



Department of the Secretary of State Bureau of Motor Vehicles

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Secretary of State

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Deputy Secretary of State

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

L.D. 864 “An Act to Allow the Use of Transporter Plates for Transporting Campers or Motor Homes”

Testimony of Shenna Bellows, Secretary of State and
Cathie Curtis, Deputy Secretary for the Bureau of Motor Vehicles,
Department of the Secretary of State

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Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts, and distinguished members of the Transportation Committee, I am speaking in opposition to L.D. 864 “An Act to Allow the Use of Transporter Plates for Transporting Campers or Motor Homes”.

The bill seeks to amend the criteria for obtaining a Transporter license plate, to allow businesses that sell or service camp trailers or motor homes to qualify to use the plate and charge a fee for the movement of the trailer or motor home.

The purpose of a transporter plate is to allow entities to move a vehicle that is in their possession temporarily because it is being towed, repossessed, recycled, or moved to a location to sell.

Under current law, a business that is properly licensed to sell camp trailers and motor homes are issued dealer plates to move them. Therefore, this amendment is not necessary for licensed dealers. However, current law does not allow businesses that only service the vehicles to use Transporter plates. The reason for this is that the owners of the camp trailers and motor homes are required to register them, making a transporter plate unnecessary once the vehicle is sold.

This amendment would provide a mechanism for moving the vehicles to campgrounds or seasonal lots without the owner registering or titling them. Thereby they could avoid paying the excise tax owed to their municipalities and the registration and title fees owed to the state highway fund. It could also provide a mechanism for an unlicensed seller to move a vehicle without being properly licensed.

In summary, there are valid reasons for businesses to have Transporter Plates, but we believe the current law adequately address these needs and to expand the use provides an opportunity to circumvent the vehicle registration laws. For this reason, we urge the committee to vote unanimously ought not to pass.