
HOUSE BILL No. 1082

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 9-18-2.

Synopsis: Failure to sign vehicle registration. Requires a police officer who demands to see the certificate of registration (certificate) for a motor vehicle (vehicle) to permit the person to whom the vehicle is registered to sign the certificate in ink if: (1) the certificate is unsigned or not signed in ink; and (2) the person is present in the vehicle. Requires a police officer to provide written notice to the person to whom a vehicle is registered but who is not present in the vehicle that the person is required to provide proof that the person has signed the certificate in ink. Provides that a person who: (1) refuses to sign; or (2) after receiving notice, fails to provide proof of signing; a certificate in ink commits a Class C infraction. Provides that a vehicle for which the certificate is not signed in ink and that is operated by a person other than the owner is not subject to impoundment.

Effective: July 1, 2013.

Burton

January 7, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on Roads and Transportation.

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PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2012 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

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HOUSE BILL No. 1082



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning motor vehicles.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 9-18-2-21, AS AMENDED BY P.L.125-2012,
- 2 SECTION 100, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
- 3 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 21. (a) The person whose name
- 4 appears on the certificate of registration, except a person who registers
- 5 a vehicle under the International Registration Plan, shall sign the
- 6 person's copy of the certificate of registration in ink in the space
- 7 provided.
- 8 (b) A certificate of registration or a legible reproduction of the
- 9 certificate of registration must be carried:
- 10 (1) in the vehicle to which the registration refers; or
- 11 (2) by the person driving or in control of the vehicle, who shall
- 12 display the registration upon the demand of a police officer.
- 13 (c) A legible reproduction of the certificate of registration may be
- 14 made by any photostatic or similar process.
- 15 **(d) If a certificate of registration displayed to a police officer**
- 16 **under subsection (b)(2) is not signed as required under subsection**
- 17 **(a), the police officer shall do the following:**



- 1 (1) If the person driving or in control of the vehicle is the
- 2 person to whom the vehicle is registered, the police officer
- 3 shall provide the person an opportunity to sign the certificate
- 4 of registration as required under subsection (a).
- 5 (2) If the person to whom the vehicle is registered is not the
- 6 person driving or in control of the vehicle but is a passenger
- 7 in the vehicle, the police officer shall provide the person an
- 8 opportunity to sign the certificate of registration as required
- 9 under subsection (a).
- 10 (3) If the person to whom the vehicle is registered is not
- 11 present in the vehicle, the police officer shall provide written
- 12 notice to the person to whom the vehicle is registered, at the
- 13 address contained on the certificate of registration, of the
- 14 person's responsibility to provide proof to the police officer,
- 15 not more than five (5) days after the date of the notice, that
- 16 the person has signed the certificate of registration as
- 17 required under subsection (a).

18 SECTION 2. IC 9-18-2-40 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 19 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 40. (a) This section
 20 does not apply to section 43 or 44 of this chapter.

21 (b) A person who violates this chapter commits a Class C infraction.

22 (c) A person who owns or operates or permits the operation of a
 23 vehicle required to be registered under this chapter with expired license
 24 plates commits a Class C infraction.

25 (d) A person who:

26 (1) refuses to sign a certificate of registration as required
 27 under section 21(d)(1) or 21(d)(2) of this chapter; or

28 (2) fails to provide proof of signing a registration as required
 29 under section 21(d)(3) of this chapter;

30 commits a Class C infraction.

31 SECTION 3. IC 9-18-2-43, AS AMENDED BY P.L.210-2005,
 32 SECTION 26, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 33 JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 43. (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary
 34 but except as provided in subsection (b) **and subject to subsection (c),**
 35 a law enforcement officer authorized to enforce motor vehicle laws
 36 who discovers a vehicle required to be registered under this article that
 37 does not have the proper certificate of registration or license plate:

38 (1) shall take the vehicle into the officer's custody; and

39 (2) may cause the vehicle to be taken to and stored in a suitable
 40 place until:

41 (A) the legal owner of the vehicle can be found; or

42 (B) the proper certificate of registration and license plates

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1 have been procured.
2 (b) Except as provided in IC 9-21-21-7(b), a law enforcement
3 officer who discovers a vehicle in violation of the registration
4 provisions of this article has discretion in the impoundment of any of
5 the following:
6 (1) Perishable commodities.
7 (2) Livestock.
8 **(c) A law enforcement officer described in subsection (a) shall**
9 **not take custody of a vehicle under this section if:**
10 **(1) the person who is driving or in control of the vehicle is not**
11 **the person to whom the vehicle is registered; and**
12 **(2) the only improper information regarding the certificate of**
13 **registration for the vehicle is the failure of the person whose**
14 **name appears on the certificate of registration to have signed**
15 **the person's copy of the certificate of registration in ink, as**
16 **required by section 21(a) of this chapter.**

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