

HOUSE BILL NO. 1159
with Senate Amendments
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Introduced by

Representatives Beadle, Boehning

Senator Casper

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 39-04-11 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to clearly displaying letters and numbers on motor vehicle plates and the display of
3 number plates on a motorcycle or trailer.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 39-04-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **39-04-11. Display of number plates and tabs.**

8 ~~Except as~~Unless otherwise specifically provided ~~by law, a person~~an individual may not
9 operate ~~or drive~~ a vehicle on ~~the~~a public ~~highways~~highway of this state unless the vehicle has a
10 distinctive number assigned to ~~it~~the vehicle by the department, and two number plates, bearing
11 the distinctive number conspicuously displayed, horizontally and in an upright position, one on
12 the front and one on the rear of the vehicle, each securely fastened, except number plates
13 assigned to a ~~motorcycle, trailer, or house~~trailer must be attached to the rear ~~thereof~~of the
14 housetrailer. Number plates assigned to a motorcycle or trailer must be attached to the rear of
15 the motorcycle or trailer and may be displayed vertically. When only one number plate is
16 furnished for an apportioned vehicle ~~licensed~~registered under the international registration plan
17 as authorized in section 39-19-04, truck tractor, or semitrailer, the plate must be attached to the
18 front of the apportioned vehicle or truck tractor and the rear of the semitrailer. The bottom of
19 each number plate must be at a height of not less than twelve inches [30.48 centimeters] above
20 the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. Each plate must be mounted in a visible
21 ~~manner that does not cover any words, letter, or number~~clearly displays the distinctive number
22 assigned to the vehicle and the name of the state on the plate. As far as is reasonably possible,
23 the plates must at all times be kept free and clear of mud, ice, or snow so as to be clearly visible
24 and all number plates, markers, or evidence of registration or licensing except for the current

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1 year must be removed from the vehicle. All vehicle license plates issued by the department
2 ~~continue to bear~~ the property of the ~~state of North Dakota~~department for the period for which
3 the plates are valid. An annual registration tab or sticker for the current registration year must be
4 displayed on each number plate, in the area designated by the department for the tab or sticker,
5 in those years for which tabs or stickers are issued in lieu of number plates.