabama certificate of title?

Applications for Alabama certificate of title must be made through a Designated Agent of the Alabama Department of Revenue. Designated Agents include: County License Plate Issuing Officials, all licensed Alabama motor vehicle dealers, and some financial institutions located in Alabama such as banks and credit unions. An application for replacement title can be submitted directly to the Alabama Department of Revenue by the recorded owner(s) or lienholder.

What does it cost to make application for Alabama certificate of title?

The title application fee is \$15.00 for each application for Alabama certificate of title for a motor vehicle. The title application fee is \$20.00 for each application for Alabama certificate of title for a manufactured home. Designated agents shall add the sum of \$1.50 as the commission for each application processed. County License Plate Issuing Officials may also collect an additional \$1.50 commission for each application processed to defray the cost of processing and mailing title applications. Certain counties may also have local fees which are due when an application for title is processed by that County License Plate Issuing Official. Please contact the County License Plate Issuing Official to determine if any local fees apply.

What documents will I need to make application for Alabama certificate of title?

An applicant for Alabama certificate of title must surrender the following documents to the designated agent in order to complete an application for Alabama certificate of title: (a) the outstanding manufacturer's certificate of origin or certificate of title that is either in the applicant's name or assigned to the applicant and any documents which support the transfer of the vehicle to the applicant; (b) if the vehicle is currently registered in a jurisdiction which does not title such vehicles, the applicant must surrender the outstanding registration documents which substantiate ownership of the vehicle. Additional documentation may be required if it cannot be determined whether the vehicle meets federal and state safety, emissions and anti-theft standards.

From Alabama Administrative Code:

Ala. Admin. Code r. 810-5-1-.247 Guidelines for Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) Inspections.

- **(1)** All vehicles being titled for the first time in Alabama and all non-titled vehicles being registered for the first time by the license plate issuing official must be physically inspected by the license plate issuing official to ensure that the VIN is properly recorded on the application for certificate of title and/or vehicle registration. The physical inspection requirements do not apply to the following:
 - **(a)** Registration renewals;
 - **(b)** Vehicles registered pursuant to [Section 32-6-56, Code of Ala. 1975](#) (IRP-registered vehicles);
 - **(c)**
 - **(d)** Vehicles owned by a manufacturer, dealer or wholesaler and held in inventory which are properly registered with dealer, dealer transit or manufacturer license plates;
 - **(e)** Utility trailers are defined in [Section 40-12-240, Code of Ala. 1975](#), and [Rule 810-5-1-.240](#).
- **(2)** License plate issuing officials may appoint a government official located in Alabama or a law enforcement officer as a deputy for the purpose of inspecting a motor vehicle and completing Department of Revenue Form MVT 5-10, Motor Vehicle Inspection by a Government Official. The government official, or law enforcement officer, must verify the vehicle identification number (VIN), make, year, model, body type, number of cylinders, color, and odometer reading of the vehicle by signing the form.
- **(3)** All vehicles must have a unique VIN. It is the registrant's responsibility to ensure that the VIN is permanently affixed to the vehicle. The VIN must be 17 characters for 1981 and later year model motor vehicles, in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 49, Chapter V, Part 565. The VIN is not required to be 17 characters for trailers.
- **(4)** Required ownership documentation for first time registrations for vehicles not required to be title in Alabama is a bill of sale that contains the minimum requirements established in Department of Revenue Administrative [Rule 810-5-1-.246](#). The VIN on the vehicle must be compared to the VIN appearing on the ownership documentation to ensure that the correct vehicle is being registered.
- **(5)** Guidelines on where to locate the VIN on the vehicle:
 - **(a)** Passenger vehicles/pickup trucks -- driver's side windshield or inside driver's door jamb.
 - **(b)** Motorcycle -- on front fork.
 - **(c)** Trailer -- on trailer frame or tongue.
 - **(d)** Assembled vehicles -- driver's door jam.
 - **(e)** 1954 and prior year vehicles -- inner fender well or driver's door post. Motor number is to be used as VIN if there is not a VIN plate on the vehicle.

History:

New Rule: Filed January 22, 2010; effective February 26, 2010. Amended: Filed March 28, 2012; effective May 2, 2012. Amended: Filed October 23, 2012; effective November 27, 2012. Amended: Filed July 26, 2013; effective August 30, 2013.

810-5-75-.26.01 Title Procedure - Motor Vehicles Exempt From Titling In Other States.

(REPEALED)

Ala. Admin. Code r. 810-5-75-.27. Title Procedure - First Title For Vehicles **Reconstructed** With Glider **Kits** For A Vehicle To Be Titled That Has Been Reconstructed With A Glider **Kit**, The Glider **Kit** Must Be Designated By The Manufacturer On The Manufacturer's Certificate Of Origin A **1975 Or Subsequent Year Model**. Reference: Sections 32-8-1 through 32-8-87, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended.

- **(1)** A glider kit is defined as a new vehicle without a power train (engine, transmission, drive train and rear axles). A glider kit comes with a manufacturer's certificate of origin (MCO) from the manufacturer and may or may not have a conforming seventeen digit vehicle identification number (VIN) and is designed to use a power train (engine, transmission, drive train and rear axles) from an existing vehicle.
- **(2)** The following documents shall accompany the owner's application for certificate of title:
 - **(a)** If the power train for the new glider kit was removed from a year model vehicle that is exempt from titling, the following documents are required:
 - **1.** Manufacturer's certificate of origin for new glider kit properly assigned to owner.
 - **2.** Affidavit stating that the applicant is the recorded owner of the vehicle, from which the power train was removed (including identification of the vehicle by vehicle identification number, year, make, and model), and that there is no lien on the vehicle from which the power train was removed.
 - **3.** Copies of the owner's registration receipts for the last two years covering the vehicle from which the power train was removed. In lieu of copies of the registration receipts, the owner may provide printouts of registration records for the vehicle from the state in which the vehicle was registered for the last two years.
 - **4.** If the power train was obtained from a vehicle which was not owned by the applicant, a bill-of-sale covering the power train must be attached in lieu of the documents as provided for in subsection 2(a)(3) of this rule. The bill-of-sale shall contain the vehicle identification number, year, make and model of the vehicle from which the power train was removed. If the parts of the power train were purchased individually, a bill-of-sale covering each part must be furnished. The bill-of-sale shall contain the vehicle identification number, if assigned by the manufacturer, of the part.
 - **5.** Affidavit by the person reconstructing the vehicle stating what was done to reconstruct the vehicle and that said vehicle is now in operable condition.
 - **(b)** If the power train for the new glider kit was removed from a year model vehicle that is subject to titling the following supporting documents are required:
 - **1.** Manufacturer's certificate of origin for new glider kit properly assigned to owner.
 - **2.** Copy of the certificate of title in the name of the owner for the vehicle from which the power train was removed.
 - **3.** If the power train was obtained from a vehicle which was not titled in the applicant's name, a bill-of-sale covering such power train must be attached in lieu of a copy of the certificate of title as provided for in subsection (2)(b)(2) of this rule. If the parts of the power train were purchased individually, a bill-of-sale covering each part must be furnished. The bill-of-sale shall contain the vehicle identification number, if assigned by the manufacturer, of the component part.

- **4.** Affidavit by the person reconstructing the vehicle stating what was done to reconstruct the vehicle and that said vehicle is now in operable condition.
- **(3)** The vehicle identification number to be shown on the application for certificate of title shall be the vehicle identification number shown on the manufacturer's certificate of origin issued for the glider kit.
- **(4)** The year, make and model of the vehicle constructed with a glider kit shall be the year, make and model as designated on the manufacturer's certificate of origin for the glider kit.
- **(5)** Any vehicle constructed with a glider kit shall have the certificate of title branded with the notation "RECONSTRUCTED." Such brand shall be carried forward to any subsequent certificate of title issued for the vehicle.

Ala. Admin. Code r. 810-5-75-.28. Title Procedure - First Title For **Assembled Vehicles**.

(1) The term "Department" as used in this regulation shall mean the Department of Revenue of the State of Alabama.

(2) The term "major component" as used in this regulation shall mean the following:

(a) For passenger vehicles:

1. Motor or engine.
2. Transmission or transaxle.
3. Trunk floor pan or rear section and roof.
4. Frame or any portion thereof (except frame horn), or, in the case of a unitized body, the supporting structure which serves as the frame, except when it is a part of the trunk floor pan, or rear section and roof.
5. Cowl, firewall, or any portion thereof.
6. Roof assembly.

(b) For truck, truck type, or bus type vehicles:

1. Motor or engine.
2. Transmission or transaxle.
3. Frame or any portion thereof (except frame horn), or, in the case of a unitized body, the supporting structure which serves as the frame.
4. Cab.
5. Cowl or firewall or any portion thereof.
6. Roof assembly.
7. Cargo compartment floor panel or passenger compartment floor pan.

(c) For motorcycles:

1. Engine or motor.
2. Transmission or transaxle.
3. Frame.
4. Front fork.
5. Crankcase.

(3) VEHICLES ASSEMBLED WITH **KITS**.

(a) Before making application for title, the applicant must obtain (available from all County License Plate Issuing Officials and from the Department) and properly complete form MVT 263 (Application for Alabama Assigned Vehicle Identification Number). NOTE: The vehicle identification number to be shown on form MVT 263 shall be the vehicle identification number of the vehicle from which the chassis or frame was removed. The applicant shall deliver completed form MVT 263 along with the following supporting documents to the Department.

(b) Supporting Documents:

1. For **kits (1975 or subsequent year model)** assembled with chassis or frame from a **1974 or prior model vehicle**:
 - (i) Certified manufacturer's certificate of origin for new **kit** properly assigned to the applicant.
 - (ii) Certified copy of the most recent registration receipt in the applicant's name for the vehicle from which the chassis or frame was removed, or if the chassis or frame was obtained from a vehicle which was not registered in applicant's name, then a notarized bill-of-sale to the applicant for the chassis or frame must be attached. This bill-of-sale shall contain the vehicle identification number of the vehicle from which the chassis or frame was obtained.
 - (iii) If any of the major component parts were purchased individually, a notarized bill-of-sale for each component part must be attached. This bill-of-sale shall contain the identifying number (serial number) and trade name of the component part.
 - (iv) A notarized affidavit by the person assembling the vehicle stating what was done to assemble the vehicle and that said vehicle is now in operable condition.

2. For **kits (1975 or subsequent year model)** assembled with chassis or frame from a **1975 or subsequent year model vehicle**:

- (i) Certified manufacturer's certificate of origin for new **kit** properly assigned to the applicant.
- (ii) Outstanding certificate of title (in applicant's name or assigned to applicant) for the vehicle from which the chassis or frame was removed, or if the chassis or frame was obtained from a vehicle which was not titled in applicant's name or assigned to the applicant and the certificate of title is unavailable, then a notarized bill-of-sale to the applicant for the chassis or frame must be attached. This bill-of-sale shall contain the vehicle identification number of the vehicle from which the chassis or frame was obtained.
- (iii) If any of the major component parts were purchased individually, a notarized bill-of-sale for each component part must be attached. This bill-of-sale shall contain the identifying number (serial number) and trade name of the component part.
- (iv) A notarized affidavit by the person assembling the vehicle stating what was done to assemble the vehicle and that said vehicle is now in operable condition.

(c) Fee (See Schedule of Fees and Commissions). Upon receipt of a properly completed form MVT 263 and the required supporting documents, the Department will issue a vehicle identification number plate which will have an assigned vehicle identification number embossed thereon. The Department will then notify the applicant to bring the assembled vehicle to an inspection station designated by the Department so that the Department can physically inspect the **assembled vehicle** and, if everything is in order, attach the vehicle identification number plate to the **assembled vehicle**. The Department and the applicant shall then complete forms MVT 26-4 and MVT 5-1c. The Department will then process forms MVT 5-1c, MVT 26-3, MVT 26-4, and any other required supporting documents and, upon approval, issue a certificate of title with legend "ASSEMBLED".

(4) **VEHICLES (NOT INCLUDING TRAILERS) ASSEMBLED FROM PARTS**

(a) Before making application for title, the applicant must obtain (available from all County License Plate Issuing Officials and from the Department) and properly complete form MVT 263 (Application for Alabama Assigned Vehicle Identification Number). NOTE: The vehicle identification number to be shown on form MVT 26-3 shall be the vehicle identification number of the vehicle from which the chassis or frame was removed. The applicant shall deliver completed form MVT 26-3 along with the following supporting documents to the Department.

(b) Supporting Documents:

1. For vehicles assembled with chassis or frame from a **1974 or prior year model vehicle**:

- (i) Certified copy of the most recent registration receipt in the applicant's name for the vehicle from which the chassis or frame was removed, or if the chassis or frame was obtained from a vehicle which was not registered in applicant's name, then a notarized bill-of-sale to the applicant for the chassis or frame must be attached. This bill-of-sale shall contain the vehicle identification number of the vehicle from which the chassis or frame was obtained.
- (ii) If any of the major component parts were purchased individually, a notarized bill-of-sale for each component part must be attached. This bill-of-sale shall contain the identifying number (serial number) and trade name of the component part.
- (iii) A notarized affidavit by the person assembling the vehicle stating what was done to assemble the vehicle and that said vehicle is now in operable condition.

2. For vehicles assembled with chassis or frame from a **1975 or subsequent year model vehicle**:

- (i) Outstanding certificate of title (in applicant's name or assigned to applicant) for the vehicle from which the chassis or frame was removed, or if the chassis or frame was obtained from a vehicle which was not titled in applicant's name or assigned to the applicant and the certificate of title is unavailable, then a notarized bill-of-sale to the applicant for the chassis or frame must be attached. This bill-of-sale shall contain

the vehicle identification number of the vehicle from which the chassis or frame was obtained.

(ii) If any of the major component parts were purchased individually, a notarized bill-of-sale for each component part must be attached. This bill-of-sale shall contain the identifying number (serial number) and trade name of the component part.

(iii) A notarized affidavit by the person assembling the vehicle stating what was done to assemble the vehicle and that said vehicle is now in operable condition.

(c) Fee (See Schedule of Fees and Commissions). Upon receipt of a properly completed form MVT 26-3 and the required supporting documents, the Department will issue a vehicle identification number plate which will have an assigned vehicle identification number embossed thereon. The Department will then notify the applicant to bring the assembled vehicle to an inspection station designated by the Department so that the Department can physically inspect the **assembled vehicle** and, if everything is in order, attach the vehicle identification number plate to the assembled vehicle. The Department and the applicant shall then complete forms MVT 26-4 and MVT 5-1c. The Department will then process forms MVT 5-1c, MVT 26-3, MVT 26-4, and any other required supporting documents and, upon approval, issue a certificate of title with legend "**ASSEMBLED**".

(5) TRAILERS ASSEMBLED FROM PARTS (FROM ONE OR MORE TRAILERS)

(a) Before making application for title, the applicant must obtain (available from all County License Plate Issuing Officials and from the Department) and properly complete form MVT 26-3 (Application For Alabama Assigned Vehicle Identification Number). NOTE: The vehicle identification number to be shown on form MVT 26-3 shall be the vehicle identification number of the vehicle from which the chassis or frame was removed. The applicant shall deliver completed form MVT 26-3 along with the following supporting documents to the Department.

(b) Supporting Documents:

1. For trailers assembled with chassis or frame from a 1974 or prior year model vehicle:
 - (i) Certified copy of the most recent registration receipt in the applicant's name for the vehicle from which the chassis or frame was removed, or if the chassis or frame was obtained from a vehicle which was not registered in applicant's name, then a notarized bill-of-sale to the applicant for the chassis or frame must be attached. This bill-of-sale shall contain the vehicle identification number of the vehicle from which the chassis or frame was obtained.
 - (ii) If any of the major component parts were purchased individually, a notarized bill-of-sale for each component part must be attached. This bill-of-sale shall contain the identifying number (serial number) and trade name of the component part.
2. For trailers assembled with chassis or frame from a 1975 or subsequent year model vehicle:
 - (i) Outstanding certificate of title (in applicant's name or assigned to applicant) for the vehicle from which the chassis or frame was removed, or if the chassis or frame was obtained from a vehicle which was not titled in applicant's name or assigned to the applicant and the certificate of title is unavailable, then a notarized bill-of-sale to the applicant for the chassis or frame must be attached. This bill-of-sale shall contain the vehicle identification number of the vehicle from which the chassis or frame was obtained.
 - (ii) If any of the major component parts were purchased individually, a notarized bill-of-sale for each component part must be attached. This bill-of-sale shall contain the identifying number (serial number) and trade name of the component part.
3. A bill-of-sale for each part other than a major component part.
4. A bill-of-sale for materials used in the construction of the vehicle.
5. A notarized affidavit by the person assembling the vehicle stating what was done to assemble the vehicle and that said vehicle is now in operable condition.

(c) Fee (See Schedule of Fees and Commissions). Upon receipt of a properly completed form MVT 263 and the required supporting documents, the Department will issue a vehicle identification number

plate which will have an assigned vehicle identification number embossed thereon. The Department will then notify the applicant to bring the assembled vehicle to an inspection station designated by the Department so that the Department can physically inspect the assembled vehicle and, if everything is in order, attach the vehicle identification number plate to the assembled vehicle. The Department and the applicant shall then complete forms MVT 26-4 and MVT 5-1c. The Department will then process forms MVT 5-1c, MVT 26-3, MVT 26-4, and any other required supporting documents and, upon approval, issue a certificate of title with legend "ASSEMBLED".

(6) TRAILERS ASSEMBLED FROM PARTS HOMEMADE TRAILERS (NOT MANUFACTURED FROM OTHER TRAILERS)

(a) Before making application for title, the applicant must obtain (available from all County License Plate Issuing Officials and from the Department) and properly complete form MVT 261 (Application For Assigned Vehicle Identification Number For A Homemade Trailer).

(b) Supporting Documents:

1. A bill-of-sale for each part with the identifying (serial) number (if available) and trade name for that component part listed on the bill of sale.
2. A bill-of-sale for materials used in the construction of the vehicle.

(c) Upon receipt of a properly completed form MVT 261 and the required supporting documents, the Department will issue a vehicle identification number plate which will have an assigned vehicle identification number embossed thereon. The Department will then mail the vehicle identification number plate and a partially completed form MVT 26-2 (Assigned Vehicle Identification Number for Homemade Trailer) for the trailer for which the assigned vehicle identification number request was made on form MVT 26-1. The applicant shall affix the vehicle identification number in the manner prescribed on form MVT 26-2 and sign form MVT 26-2. The applicant shall then make application for certificate of title through a designated agent of the Department who shall physically inspect the vehicle. The applicant shall surrender the original MVT 26-2 to the designated agent as a supporting document to accompany the MVT 5-1c (application for certificate of title). Upon the Department's receipt of forms MVT 5-1c and MVT 26-2, the required fee and any other required supporting documents and, upon approval, the

(7) Department will issue a certificate of title with the legend "**ASSEMBLED**" and the make "**HOMEMADE**".

Author: Mike Gamble

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§32-8-1 thru 32-8-88, 32-8-3 (b) (2), 402a7 (a) (5).

History: Amended: Filed November 23, 1998; effective December 28, 1998. Amended: Filed October 13, 2000; effective November 17, 2000.

Ala. Admin. Code r. 810-5-75-.30 Title Procedure - First Title for a **Rebuilt Vehicle**.

(1) Prior to making application for title, owner (licensed Rebuilder who **Restored** the **vehicle**) must first complete an MVT 26-15 Form (Application For Inspection of a Salvage Vehicle and Affirmation Supporting Salvage Certificate) and submit to the department. The MVT 26-15 properly completed provides the written affirmation by the owner as required by Section 32-8-87 (k), Code of Alabama 1975, by stating the following:

(a) Applicant **rebuilt** the **vehicle** or supervised its **rebuilders**, and what has been done to **restore** the **vehicle** to its operating condition which existed prior to the event which caused the salvage certificate to issue.

(b) Applicant personally inspected the completed vehicle and it complies with all safety requirements set forth by the state of Alabama and any regulations promulgated thereunder.

(c) The identification numbers of the **restored vehicle** and its parts have not, to the knowledge of the owner, been removed, destroyed, falsified, altered or defaced.

(d) The Alabama salvage certificate document or foreign jurisdiction's salvage certificate of title or equivalent attached to the application has not to the knowledge of the owner been forged, falsified, altered or counterfeited.

(e) All information contained on the application and its attachments is true and correct to the knowledge of the owner.

(2) Supporting Documents:

(a) The outstanding Alabama or foreign jurisdiction's salvage certificate of title or equivalent properly assigned to reflect the correct chain of ownership down to and including the applicant.

(b) In the event of an older year model salvage vehicle coming into Alabama from a jurisdiction where it was not required to be titled, a properly signed and notarized bill-of-sale, which declares the vehicle to be salvage, from the insurance company that declared the vehicle as salvage or from the titled owner, to the salvage buyer, is required. The bill-of-sale must provide a complete vehicle description, including the manufacturer's identification number.

(c) A notarized bill of sale for each transfer of the vehicle subsequent to the transfer from the insurance company (if the vehicle is coming into Alabama from a jurisdiction where it was not required to be titled).

(d) Whenever any major component part as defined in Section 32-8-87(m), Code of Alabama 1975, is replaced and is not that component from the original salvage vehicle, appropriate notarized bill(s)-of-sale, with identifying number of part and trade name of part, for that component is required. Bills-of-sale must also be provided for minor component parts, but are not required to be notarized.

(e) A copy of the applicant's regulatory **rebuilders** license to serve as evidence that the owner is a licensed **Rebuilder** in the state of Alabama.

(f) When the public vehicle identification number (VIN) plate has been removed from the vehicle the owner must complete an MVT 26-3 form (Application for Alabama Assigned Vehicle identification Number). If the identity of the vehicle can be established, the department will issue an assigned VIN plate containing the vehicle identification number that was issued by the manufacturer and affix the plate to the vehicle. Should it not be possible to establish the identity of the vehicle, the department will issue an Alabama assigned vehicle identification number on the VIN plate.

(g) A notarized statement or a statement on company letterhead must be provided stating in detail all repairs necessary to **restore** the **vehicle**, when the application for inspection is for one of the following:

1. Manufactured Home
2. Travel Trailer
3. Utility Trailer
4. Semi Trailer.

(h) Inspection fee of \$75.00 plus title fee as established in Section 32-8-87(l)(1), Code of Alabama 1975. Only certified funds are acceptable.

(3) Upon receipt of a properly completed Form MVT 26-15, the required supporting documents and the required fees, the department's agent will physically inspect the **rebuilt vehicle**, and if everything is in order, the department's agent will proceed as follows:

(a) Upon inspecting a vehicle for which the Form MVT 26-15 (Application for Inspection of a Salvage Vehicle and Affirmation Supporting Salvage Certificate) is received by the department on or after October 1, 1996, as evidenced by the received date stamped on the MVT 26-15 by the department, the department's agent shall, upon the vehicle successfully passing inspection attach to driver's side door jamb, a secure decal which shall state "**Rebuilt Salvage Vehicle** - AntiTheft Inspection Passed".

(b) Attach Alabama assigned vehicle identification number plate when necessary.

(c) The department's agent and the owner shall complete Form MVT 26-4 (Rebuilt Salvage Vehicle Secure Decal/Alabama Assigned Vehicle Identification Number) on which both shall certify that the secure decal denoting that the vehicle is a "**Rebuilt Salvage Vehicle**", and an Alabama assigned vehicle identification number plate when necessary, have been attached to the vehicle as required.

(d) The Department's agent shall complete a Form MVT 26-16 (Completion of Vehicle Inspection) in which the Department's agent certifies the following:

1. He/she inspected the vehicle and its parts and there is no indication that the VIN of the vehicle or its parts have been removed, altered, defaced, destroyed, or tampered with.
2. The vehicle appears to have been restored to its operating condition which existed prior to the event which caused the salvage certificate to be issued.
3. That neither the vehicle or any of its component parts are reported stolen with National Crime Information Center and Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center.
4. That the statements on the application for inspection of a salvage vehicle appear to be true and correct.

(e) The department's agent and the owner shall complete a Form MVT 5-1c Application for Certificate of Title) and the department's agent shall return the Form MVT 5-1c, MVT 26-4 and MVT 26-16 forms to the department whereupon approval, an Alabama Certificate of Title will be issued to the owner which shall contain a legend on its face stating that the vehicle has been "**REBUILT**".

1. Each Form MVT 26-15 (Application for Inspection of a Salvage Vehicle and Affirmation Supporting Salvage Certificate) received by the department on or after October 1, 1996, as evidenced by the received date stamped on the MVT 26-15 by the department, shall result in the ensuing certificate of title containing a legend on its face stating that the vehicle has been "**REBUILT**". (Authority: Sections 40-2A-7(a)(5) and 32-8-3(b)(2) (Amended November 22, 1996; amended October 31, 2001)

Ala. Admin. Code r. 810-5-75-.34. Title Procedure - Title Obtained Under **Surety Bond**.

- (1) The term "Department" as used in this regulation shall mean the Department of Revenue of the State of Alabama.
- (2) Applicant(s) shall complete a request for an Alabama certificate of title under **surety bond** (form MVT 10-1a) and attach required documents as specified in the MVT 10-1a form. Upon approval of the surety bond request form MVT 10-1a, the applicant(s) will be mailed a partially completed certificate of title surety bond (form MVT 10-1).
- (3) Designated agent completes MVT 5-1c (Application for Title). The application (MVT 5-1c) shall be machine printed or typewritten in black ink and shall be signed by the designated agent and the applicant(s) who claim(s) ownership of the vehicle.
- (4) Supporting Documents
 - (a) Form MVT 10-1 (Certificate of Title Surety Bond) properly completed by applicant(s) and an insurance company licensed to issue surety bonds in the State of Alabama.
 - (b) MVT 10-1a
 - (c) Documents previously submitted with MVT 10-1a by which applicant(s) claim(s) ownership of the vehicle.
 - (d) Fee (See Schedule of Fees and Commissions).
- (5) Title , when issued, will be stamped with the legend "THIS TITLE WAS SECURED UNDER THREE-YEAR **SURETY BOND**".
- (6) The amount of the bond shall be in an amount equal to one and one-half times the value of the vehicle as determined by the Department. The Department may use as guides in establishing the value of the vehicle such publications as National Automobile Dealer's Association Official Used Car Guide Southeastern Edition, Redbook, other nationally recognized guides, written appraisals from individuals or companies whose experience can be expected to qualify them as experts, or other sources as the Department may deem acceptable.
- (7) When an application for title (MVT 5-1c) is supported by a title issued under **surety bond** that is currently in effect in another jurisdiction, the applicant(s) will be required to post a **surety bond** in Alabama in order to title the vehicle.
- (8) Certificate of title **surety bond** (form MVT 10-1) may not be duplicated.

(Authority: Sections 32-8-1 through 32-8-88, Code of Alabama 1975) (Amended effective December 28, 1998.)

From Alabama Code:

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*** Current through Acts 2016, No. 10-600 ***

TITLE 40 Revenue and Taxation

CHAPTER 12 Licenses

Article 5 Motor Vehicles

Division 2 **Vintage Vehicles**

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Code of Ala. § 40-12-290

§ 40-12-290. Generally.

(a) Subject to the requirements of subsections (b), (c), (d) and (e), the owner of a motor **vehicle** which is herein defined as a "**vintage vehicle**", upon application to the judge of probate or commissioner of licenses on special application forms prescribed by the Commissioner of Revenue and the payment of a registration fee of ten dollars (\$10), may register the **vehicle** as a "**vintage vehicle**" and procure therefor permanent license plates to be issued and displayed on the vehicle.

(b) Beginning October 1, 1996, the owner of a "**vintage vehicle**" which is owned and operated primarily as a collector's item may, upon satisfying the requirements of this subsection, register the **vehicle** as a "**vintage vehicle**." The owner shall apply to the judge of probate or county official authorized and required by law to issue license plates. The owner shall pay a registration fee of ten dollars (\$10). Upon satisfying these requirements, permanent "**vintage vehicle**" license **plates** shall be issued and displayed on the vehicle.

(c) (1) The Commissioner of Revenue may make such reasonable rules and regulations as may be necessary to administer the provisions of this division.

(2) A vehicle using or displaying a "**vintage vehicle**" **plate** issued pursuant to this section shall not be used as a commercial vehicle, for transporting passengers or property, or for use as a service **vehicle**.

(3) "**Vintage vehicle**" license **plates** shall remain with the vehicle when sold or otherwise disposed of, and the new owner shall transfer the registration into his or her name in accordance with the provisions of Sections 40-12-260 and 40-12-261, if the vehicle will be operated in accordance with this section, and, if not, standard license plates shall be obtained.

(4) The owner of a **vehicle** displaying an **antique** license **plate** issued prior to October 1, 1996, if the vehicle is to be operated in accordance with the provisions of this section, shall surrender the license **plate** and obtain the **vintage vehicle** license **plate** above authorized without payment.

(d) For the purpose of this section, a "**vintage vehicle**" is: (i) a private passenger automobile, truck or truck tractor which weighs not more than 26,000 pounds gross weight, motorcycle, or fire truck, (ii) over 30 years old, (iii) operated as a collector's item, including participation in club activities, exhibitions, tours, parades, and not used for general transportation purposes, (iv) a vehicle having the original or substantially similar vehicle body, chassis, engine, and transmission as designated for that make, model, year, and age vehicle.

(e) (1) Effective October 1, 1997, it shall be unlawful for any person to operate, on the public highways of this state, a vehicle based in this state and displaying a **vintage vehicle** license **plate** not in compliance with subsections (b), (c), and (d). Any **antique** license **plate** or tag issued prior to October 1, 1996, shall become invalid on October 1, 1997.

(2) Any person violating this section shall, upon conviction, pay a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100), shall forfeit the **vintage vehicle** registration and **plates** issued to the owner for the respective vehicle, shall be liable for the regular registration fee and taxes for the vehicle, and shall be barred from applying for or holding a **vintage vehicle** registration for the respective vehicle for three years from the date of the violation. This penalty shall be in lieu of any other penalty specified in this chapter for this offense.

HISTORY: Acts 1996, No. 96-818.

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Code of Ala. § 40-12-291 (2016)

§ 40-12-291. Design of plates.

"**Vintage vehicle**" license **plates** shall be of such size and design as the Commissioner of Revenue may prescribe, shall bear no date, shall have inscribed thereon the words "**vintage vehicle**" and shall be of a color different from regular motor vehicle license plates and shall be valid without renewal.

HISTORY: [Acts 1996, No. 96-818.](#)

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Code of Ala. § 40-12-292 (2016)

§ 40-12-292. Replacement plates.

Should any license plates or tags issued pursuant to this division be defaced, lost or destroyed, the owner may apply for a replacement in the same manner as prescribed by law for the replacement of regular motor vehicle license plates and tags.

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Code of Ala. § 40-12-293 (2016)

§ 40-12-293. Exemptions.

Except for the provisions of Sections 40-12-260 and 40-12-261, a vehicle which has been registered and licensed as a "**vintage vehicle**" pursuant to this division shall not be subject to the motor vehicle licensing requirements of Division 1 of this article, nor any other law prescribing or requiring the payment of a license or privilege tax for the privilege of operating the vehicle upon the public roads or highways of this state. Vehicles registered under this division shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation.

HISTORY: [Acts 1996, No. 96-818](#).

NOTES: Editor's notes.

[Section 40-12-261](#), referred to in this section, was repealed by [Acts 1996, No. 96-746](#).

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Code of Ala. § 40-12-294 (2016)

§ 40-12-294. Rules and regulations.

The state Department of Revenue shall make such rules and regulations as necessary to provide for the application for and issuance of such special tags.

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Code of Ala. § 40-12-296 (2016)

§ 40-12-296. Proceeds.

All moneys derived from the registration and licensing of **vintage** motor **vehicles** shall be paid into the same fund in the State Treasury that moneys derived from regular motor vehicle license taxes are paid. Such moneys may be used for the same purposes and disbursed in the same manner prescribed for moneys derived from regular motor vehicle license taxes.

HISTORY: [Acts 1996, No. 96-818.](#)

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Code of Ala. § 40-12-297 (2016)

§ 40-12-297. Original Alabama license plates for antique, vintage, or historical vehicles.

(a) The owner of any vehicle designated as a 1976 year model vehicle or earlier qualified to receive a **vintage vehicle** license **plate**, upon application to the county license plate issuing official, in lieu of receiving the **vintage vehicle** license **plate**, may request to register an original Alabama license plate, 1976 or previous, including a restored or refurbished Alabama license plate, issued in the model year as designated by the manufacturer of the vehicle, of a type license plate that would have been issued to that category vehicle. Subject to the restrictions herein provided, the license plate issuing official shall issue a permanent **vintage vehicle** validation decal and attach the decal to an appropriate location on the lower portion of the original Alabama license plate. The issuing official shall also issue a registration receipt to be maintained within the vehicle and presented to law enforcement upon request. The issuing official shall collect the fee authorized under subsection (b) of Section 40-12-290 when issuing a **vintage vehicle** validation decal and the funds shall be distributed in the same manner as other fees collected for the issuance of **vintage vehicle** license **plates**. The issuing official shall be entitled to the issuance fee provided under Section 40-12-271.

(b) The owner requesting the registration of an original Alabama license plate shall present the license plate to the issuing official for examination, and, upon approval, issuance. In examining the license plate, the issuing official shall check the legibility and condition of the license plate and shall ascertain if the original Alabama license plate would have been properly issued to the category of vehicle for which registration is being currently requested.

(c) In the event the owner of a vehicle has applied for and is currently displaying a **vintage vehicle** license **plate** elects to obtain a registration for an original Alabama license plate as herein provided, the owner shall surrender the **vintage vehicle** license **plate** at the time of registration and shall not receive a credit for fees previously paid.

(d) This division shall otherwise be applicable to registrants electing to register as herein provided, including the ad valorem tax exemption authorized in Section 40-12-293.

(e) In the event the original Alabama license **plate** with a **vintage vehicle** validation decal is lost or stolen, the owner may elect to register another original Alabama license plate to the vehicle through the county license plate issuing official and pay the replacement fee as provided under subsection (b) of Section 40-12-265. If the validation decal only is lost or stolen, a replacement **vintage vehicle** validation decal may be issued.

(f) In the event front and rear original Alabama license plates were issued, only one original Alabama license plate shall be authorized for display on the rear of the vehicle.

(g) In the event that a vehicle owner requests the registration of a license plate number that is identical to a previously issued registration issued under this section, the license plate issuing official shall not approve the requested registration, and, if in the event duplicate registrations are issued, the department shall notify the vehicle owner with the most recent date registration that his or her registration is invalid and void, and the owner shall promptly surrender the **vintage vehicle** validation decal to the issuing official, and may request a subsequent registration of another original Alabama license plate upon payment of the transfer fee.

HISTORY: Acts 2006, No. 06-612.

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Code of Ala. § 32-8-87 (2016)

• **§ 32-8-87. Salvage and junk certificates.**

(a) Each owner of a motor vehicle and each person mentioned as owner in the last certificate of title who scraps, dismantles, destroys, or changes the motor vehicle in such a manner that it is not the same motor vehicle described in the certificate of origin or certificate of title shall as soon as practicable cause the certificate of origin or certificate of title, if any, and any other documents or information required by the department to be mailed or delivered to the department for processing. The department shall, with the consent of any holder of liens noted on the surrendered certificate, enter a cancellation upon its records. Upon cancellation of a certificate of origin or certificate of title in the manner prescribed by this section, the department shall cancel all certificates of origin or certificates of title in that chain of title. A certificate of title for the vehicle shall not again be issued except upon application containing the information the department requires, accompanied by a certificate of inspection in the form and content as specified in this section.

- No motor vehicle for which a salvage or junk certificate has been issued by this state or any other state shall be driven or operated on the highways or other public places of this state. A vehicle which is in this state and for which a salvage certificate has been issued, and the vehicle is being restored to its operating condition which existed prior to the event which caused the salvage certificate of title to issue, may be moved to and from repair points as necessary by the rebuilder to complete the restoration or may be moved as permitted by the Department of Revenue for inspection or for any other purpose. A valid Alabama dealer license plate shall be displayed on the vehicle during its movement. A person who violates this subsection shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor and shall be punishable as required by law.

- (b) When the frame or engine is removed from a motor vehicle and not immediately replaced by another frame or engine, or when an insurance company has paid money or made other monetary settlement as compensation for a total loss of any motor vehicle, the motor vehicle shall be considered to be salvage. The owner of every motor vehicle in which total loss or salvage has occurred in this state, shall, within 72 hours after the total loss or salvage occurs, make application for a salvage certificate of title and forward to the department the certificate of origin or certificate of title to the motor vehicle, whereupon the department shall process the certificate of origin or certificate of title in a manner prescribed by law or regulation. An insurance company which pays money or makes other monetary settlement as compensation for total loss of a motor vehicle shall at the time of payment or monetary settlement obtain the vehicle's properly assigned certificate of origin or certificate of title and, as soon as practicable after receiving it, shall forward it along with their application for a salvage certificate, to the department for processing. In the event the payment or monetary settlement was made because of the theft of the vehicle, which shall be considered a total loss as defined in this section, the insurance company shall forward the vehicle's properly assigned certificate of origin or certificate of title as provided herein, to the department as soon as practicable after the vehicle is recovered. When a stolen motor vehicle has been reported to the department in compliance with this section and is later recovered, and for which a salvage certificate has been issued, the owner recorded on the salvage certificate shall assign that certificate to the purchaser. A person who violates this subsection shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor and shall be punishable as required by law.

- **(c)** If an insurance company acquires a motor vehicle in settlement of an insurance claim and holds the vehicle for resale and procures the certificate of origin or certificate of title from the owner or lienholder within 15 days after delivery of the vehicle to the insurance company, and if the vehicle was not a total loss as defined by this section, the insurance company need not send the certificate of origin or certificate of title to the department but, upon transferring the vehicle to another person, other than by the creation of a security interest, the insurance company shall complete an affidavit of acquisition and disposition of the motor vehicle on a form prescribed by the department and deliver the certificate of origin or certificate of title, affidavit, and any other documents required by the department to the transferee at the time of delivery of the motor vehicle.
- **(d)** For the purposes of this section, a total loss shall occur when an insurance company or any other person pays or makes other monetary settlement to a person when a vehicle is damaged and the damage to the vehicle is greater than or equal to 75 percent of the fair retail value of the vehicle prior to damage as set forth in a current edition of a nationally recognized compilation of retail values, including automated data bases. The compensation for total loss as defined in this subsection shall not include payments by an insurer or other person for medical care, bodily injury, vehicle rental, or for anything other than the amount paid for the actual damage to the motor vehicle. A vehicle that has sustained minor damage as a result of theft or vandalism shall not be considered a total loss. Any person acquiring ownership of a damaged motor vehicle that meets the definition of total loss for which a salvage title has not been issued shall apply for a salvage title, other than a scrap metal processor acquiring such vehicle for purposes of recycling into metallic scrap for remelting purposes only. This application shall be made before the vehicle is further transferred, but in any event, within 30 days after ownership is acquired.
- **(e)** It shall be unlawful for the owner of any junkyard, salvage yard, or automotive dismantler and parts recycler or his or her agents or employees to have in their possession any motor vehicle which is junk or salvage or a total loss when the manufacturer's vehicle identification number plate or plates, authorized replacement vehicle identification number plate or plates, or serial plate or plates have been removed, unless previously required to be removed by a statute or law of this state or another jurisdiction. A person who violates this subsection shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor and shall be punishable as required by law.
- **(f)** It shall be unlawful for a person, firm, or corporation to possess, sell or exchange, offer to sell or exchange, or to give away any certificate of origin, certificate of title, salvage certificate of title, manufacturer's identification number plate or plates, authorized replacement vehicle identification number plate or plates, serial plate or plates, or motor vehicle license plate or plates of any motor vehicle which has been scrapped, dismantled, or sold as junk or salvage or as a total loss contrary to this section, and every officer, agent, or employee of a person, firm, or corporation, and every person who shall authorize, direct, aid in or consent to the possession, sale or exchange, or offer to sell, exchange, or give away such certificate of origin, certificate of title, salvage certificate of title, manufacturer's vehicle identification number plate or plates, authorized replacement vehicle identification number plate or plates, serial plate or plates, or motor vehicle license plate or plates contrary to this section, shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor and shall be punishable as required by law.
- **(g)** The department is authorized to issue a salvage certificate of title for a fee of fifteen dollars (\$15), on a form prescribed by the department which shall provide for assignments of this title. The salvage certificate of title is to replace a certificate of origin or certificate of title required to be surrendered by this section. The department shall prescribe necessary forms and procedures to comply with this subsection.
- **(h)** It shall be unlawful for a person to sign as assignor or for a person to have in his or her possession a salvage certificate of title which has been signed by the owner as assignor without the name of the assignee and other information called for on the form prescribed by the department. A person who violates this subsection, upon conviction, shall be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor and shall be punishable as required by law.

- **(i)** Every owner of a salvage or junk motor vehicle who sells or transfers the vehicle to any person shall provide at the time of the sale or transfer a properly executed assignment and warranty of title to the transferee in the space provided therefor on the salvage certificate of title or junk certificate of title or as the department prescribes. A person who willfully violates this subsection shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor and shall be punishable as required by law.
- **(j)** The department may issue a certificate of title to any motor vehicle for which a salvage certificate has been issued by this or any other state, and the vehicle has, in this state, been completely restored to its operating condition which existed prior to the event which caused the salvage certificate of title to issue, provided that all requirements of this section have been met. The department may issue a certificate of title for any motor vehicle for which a salvage certificate of title has been issued by this or any other state or when the department has evidence that a salvage title should have been issued by this or any other state, and the vehicle has been completely restored outside of this state to its operating condition which existed prior to the event which caused the salvage certificate of title to be issued, provided the department is satisfied that the vehicle was rebuilt in the other state in accordance with that state's salvage rebuilding laws. Any motor vehicle for which a certificate of title has been issued by any state with the notation of junk, parts car, parts only, nonrebuildable, or when a certificate of destruction or bill of sale has been issued for transfer of the vehicle with similar language shall be considered to be a junk vehicle and shall not be titled in this state. In addition, no certificate of title may be issued for any vehicle where the frame or the majority of the major component parts were obtained from a junk vehicle as previously defined.
- **(k)** Every owner of a salvage motor vehicle designated a 1975 year model and all models subsequent thereto which is in this state and which has been restored in this state to its operating condition which existed prior to the event which caused the salvage certificate of title to issue shall make application to the department for an inspection of the vehicle in the form and content as determined by the department. Each application for inspection of a salvage vehicle which has been so restored shall be accompanied by all of the following:
 - **(1)** The outstanding salvage certificate or out-of-state title previously issued for the salvage vehicle.
 - **(2)** Notarized bills of sale evidencing acquisition of all major component parts (listing the manufacturer's vehicle identification number of the vehicle from which the parts were removed, if parts contain or should contain the manufacturer's vehicle identification number) used to restore the vehicle and bills of sale evidencing acquisition of all minor component parts. Notarization shall not be required on bills of sale for minor component parts; provided that a notarized bill of sale which lists the manufacturer's vehicle identification number of the vehicle from which the parts were removed, if parts contain or should contain the manufacturer's vehicle identification number, shall be required for a transmission.
 - **(3)** Evidence that the owner is a licensed motor vehicle rebuilder as defined in [Section 40-12-390](#), unless otherwise exempt from the licensing requirement by Chapter 12 of Title 40. Notwithstanding the foregoing, where an owner acquires an Alabama salvage certificate of title to his or her own vehicle from his or her insurance company in settlement of a claim, a prior registration or other documentation that shows that the owner owned the vehicle prior to the salvage title being issued may be submitted in lieu of a rebuilder's license.
 - **(4)** The owner shall also provide a written affirmation which states the following:
 - **a.** The actions taken to restore the vehicle to its operating condition which existed prior to the event which caused the salvage certificate to issue.
 - **b.** That the owner personally inspected the completed vehicle and it complies with all safety requirements set forth by the State of Alabama and any regulations promulgated thereunder.
 - **c.** That the identification numbers of the restored vehicle and its parts have not, to the knowledge of the owner, been removed, destroyed, falsified, altered, or defaced.
 - **d.** That the salvage certificate document or out-of-state title certificate attached to the application has not to the knowledge of the owner been forged, falsified, altered, or counterfeited.

- **e.** That all information contained on the application and its attachments is true and correct to the knowledge of the owner.
 - **f.** The owner, as specified in subsection (r), shall be required to post a bond in accordance with [Section 32-8-36](#) in the event that the owner cannot provide any information required in subsection (k) or any other information specified by the department.
- **(j)** The application fee for each inspection of a restored vehicle shall be seventy-five dollars (\$75), payable to the department in a manner as prescribed by the department, which shall accompany the application.
 - **(1)** All application fees and title fees received by the department pursuant to this subsection shall be applied toward the personnel and maintenance costs of the vehicle inspection program and the vehicle inspection program shall be conducted by the office of investigations and inspections of the department. Upon receipt of the application for inspection, application fee of seventy-five dollars (\$75), its supporting documents, and title fee of fifteen dollars (\$15), payable to the department in a manner as prescribed by the department, the department shall require an inspection to be made of the title and the vehicle by qualified agents or law enforcement officers of the department.
 - **(2)** The inspection and certification shall include an examination of the vehicle and its parts to determine that the identification numbers of the vehicle or its parts have not been removed, falsified, altered, defaced, destroyed, or tampered with; that the vehicle information contained in the application for certificate of title and supporting documents is true and correct; and that there are no indications that the vehicle or any of its parts are stolen. The certification shall not attest to the roadworthiness or safety condition of the vehicle.
- **(m)** Component parts are defined as:
 - **(1) Passenger vehicles. —**
 - **a.** Major components:
 - **1.** Motor or engine.
 - **2.** Trunk floor pan or rear section and roof.
 - **3.** Frame or any portion thereof (except frame horn), or, in the case of a unitized body, the supporting structure which serves as the frame, except when it is a part of the trunk floor pan, or rear section and roof.
 - **4.** Cowl, firewall, or any portion thereof.
 - **5.** Roof assembly.
 - **b.** Minor components:
 - **1.** Each door allowing entrance to or egress from the passenger compartment.
 - **2.** Hood.
 - **3.** Each front fender or each rear fender when used with a rear section and roof.
 - **4.** Deck lid, tailgate, or hatchback (whichever is present).
 - **5.** Each quarter panel.
 - **6.** Each bumper.
 - **7.** T-tops, moon roof, or whichever is present.
 - **8.** Transmission or trans-axle.
 - **(2) Truck, truck type, or bus type vehicles. —**
 - **a.** Major components:
 - **1.** Motor or engine.
 - **2.** Transmission or trans-axle.
 - **3.** Frame or any portion thereof (except frame horn), or, in the case of a unitized body, the supporting structure which serves as the frame.
 - **4.** Cab.
 - **5.** Cowl or firewall or any portion thereof.
 - **6.** Roof assembly.
 - **7.** Cargo compartment floor panel or passenger compartment floor pan.
 - **b.** Minor components:
 - **1.** Each door.

- **2.** Hood.
 - **3.** Grill, except on one ton or smaller trucks.
 - **4.** Each bumper.
 - **5.** Each front fender.
 - **6.** Roof panel and rear cab panel.
 - **7.** Each rear fender or side panel.
 - **8.** Pickup box.
 - **9.** Body or bed.
 - **(3) Motorcycle: component parts. —**
 - **a.** Engine or motor.
 - **b.** Transmission or trans-axle.
 - **c.** Frame.
 - **d.** Front fork.
 - **e.** Crankcase.
- **(n)** A salvage vehicle which has been restored in this state to its operating condition which existed prior to the event which caused the salvage certificate of title to issue shall be issued a certificate of title which shall contain the word rebuilt.
- **(o)**
 - **(1)** Each salvage vehicle restored or rebuilt in this state which is required to be inspected by the department pursuant to subsection (l) and for which a certificate of title may be issued pursuant to subsection (n) shall be issued a decal, plate, or other emblem as prescribed by the department to reflect that the vehicle is rebuilt. The decal, plate, or other emblem shall be attached to the vehicle in a place and in a manner prescribed by the department.
 - **(2)** A person who willfully removes, mutilates, tampers with, obliterates, or destroys a decal, plate, or other emblem issued and attached to a salvage vehicle pursuant to this subsection is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor punishable as provided by law.
- **(p)** Each person who sells, exchanges, delivers, or otherwise transfers any interest in any vehicle for which a title bearing the designation salvage or rebuilt has been issued shall disclose in writing the existence of this title to the prospective purchaser, recipient in exchange, recipient by donation, or recipient by other act of transfer. The disclosure, which shall be made at the time of or prior to the completion of the sale, exchange, donation, or other act of transfer, shall contain the following information in no smaller than 10 point type: "This vehicle's title contains the designation salvage or rebuilt."
- **(q)**
 - **(1)** Any motor vehicle for which an insurance company has paid a total loss due, in part, to being damaged by water shall be deemed a flood vehicle. The motor vehicle's certificate of title and every subsequent certificate of title shall contain the designation flood vehicle.
 - **(2)** Each person who sells, exchanges, donates, delivers, or otherwise transfers any interest for which a certificate of title bearing the designation flood vehicle has been issued shall disclose in writing the existence of this designation to the prospective purchaser, recipient in exchange, recipient by donation, or recipient by other act of transfer. The disclosure shall be made at the time of or prior to the completion of the sale, exchange, donation, delivery, or other act of transfer and shall contain the following information in no smaller than 10 point type: The certificate of title of this motor vehicle contains the designation flood vehicle.
- **(r)** If an owner acquires a salvage vehicle for which a previous insurer or owner did not properly obtain a salvage title from this or any other state or the vehicle was rebuilt by a rebuilder who is no longer licensed as a rebuilder, the current owner may proceed as provided in subsection (k) and apply for an inspection of the vehicle. In any case where the department has determined that an insurer or prior owner did not properly obtain a salvage certificate of title, a prior registration or other documentation that shows that the owner owned the vehicle prior to the notification by the department may be submitted in lieu of a rebuilder's license.
- **(s)**

- **(1)**
 - **a.** A licensed automotive dismantler and parts recycler as defined in [Section 40-12-410](#), secondary metals recycler as defined in [Section 13A-8-30](#), who acquires a motor vehicle for the purpose of dismantling it or recycling it into metallic scrap for melting purposes or any person who crushes a motor vehicle acquired from anyone other than a licensed automotive dismantler and parts recycler or a secondary metal recycler, except as provided in subdivision (2), shall surrender any certificate of title received to the department for cancellation in a manner as prescribed by the department. A notice of cancellation shall be submitted and a receipt of the notice shall be obtained from the department prior to crushing the vehicle or dismantling the vehicle or recycling it into metallic scrap for remelting purposes. A licensed automotive dismantler and parts recycler or secondary metals recycler shall file the notice electronically and the department, at the time of filing, shall provide the filer with an electronic notice of receipt. The licensed automotive dismantler and parts recycler or secondary metals recycler shall maintain the properly assigned original certificate of title when the notice is filed electronically. The department shall verify through its records that the title is the current title of the motor vehicle and that the vehicle is not reported as stolen prior to issuing the receipt.
 - **b.** Each licensed automotive dismantler and parts recycler, secondary metals recycler, and any other person who crushes a motor vehicle shall maintain records of every motor vehicle crushed or acquired for the purpose of dismantling it or recycling it into metallic scrap for remelting purposes. The records shall be maintained by these parties for a period of not less than five years and shall include the vehicle identification number, name and address of the seller, copy of the seller's state issued driver's license or identification card, the date of sale, and a copy of the certificate of title surrendered to the department. In the event that a person crushes a vehicle or vehicles on behalf of the owner but does not acquire the vehicle or vehicles, that person shall maintain a record of the vehicle identification number, and the name and address of the entity for whom the vehicles were crushed, as well as a copy of the person's state issued driver's license or identification card, or state issued tax ID number if the entity is not a natural person. For purposes of this chapter, a crushed motor vehicle as defined in [Section 40-12-116](#) shall not be deemed a motor vehicle or vehicle, provided, however, that any person who is responsible for transforming a motor vehicle into a crushed motor vehicle is responsible for complying with this section.
- **(2)** Notwithstanding any other provision of this title to the contrary, if the owner or authorized agent of the owner of a motor vehicle has not obtained a title in his or her name for the motor vehicle to be transferred, he or she may sign a sworn statement that, in addition to the foregoing conditions, the vehicle is worth one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or less and is at least 12 model years old. The statement described in this subsection may be used only to transfer such a motor vehicle to a licensed automotive dismantler and parts recycler as defined at [Section 40-12-410](#) or secondary metals recycler as defined at [Section 13A-8-30](#) and shall be used in lieu of a certificate of title when the motor vehicle is being dismantled or recycled into metallic scrap. The department, in consultation with the above industries, shall promulgate a form for the statement which shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following information:
 - **a.** A statement that the motor vehicle shall never be titled again and that it must be dismantled or scrapped.
 - **b.** A description of the motor vehicle including the year, make, model, and vehicle identification number.
 - **c.** The license plate number and state of issue of any vehicle transporting the motor vehicle being sold.
 - **d.** The name, address, and driver's license number of the seller.
 - **e.** A certification by the seller that the seller is lawfully in possession of the vehicle and the seller is the current owner of the vehicle and the seller never obtained a title to the motor vehicle in his or her name.
 - **f.** A certification that the motor vehicle meets all of the following requirements:
 - **1.** Is worth one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or less.
 - **2.** Is at least 12 model years old.

- **3.** Is not subject to any recorded security interest or lien.
 - **g.** An acknowledgment, made under penalties of perjury, that the seller realizes this information will be filed with the department and that it is a Class C felony to knowingly falsify any information on this statement.
 - **h.** The seller's signature and the date of the transaction.
 - **i.** The name and address of the business acquiring the vehicle.
 - **j.** The unique registration number provided by the Administrator of the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System known as the NMVTIS ID Number.
 - **k.** A certification by the business, made under penalties of perjury, that one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or less was paid to acquire the vehicle.
 - **l.** The business agent's signature and date along with a printed name and title if the agent is signing on behalf of a corporation.
 - **m.** The unique tracking number provided by a Department of Revenue system that indicates that the automotive dismantler and parts recycler or secondary metals recycler has utilized that system to verify that the vehicle is not currently reported as stolen and that there is no recorded lien or notice of a lien on file or that the department has no record of the vehicle. A licensed automotive dismantler and parts recycler or secondary metals recycler shall file the notice electronically, and the department shall provide the filer with an electronic notice of receipt. This statement shall be invalid without this tracking number and without the purchaser's NMVTIS ID number.
 - **n.** An acknowledgement by the automotive dismantler and parts recycler or secondary metals recycler that the motor vehicle will not be crushed or shredded for a period of 48 hours not including Saturday and Sunday after the initial filing with the department of the notice required in this subsection and receipt of such notice.
- **(3)** The automotive dismantler and parts recycler or secondary metals recycler shall electronically deliver the statement required under this subsection to the department within 72 hours of the completion of the transaction, requesting that the department cancel the certificate of title and registration. A transmission of the identical information, in the identical format as prescribed by the Alabama Department of Revenue, shall be sent by the automotive dismantler and parts recycler or secondary metals recycler to the sheriff of the county, or the chief of police if located in a municipality, if requested by the sheriff or chief of police. The transmittal shall be completed and a receipt of the notice, generated at the time of the transmittal, shall be obtained from the department before dismantling the vehicle or recycling it into metallic scrap for remelting purposes. In addition, the automotive dismantler and parts recycler or secondary metals recycler shall maintain the original signed documents required by this subsection for a period of not less than five years. An automotive dismantler and parts recycler or secondary metals recycler who has complied with the requirements of this section shall be immune from, and held harmless from, any claims related to liens which were not recorded or a notice of lien was not recorded, or stolen vehicles not reported, at the time that the vehicle was purchased and the inquiry made and documented with the unique tracking number issued by the department.
 - **(4)** Any person who knowingly and willfully violates this subsection, or any person who falsifies the statement required under this subsection, or any person who knowingly and willfully sells a vehicle upon which there is an unsatisfied lien, shall be guilty of a Class C felony. In addition to any punishment rendered, each person convicted shall be subject to the laws regarding restitution.
 - **(5)** Any motor vehicle used to transport another motor vehicle or crushed motor vehicle illegally sold under this section may be seized by law enforcement and is subject to forfeiture ordered by the court; provided, however, that no motor vehicle used by any person in the transaction of a sale of such motor vehicle shall be subject to forfeiture unless the owner or other person in charge of the motor vehicle is a consenting or knowing party to the commission of a crime, and a forfeiture of the motor vehicle is subject to the rights of any lienholder who holds a perfected security interest in the motor vehicle so long as the lienholder had no knowledge of or consented to the act. Whenever property is forfeited under this subsection by order of the court, it shall be sold and the proceeds distributed, pro rata after payment of all property expenses relating to the forfeiture and sale, including any court ordered restitution to the owner of the vehicle, satisfaction of any liens associated with the vehicle sold in violation of this section, and any losses incurred by the automotive

dismantler and parts recycler or secondary metals recycler to the general fund of the state or any county or municipality whose department, office, or agency contributed to the investigation of the acts resulting in forfeiture, based upon the contribution, including expenses, of the department, office, or agency, as determined by the court.

- **(t)** The Department of Revenue shall provide a system for a real-time online verification of motor vehicle titles, liens, and stolen vehicle status that can be accessed by an automotive dismantler and parts recycler or a secondary metals recycler. The system shall be capable of transmitting the information from the statement required pursuant to subsection (s) either online or by bulk electronic transmission and shall provide a unique tracking number on a receipt at the time of the submission that indicates that the automotive dismantler and parts recycler or a secondary metals recycler has used the system and that at the time of the inquiry, the vehicle was not reported as stolen and that there were no recorded liens or notices of liens on file associated with the vehicle, or that the department has no record of the vehicle. The charge assessed for the transmittal of the statement required by subsection (s) to the automotive dismantler and parts recycler or secondary metals recycler shall be five dollars (\$5) per submittal. In lieu of a per submittal charge, an automotive dismantler and parts recycler or a secondary metals recycler may pay an annual fee of five hundred dollars (\$500) for all submittals and inquiries made during that fiscal year. The fee shall be paid on a fiscal year basis, beginning October 1 of each fiscal year. Every automotive dismantler and parts recycler, secondary metals recycler or person or company licensed pursuant to [Section 40-12-116](#), shall pay the annual fee for each location or license. Any fees collected under this section shall be retained by the department for use solely by the Motor Vehicle Division of the department for training and technological and processing improvements.

HISTORY: Acts 1985, No. 85-650; Acts 1987, No. 87-806; Acts 1988, 1st Ex. Sess., No. 88-730; Acts 1989, No. 89-863; Acts 1995, No. 95-406; Acts 2006, No. 06-213; Acts 2016, No. 10-748, § 1, June 1, 2010; Acts 2011, No. 11-633, § 1, Jan. 1, 2012.

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*** Current through Acts 2016, No. 10-600 ***

TITLE 40 Revenue and Taxation

CHAPTER 12 Licenses

Article 5 Motor Vehicles

Division 1 General Provisions

Go to the Alabama Code Archive Directory

Code of Ala. § 40-12-258 (2016)

§ 40-12-258. Storage in state.

(a) Except for vehicles provided for in subsections (b) and (c), an individual reregistering a motor vehicle that has been stored in this state and not used or operated on the public highways of this state shall pay the annual license taxes and registration fees on the vehicle. The license taxes and registration fees associated with the reregistering of motor vehicles shall not be prorated.

(b) The owners of motor vehicles commonly known as self-propelled campers or house cars, when stored in this state and not used or operated on the public highways of this state, upon reregistering, shall pay license taxes and registration fees on a monthly prorated basis.

(c) The owners of farm trucks and farm **truck** tractors and **vintage vehicles** without regard to subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of Section 40-12-290, when stored in this state and not used or operated on the public highways of this state, upon reregistering, shall pay license taxes and registration fees on a monthly prorated basis.

(d) The payment of the registration fee or license tax on motor vehicles shall be evidenced by the delivery of a license plate, which shall be placed in such position as to be lighted by the license plate lamp in accordance with Section 32-5-242(g)(3) in an upright position, right side up, on the rear of the automobile; when a semitrailer truck is operated, the plate shall be placed on the rear of the semitrailer. It shall be a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not less than ten dollars (\$10) and not exceeding twenty-five dollars (\$25) for each offense, to display the plate in any other place or in any other manner than as herein provided. The Department of Revenue shall provide plates for all motor vehicles and shall also provide receipts in triplicate, one of which shall be retained by the judge of probate, one shall be delivered to the person paying the license fee, and one legible copy shall be mailed by the judge of probate to the Department of Revenue on the day the license was issued. Every part of each receipt shall bear the same number as the plate delivered to the licensee. These receipts shall be prepared in the form to be determined by the Department of Revenue and delivered to the judges of probate of the several counties of the state under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Department of Revenue; and the Department of Revenue shall have power to prescribe rules and regulations concerning the application for and delivery to the licensee of the plate and receipt required by this article.

(e) The automobile licensee shall be required to state in his or her application the proposed use of the automobile, whether for private use or for commercial purposes.

(f) The plates furnished for commercial vehicles, except those used or rented by a U-Drive-It or similar system, shall be of a different design from those used for private or pleasure cars. In applying for license for buses, taxicabs, or U-Drive-Its or like motor vehicles, the application shall give the seating capacity and the weight of the vehicle.

HISTORY: [Acts 1997, No. 97-177](#); [Acts 2004, No. 04-292](#).

Equipment Exemptions

From Alabama Code:

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TITLE 32 Motor Vehicles and Traffic
CHAPTER 5B Alabama Safety Belt Act of 1991

Go to the Alabama Code Archive Directory

Code of Ala. § 32-5B-4 (2016)

§ 32-5B-4. Use required.

(a) Each front seat occupant of a passenger car manufactured with safety belts in compliance with

Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 208 shall have a safety belt properly fastened about his body at all times when the vehicle is in motion.

(b) The provisions of subsection (a) shall not apply to:

(1) A child passenger under the purview of Section 32-5-222, who is required to use a child passenger restraint system or a seat belt pursuant to Section 32-5-222.

(2) An occupant of a passenger car who possesses a written statement from a licensed physician that he is unable for medical reasons to wear a safety belt.

(3) A rural letter carrier of the United States Postal Service while performing his duties as a rural letter carrier.

(4) A driver or passenger delivering newspapers or mail from house to house.

(5) Passengers in a passenger car with **model year prior** to 1965.

(6) Passengers in motor vehicles which normally operate in reverse.

HISTORY: [Acts 1991, No. 91-255](#).

Emissions Exemptions

Alabama does not operate a vehicle emissions testing program.