

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2019 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2429

BY DELEGATES KUMP, HOUSEHOLDER, MCGEEHAN AND

COOPER

[Introduced January 15, 2019; Referred
to the Committee on Technology and Infrastructure
then the Judiciary.]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
 2 designated §15-2-55, relating to the creation of the Vehicle Registration Scofflaw
 3 Elimination Program to help identify residents who have failed to register their vehicles
 4 with the Division of Motor Vehicles.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2. WEST VIRGINIA STATE POLICE.

§15-2-55. Vehicle Registration Scofflaw Reporting Program.

1 (a) The Legislature finds that the state loses a significant amount of revenue each year
 2 due to West Virginia residents unlawfully registering their vehicles in other states.

3 (b) Pursuant to §17A-3-1a of this code, motor vehicle owners have up to 30 days to obtain
 4 registration and title for their vehicle after taking up residence in West Virginia. To help combat
 5 the failure of some residents to obtain registration and title for their vehicles within the prescribed
 6 30-day period, the State Police shall create, maintain, and promote the Vehicle Registration
 7 Scofflaw Elimination Program.

8 (c) The State Police shall create and maintain a website and toll-free telephone number
 9 for the Vehicle Registration Scofflaw Elimination Program, where residents may submit a report
 10 of a suspected violator, which shall include the following information about the suspected
 11 violator's vehicle:

12 (1) The state or province, if registered in another country, where the vehicle is registered;

13 (2) The registration plate number;

14 (3) The make, model, and color of the vehicle;

15 (4) The location where the vehicle was observed; and

16 (5) The date and time that the vehicle was observed.

17 (d) Upon the establishment of the Vehicle Registration Scofflaw Elimination Program's
 18 website and toll-free telephone number by the State Police, the Division of Motor Vehicles shall
 19 place the website address and toll-free telephone number on all new and renewed driver's

20 licenses.

21 (e) The State Police shall maintain a database of vehicles reported to the Vehicle
22 Registration Scofflaw Elimination Program. If there is enough information to prove that the owner
23 or driver of the vehicle is a West Virginia resident, a compliance letter shall be sent requiring the
24 owner to properly register their vehicle.

25 (f) Failure to register a vehicle within 30 days of the receipt of a compliance letter shall
26 result in the issuance of a \$250 fine to the owner or driver of the unregistered vehicle.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to create under the purview of the State Police the Vehicle Registration Scofflaw Elimination Program to help identify state residents who have failed to register their vehicles with the Division of Motor Vehicles.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.