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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**SENATE BILL**

No. **244** Session of  
1961

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INTRODUCED BY MESSRS. STROUP, SHAFER AND MAHADY,  
FEBRUARY 20, 1961.

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS,  
FEBRUARY 20, 1961.

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**AN ACT**

Amending the act of April 29 1959 (P L 58) entitled "An act consolidating and revising the Vehicle Code the Tractor Code the Motor Vehicle Financial Responsibility Act and other acts relating to the ownership possession and use of vehicles and tractors" making registration plates and manufacturers' serial numbers of all vehicles and tractors prima facie evidence as to ownership of such vehicles or tractors and removing provisions relating to burden of proof

EXPLANATION—CAPITAL LETTERS indicate new matter added to bill. Matter stricken through is to be omitted from bill. Underlining indicates new matter added to existing law. [Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows

1 Section 1 Section 1212 act of April 29 1959 (P L. 58) known as  
2 "The Vehicle Code" amended July 13 1959 (P L. 534) is amended to  
3 read

4 Section 1212 Registration and Manufacturer's Serial Number  
5 Prima Facie Evidence In any proceeding for a violation of the provisions  
6 of this act or any local ordinance rule or regulation the registration  
7 plate displayed on such vehicle or tractor at the time of the violation  
8 or the manufacturer's serial number of such vehicle or tractor shall be  
9 prima facie evidence that the owner of such vehicle or tractor was then  
10 operating the same If at any hearing or proceeding the owner shall  
11 testify under oath or affirmation that he was not operating the said  
12 vehicle or tractor at the time of the alleged violation of this act or any  
13 local ordinance rule or regulation and shall submit himself to an exam-  
14 ination as to who at that time was operating such vehicle or tractor  
15 and reveal the name of the person if known to him or if the information  
16 is made in a county other than that of his own residence shall forward  
17 to the magistrate an affidavit setting forth these facts then the prima  
18 facie evidence arising from the registration plate or manufacturer's

1 serial number shall be overcome and removed [and the burden of proof

2 shifted]

3 Section 2 This act shall take effect in ten days

We certify that this bill has passed the Senate and the House of  
Representatives.

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Chief Clerk, Senate

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President pro tempore, Senate

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Speaker, House of Representatives

Approved The ..... day of ..... A. D. 1961.

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Governor