

No. 2004-229

AN ACT

HB 2666

Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for period of registration; providing for commercial driver records; and further providing for exemption from other fees and for the prohibition on expenditures for emission inspection program.

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

Section 1. Section 1307(a) of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

§ 1307. Period of registration.

(a) Staggered renewal system to be established.—The department shall establish a system of staggered registration renewal in a manner that an approximately equal number of registrations will expire every month throughout the year. **[This system shall be coordinated with the periodic inspection of all vehicles which are subject to annual inspection except those vehicles bearing dealer registration plates.]** In order to implement and maintain the staggered registration system, the department may prorate annual registration fees over registration periods of from 6 to 18 months.

\* \* \*

Section 2. Title 75 is amended by adding a section to read:

§ 1620. *Commercial driver records.*

*The department shall establish a program for unlimited annual electronic driver record checks for employers of commercial drivers. The program shall include the registration of the employer with the department, including an estimate of the number of drivers employed and an annual fee which shall be based on \$5 per estimated driver. The department shall provide the registered employer with unlimited electronic access to uncertified driver records. The department is authorized to periodically audit the registered employer to determine that fees are approximately in line with the number of employees' records being accessed. If the department determines that the employer misrepresented the number of drivers whose records would be accessed or that the record of a driver other than a commercial driver employee or prospective commercial driver employee was accessed, the department shall take appropriate action.*

Section 3. Section 1902 of Title 75 is amended by adding a paragraph to read:

§ 1902. Exemptions from other fees.

No fee shall be charged under this title for or to any of the following:

\* \* \*

*(9) A driver record of a school bus driver obtained electronically from the department by the employer of the school bus driver or any Federal or state transportation association of school bus operators on behalf of the employer where the employer or the association has paid an annual record access fee established by the department. The department shall publish notice of the annual fee in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.*

Section 4. Section 4706(d) of Title 75 is amended to read:

§ 4706. Prohibition on expenditures for emission inspection program.

\* \* \*

**[(d) Coordination with vehicle registration.—Whenever a system for the periodic inspection of emissions or emission systems is established as authorized in subsections (b) and (b.1), such inspection of emissions or emission systems shall be coordinated with the vehicle registration period.]**

\* \* \*

Section 5. This act shall take effect in 60 days.

APPROVED—The 1st day of December, A.D. 2004.

EDWARD G. RENDELL