

CHAPTER 132
HOUSE BILL No. 2745

AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; concerning the registration of certain motor vehicles; relating to salvage vehicles; amending K.S.A. 8-197 and K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 8-198 and repealing the existing sections.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

New Section 1. (a) As used in this section, “fleet motor vehicle” means any motor vehicle of a commercial fleet of 250 or more motor vehicles which is exempt from personal property tax or assessed under the provisions of K.S.A. 79-6a01 et seq., and amendments thereto and which is registered for a gross weight of at least 12,000 pounds but not more than 26,000 pounds.

(b) Upon the payment of the applicable registration fees under K.S.A. 8-143, and amendments thereto, the division shall provide for the registration of and the issuance of license plates for fleet motor vehicles in accordance with the provisions of this section. License plates issued under this section shall be permanent in nature and designed in such a manner as to remain with the fleet motor vehicle for the duration of the life span of the fleet motor vehicle or until the fleet motor vehicle is deleted from the owner’s fleet. Such license plates shall be distinctive and there shall be no year date thereon. Fleet motor vehicles registered under the provisions of this section shall be issued a permanent registration cab card for the duration of the life span of the fleet motor vehicle or until the fleet motor vehicle is deleted from the owner’s fleet. License plates issued under this section shall not be transferable to any other fleet motor vehicle. The data required for registration under this section shall be submitted electronically.

(c) The secretary of revenue may adopt rules and regulations in order to administer the provisions of this section.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 8-197 is hereby amended to read as follows: 8-197. (a) The provisions of K.S.A. 8-197 to 8-199, inclusive, and amendments thereto, shall be a part of and supplemental to the provisions of article 1 of chapter 8 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and as used in such sections, the words and phrases defined by K.S.A. 8-126, and amendments thereto, shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them therein.

(b) As used in K.S.A. 8-197 through 8-199, and amendments thereto:

(1) “Nonhighway vehicle” means:

(A) Any motor vehicle which cannot be registered because it is not manufactured for the purpose of using the same on the highways of this state and is not provided with the equipment required by state statute for vehicles of such type which are used on the highways of this state;

(B) any motor vehicle, other than a salvage vehicle, for which the owner has not provided motor vehicle liability insurance coverage or an approved self insurance plan under K.S.A. 40-3104, and amendments thereto, and has not applied for or obtained registration of such motor vehicle in accordance with article 1 of chapter 8 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated; or

(C) any all-terrain vehicle;

(2) “salvage vehicle” means:

(A) Any motor vehicle, *other than a late model vehicle*, which is of a type required to be registered in this state, but which cannot be registered because it has been wrecked or damaged to the extent that: The equipment required by state statute on any such vehicle used on the highways of this state is not present or is not in good condition or proper adjustment, as prescribed by state statute or any rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto, or such vehicle is in an inoperable condition or a condition that would render the operation thereof on the highways of this state a hazard to the public safety; and in either event, such vehicle would require substantial repairs to rebuild or restore such vehicle to a condition which will permit the registration thereof;

(B) *a late model vehicle which is of a type required to be registered in this state and which has been wrecked or damaged to the extent that the total cost of repair is 75% or more of the fair market value of the motor vehicle immediately preceding the time it was wrecked or damaged and such condition was not merely exterior cosmetic damage to such vehicle as a result of windstorm or hail; or*

(C) *a motor vehicle, which is of a type required to be registered in this state that the insurer determines is a total loss and for which the insurer takes title;*

(3) *“salvage title” means a certificate of title issued by the division designating a motor vehicle a salvage vehicle;*

(4) *“rebuilt salvage vehicle” means any motor vehicle previously issued a salvage title;*

(5) *“rebuilt salvage title” means a certificate of title issued by the division for a vehicle previously designated a salvage vehicle which is now designated a rebuilt salvage vehicle;*

(6) *“late model vehicle” means any motor vehicle which has a manufacturer’s model year designation of or later than the year in which the vehicle was wrecked or damaged or any of the six preceding years;*

(7) *“fair market value” means the retail value of a motor vehicle as:*

(A) *Set forth in a current edition of any nationally recognized compilation, including an automated database of retail value; or*

(B) *determined pursuant to a market survey of comparable vehicles with regard to condition and equipment;*

(8) *“cost of repairs” means the estimated or actual retail cost of parts needed to repair a vehicle plus the cost of labor computed by using the hourly labor rate and time allocations for automobile repairs that are customary and reasonable. Retail costs of parts and labor rates may be based upon collision estimating manuals or electronic computer estimating systems customarily used in the automobile industry. The total cost of repairs to rebuild or reconstruct the vehicle shall not include the cost of repairing, replacing or reinstalling tires, sound systems, or any sales tax on parts or materials to rebuild or reconstruct the vehicle.*

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 8-198 is hereby amended to read as follows: 8-198. (a) A nonhighway or salvage vehicle shall not be required to be registered in this state, as provided in K.S.A. 8-135, and amendments thereto, but nothing in this section shall be construed as abrogating, limiting or otherwise affecting the provisions of K.S.A. 8-142, and amendments thereto, which make it unlawful for any person to operate or knowingly permit the operation in this state of a vehicle required to be registered in this state.

(b) Upon the sale or transfer of any nonhighway vehicle or salvage vehicle, the purchaser thereof shall obtain a nonhighway certificate of title or salvage title, whichever is applicable, in the following manner:

(1) If the transferor is a vehicle dealer, as defined in K.S.A. 8-2401, and amendments thereto, and a certificate of title has not been issued for such vehicle under this section or under the provisions of K.S.A. 8-135, and amendments thereto, such transferor shall make application for and assign a nonhighway certificate of title or a salvage title, whichever is applicable, to the purchaser of such nonhighway vehicle or salvage vehicle in the same manner and under the same conditions prescribed by K.S.A. 8-135, and amendments thereto, for the application for and assignment of a certificate of title thereunder. Upon the assignment thereof, the purchaser shall make application for a new nonhighway certificate of title or salvage title, as provided in subsection (c) or (d).

(2) Except as provided in subsection (b) of K.S.A. 8-199, and amendments thereto, if a certificate of title has been issued for any such vehicle under the provisions of K.S.A. 8-135, and amendments thereto, the owner of such nonhighway vehicle or salvage vehicle may surrender such certificate of title to the division of vehicles and make application to the division for a nonhighway certificate of title or salvage title, whichever is applicable, or the owner may obtain from the county treasurer’s office a form prescribed by the division of vehicles and, upon proper execution thereof, may assign the nonhighway certificate of title, salvage title or the regular certificate of title with such form attached to the purchaser of the nonhighway vehicle or salvage vehicle. Upon receipt of the nonhighway certificate of title, salvage title or the regular certificate of title with such form attached, the purchaser shall make application for a new nonhighway certificate of title or salvage title, whichever is applicable, as provided in subsection (c) or (d).

(3) If the transferor is not a vehicle dealer, as defined in K.S.A. 8-2401, and amendments thereto, and a certificate of title has not been issued for the vehicle under this section or a certificate of title was not required under K.S.A. 8-135, and amendments thereto, the transferor shall make application to the division for a nonhighway certificate of title

or salvage title, whichever is applicable, as provided in this section, except that in addition thereto, the division shall require a bill of sale or such transferor's affidavit, with at least one other corroborating affidavit, that such transferor is the owner of such nonhighway vehicle or salvage vehicle. If the division is satisfied that the transferor is the owner, the division shall issue a nonhighway certificate of title or salvage title, whichever is applicable, for such vehicle, and the transferor shall assign the same to the purchaser, who shall make application for a new nonhighway certificate of title or salvage title, whichever is applicable, as provided in subsection (c) or (d).

(c) Every purchaser of a nonhighway vehicle ~~or salvage vehicle~~, whether assigned a nonhighway certificate of title, ~~salvage title~~ or a regular certificate of title with the form specified in paragraph (2) of subsection (b) attached, shall make application to the county treasurer of the county in which such person resides for a new nonhighway certificate of title ~~or salvage title, whichever is applicable~~, in the same manner and under the same conditions as for an application for a certificate of title under K.S.A. 8-135, and amendments thereto. Such application shall be in the form prescribed by the director of vehicles and shall contain substantially the same provisions as required for an application under subsection (c)(1) of K.S.A. 8-135, and amendments thereto. In addition, such application shall provide a place for the applicant to certify that the vehicle for which the application for a nonhighway certificate of title ~~or salvage title~~ is made is a nonhighway vehicle ~~or salvage vehicle, whichever is applicable~~, and other provisions the director deems necessary. Each application for a nonhighway certificate of title ~~or salvage title~~ shall be accompanied by a fee of \$10, and if the application is not made to the county treasurer within the time prescribed by K.S.A. 8-135, and amendments thereto, for making application for a certificate of title thereunder, an additional fee of \$2.

(d) (1) *Except as otherwise provided by this section, the owner of a vehicle that meets the definition of a salvage vehicle shall apply for a salvage title before the ownership of the motor vehicle is transferred. In no event shall such application be made more than 30 days after the vehicle is determined to be a salvage vehicle.*

(2) *Every insurance company, which pursuant to a damage settlement, acquires ownership of a vehicle that has incurred damage requiring the vehicle to be designated a salvage vehicle, shall apply for a salvage title within 30 days after the title is assigned and delivered by the owner to the insurance company, with all liens released.*

(3) *Every insurance company which makes a damage settlement for a vehicle that has incurred damage requiring such vehicle to be designated a salvage vehicle, but does not acquire ownership of the vehicle, shall notify the vehicle owner of the owner's obligation to apply for a salvage title for the motor vehicle, and shall notify the division of this fact in accordance with procedures established by the division. The vehicle owner shall apply for a salvage title within 30 days after being notified by the insurance company.*

(4) *The lessee of any vehicle which incurs damage requiring the vehicle to be designated a salvage vehicle shall notify the lessor of this fact within 30 days of the determination that the vehicle is a salvage vehicle.*

(5) *The lessor of any motor vehicle which has incurred damage requiring the vehicle to be titled as a salvage vehicle, shall apply for a salvage title within 30 days after being notified of this fact by the lessee.*

(6) *Every person acquiring ownership of a motor vehicle that meets the definition of a salvage vehicle, for which a salvage title has not been issued, shall apply for the required document prior to any further transfer of such vehicle, but in no event, more than 30 days after ownership is acquired.*

(7) *Every purchaser of a salvage vehicle, whether assigned a salvage title or a regular certificate of title with the form specified in paragraph (2) of subsection (b) attached, shall make application to the county treasurer of the county in which such person resides for a new salvage title, in the same manner and under the same condition as for an application for a certificate of title under K.S.A. 8-135, and amendments thereto. Such application shall be in the form prescribed by the director of vehicles and shall contain substantially the same provisions as required for an application under subsection (c)(1) of K.S.A. 8-135, and amendments thereto. In addition, such application shall provide a place for the applicant to*

certify that the vehicle for which the application for salvage title is made is a salvage vehicle, and other provisions the director deems necessary. Each application for a salvage title shall be accompanied by a fee of \$10 and if the application is not made to the county treasurer within the time prescribed by K.S.A. 8-135, and amendments thereto, for making application for a certificate of title thereunder, an additional fee of \$2.

(8) Failure to apply for a salvage title as provided by this subsection shall be a class C nonperson misdemeanor.

~~(d)~~ *(e) A nonhighway certificate of title or salvage title shall be in form and color as prescribed by the director of vehicles. A nonhighway certificate of title or salvage title shall indicate clearly and distinctly on its face that it is issued for a nonhighway vehicle or salvage vehicle, whichever is applicable. A nonhighway certificate of title or salvage title shall contain substantially the same information as required on a certificate of title issued under K.S.A. 8-135, and amendments thereto, and other information the director deems necessary.*

~~(e)~~ *(f) (1) A nonhighway certificate of title or salvage title may be transferred in the same manner and under the same conditions as prescribed by K.S.A. 8-135, and amendments thereto, for the transfer of a certificate of title, except as otherwise provided in this section. A nonhighway certificate of title or salvage title may be assigned and transferred only while the vehicle remains a nonhighway vehicle or salvage vehicle.*

(2) Upon transfer or sale of a nonhighway vehicle in a condition which will allow the registration of such vehicle, the owner shall assign the nonhighway certificate of title to the purchaser, and the purchaser shall obtain a certificate of title and register such vehicle as provided in K.S.A. 8-135, and amendments thereto. No regular certificate of title shall be issued for a vehicle for which there has been issued a nonhighway certificate of title until there has been compliance with K.S.A. 8-116a, and amendments thereto.

(3) (A) Upon transfer or sale of a salvage vehicle which has been rebuilt or restored or is otherwise in a condition which will allow the registration of such vehicle, the owner shall assign the salvage title to the purchaser, and the purchaser shall obtain a rebuilt salvage title and register such vehicle as provided in K.S.A. 8-135, and amendments thereto. No rebuilt salvage title shall be issued for a vehicle for which there has been issued a salvage title until there has been compliance with K.S.A. 8-116a, and amendments thereto, and the notice required in paragraph (3)(B) of this subsection has been attached to such vehicle.

(B) As part of the inspection for a rebuilt salvage title conducted under K.S.A. 8-116a, and amendments thereto, the Kansas highway patrol shall attach a notice affixed to the left door frame of the rebuilt salvage vehicle indicating the vehicle identification number of such vehicle and that such vehicle is a rebuilt salvage vehicle. In addition to any fee allowed under K.S.A. 8-116a, and amendments thereto, a fee of \$5 shall be collected from the owner of such vehicle requesting the inspection for the notice required under this paragraph. All moneys received under this paragraph shall be remitted in accordance with subsection (e) of K.S.A. 8-116a, and amendments thereto.

(C) Failure to apply for a rebuilt salvage title as provided by this paragraph shall be a class C nonperson misdemeanor.

~~(f)~~ *(g) The owner of a salvage vehicle which has been issued a salvage title and has been assembled, reconstructed, reconstituted or restored or otherwise placed in an operable condition may make application to the county treasurer for a permit to operate such vehicle on the highways of this state over the most direct route from the place such salvage vehicle is located to a specified location named on the permit and to return to the original location. No such permit shall be issued for any vehicle unless the owner has motor vehicle liability insurance coverage or an approved self-insurance plan under K.S.A. 40-3104, and amendments thereto. Such permit shall be on a form furnished by the director of vehicles and shall state the date the vehicle is to be taken to the other location, the name of the insurer, as defined in K.S.A. 40-3103, and amendments thereto, and the policy number or a statement that the vehicle is included in a self-insurance plan approved by the commissioner of insurance, a statement attesting to the correctness of the information concerning financial security, the vehicle identification number and a description of the vehicle. Such permit shall be signed by the owner of the vehicle. Permits issued under this subsection ~~(f)~~ (g) shall be prepared in triplicate. One*

copy shall be carried in the vehicle for which it is issued and shall be displayed so that it is visible from the rear of the vehicle. The second copy shall be retained by the county treasurer, and the third copy shall be forwarded by the county treasurer to the division of vehicles. The fee for such permit shall be \$1 which shall be retained by the county treasurer, who shall annually forward 25% of all such fees collected to the division of vehicles to reimburse the division for administrative expenses, and shall deposit the remainder in a special fund for expenses of issuing such permits.

~~(g)~~ (h) A nonhighway vehicle or salvage vehicle for which a non-highway certificate of title or salvage title has been issued pursuant to this section shall not be deemed a motor vehicle for the purposes of K.S.A. 40-3101 to 40-3121, inclusive, and amendments thereto, except when such vehicle is being operated pursuant to subsection ~~(f)~~ (g). Any person who knowingly makes a false statement concerning financial security in obtaining a permit pursuant to subsection ~~(f)~~ (g), or who fails to obtain a permit when required by law to do so is guilty of a class C misdemeanor.

~~(h)~~ (i) Any person who, on July 1, 1996, is the owner of an all-terrain vehicle, as defined in K.S.A. 8-126, and amendments thereto, shall not be required to file an application for a nonhighway certificate of title under the provisions of this section for such all-terrain vehicle, unless the person transfers an interest in such all-terrain vehicle.

New Sec. 4. It shall be unlawful for any person to remove, obliterate or alter any notice required to be attached to a rebuilt salvage vehicle, as defined under K.S.A. 8-197, and amendments thereto, in accordance with paragraph (3) of subsection (f) of K.S.A. 8-198, and amendments thereto. A violation of this section shall be a class A nonperson misdemeanor.

Sec. 5. K.S.A. 8-197 and K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 8-198 are hereby repealed.

Sec. 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

Approved May 13, 2004.
