

No. 28, S.]

[Published April 25, 1951.]

**CHAPTER 80.**

AN ACT to repeal 85.01 (1c); to amend 85.01 (1d) (a) and (b), (6) (a) and (11) (a) and (b); to repeal and recreate 85.01 (1b), and to create 20.052 (4) of the statutes, relating to the monthly series registration of automobiles and making an appropriation.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. 20.052 (4) of the statutes is created to read:

20.052 (4) A sum sufficient to carry out the provisions of section 85.01 (6) (a) and (11) (a).

SECTION 2. 85.01 (1b) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

85.01 (1b) MONTHLY SERIES REGISTRATION SYSTEM ESTABLISHED. (a) The commissioner shall establish a system of registration of automobiles on a monthly series basis to distribute the work of registering such vehicles as uniformly as practicable throughout the 12 months of the calendar year.

(b) Commencing January 1, 1952, automobiles required to be registered by this chapter shall be registered for a period of 12 consecutive calendar months. There are established 12 registration periods, each of which shall be designated by a calendar month and to start on the first day of such month and end on the last day of the twelfth month from the date of commencing.

(c) The commissioner shall distribute the total automobile registrations among the registration periods as nearly as possible in accordance with the established distribution, and he may allocate new registrations among the 12 registration periods so as to equalize the registration and renewal work load of the department; and if, as a result, fractional registration periods are assigned when first registered in Wisconsin, such registrations shall be for the full 12-month period thereafter.

(d) Automobiles operated for the first time upon the public highways of this state to and including the fifteenth day of any given month shall be subject to registration and payment of the fee for the 12-month period commencing the first day of the month of such operation. Automobiles operated for the first time upon the public highways of this state on and after the sixteenth day of any given month shall be subject to registration and payment of fee for the 12-month period commencing the first day of the next following calendar month.

(e) Beginning January 1, 1952, each automobile license plate, in addition to carrying the name "WISCONSIN" or the abbreviation "Wis." as required by subsection (6) in the upper left-hand portion of the plate and the words "America's Dairyland" as required in subsection (6) across the lower portion of the plate, shall carry a 3-letter abbreviation for the month of registration and the year of registration in the upper right-hand portion of the plate in symbols not less than three-fourths inch high. For each registration made under this section there shall be allocated an identifying letter-number symbol consisting of a prefix of not more than one letter and a suffix of numbers, each of which shall be not less than 3 inches in height, of clearly distinguishable design and located prominently in the center of the plate. There shall be 2 slots in the plate, one near each end or side of the year designation, which will admit the insertion of a tag showing a succeeding annual registration; such tags to be provided by the department and used only in the event of a national emergency determined by the emergency board which would cause shortage of metal or other suitable material for the annual replacement of plates.

SECTION 3. 85.01 (1c) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 4. 85.01 (1d) (a) and (b) of the statutes are amended by striking therefrom the subsection designations "(1c)".

SECTION 5. 85.01 (6) (a) and (11) (a) and (b) of the statutes are amended to read:

85.01 (6) (a) The motor vehicle department shall devise, secure, issue and deliver *annually* prepaid to each owner of any motor vehicle registered in accordance with the provisions of this section except motor cycles, 2 official number plates, and to the owner of any trailer or semitrailer registered in accordance with the provisions of this section, one official number plate. The name: "Wisconsin" or "Wis." and the registration year for which the license is issued shall be indicated thereon and the words "America's Dairyland" shall in addition be indicated on all official number plates on automobiles. *Plates shall be purchased from the state prison at Waupun unless otherwise approved by the governor.*

(11) (a) The department shall \* \* \* *at the close of each month or as soon as possible thereafter*, transmit \* \* \* *the list of \* \* \* registrations for each month* to each county clerk, sheriff and chief of police and to every village clerk making application therefor one copy, to the state highway commission 10 copies and to the state department of taxation 5 copies. Such lists shall be in book form and contain all registrations for automobiles as defined in subsection (1a), giving the name and address of the registrant and the registered plate number. Lists hereafter issued shall commence from those already issued (1949). Such officers, clerks and commissions shall keep such lists on file in their respective offices and the same shall be open to the inspection of all persons. The \* \* \* *commissioner of the motor vehicle department* shall sell copies of such registration lists at not exceeding \$50 for the entire annual series. *Other registration information shall be sold by the commissioner at his discretion.*

(b) The motor vehicle department shall compile and publish daily a list by counties of new car sales registrations. If a vehicle has once been registered it shall not again be listed as a new car sale. Such lists shall contain the name and permanent address of the owner of such vehicle, the make, model, serial number, motor number and registration number thereof, together with the firm name and address of the firm selling such car and date of such sale. Such lists shall be made available to county clerks upon request. Such clerks shall keep such lists on file in their respective offices and the same shall be open to the inspection of all persons. \* \* \* *The commissioner of the motor vehicle department shall determine the cost of compilation of new car sales registrations and shall fairly apportion the major share of same among the subscribers to this service.*

Approved April 20, 1951.