

CHAPTER 121

MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC REGULATION

HOUSE BILL 22-1162

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Exum and Van Winkle, Gray, Michaelson Jenet, Ricks;
also SENATOR(S) Zenzinger and Hisey.

AN ACT**CONCERNING AUTHORIZATION TO USE DIGITAL NUMBER PLATES IN LIEU OF METAL NUMBER PLATES
ON A VEHICLE.**

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

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 42-3-201, **add** (8) as follows:

42-3-201. Number plates furnished - style - periodic reissuance - tabs - rules - definition - repeal. (8) (a) SUBJECT TO THE RULES PROMULGATED UNDER SUBSECTION (8)(c)(II) OF THIS SECTION, THE OWNER OF A REGISTERED VEHICLE MAY DISPLAY A DIGITAL NUMBER PLATE IN LIEU OF ONE OR BOTH OF THE PLATES ISSUED UNDER SUBSECTION (1)(a)(I) OF THIS SECTION IF THE REGISTRATION NUMBER AND EXPIRATION DATE ARE CLEARLY VISIBLE AT A DISTANCE OF ONE HUNDRED FEET IN NORMAL SUNLIGHT.

(b) DIGITAL NUMBER PLATES NEED NOT DISPLAY MORE THAN ONE COLOR.

(c) (I) THE DEPARTMENT MAY PERMIT, IF NOT OTHERWISE INCONSISTENT WITH THIS ARTICLE 3, THE USE ON A DIGITAL NUMBER PLATE OF:

(A) MESSAGES DISPLAYED ON THE PLATE; AND

(B) OTHER FUNCTIONALITY MADE POSSIBLE BY THE USE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY.

(II) THE DEPARTMENT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COLORADO STATE PATROL, SHALL ADOPT RULES FOR THE USE OF DIGITAL NUMBER PLATES. THE RULES MUST:

(A) SET STANDARDS NECESSARY FOR THE SAFE USE OF DIGITAL NUMBER PLATES;

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.

(B) ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR PRODUCT OVERSIGHT AND CONSUMER SUPPORT;

(C) ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR PRODUCT SIZE, DESIGN, DISPLAY, AND FUNCTIONALITY;

(D) ESTABLISH A PROCESS FOR APPROVAL OF DIGITAL NUMBER PLATES PRODUCTS FOR STATEWIDE USE;

(E) SET PROTOCOLS FOR DATA SHARING, PRIVACY, AND SECURITY;

(F) ESTABLISH A PROCESS FOR REVOKING THE AUTHORITY TO USE A DIGITAL NUMBER PLATE;

(G) SET TESTING REQUIREMENTS TO APPROVED DIGITAL NUMBER PLATES;

(H) SET A PROCESS TO DETERMINE THE TYPES OF NUMBER PLATES THAT ARE ELIGIBLE TO USE AS DIGITAL NUMBER PLATES; AND

(I) SET REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPANIES THAT SELL DIGITAL NUMBER PLATES TO THE PUBLIC.

(III) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DIGITAL PLATES WITHIN ONE YEAR AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE RULES ADOPTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (8)(c)(II). IN PERFORMING THE REVIEW, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL OBTAIN COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE COLORADO STATE PATROL AND PERSONS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN DIGITAL NUMBER PLATES. WITHIN ONE YEAR AFTER PERFORMING THE REVIEW, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PREPARE A REPORT BASED ON THE REVIEW AND SUBMIT THE REPORT TO THE TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION REVIEW COMMITTEE, CREATED IN SECTION 43-2-145.

(d) AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (8), "DIGITAL NUMBER PLATE" MEANS AN ELECTRONIC DISPLAY THAT IS MOUNTED ON A VEHICLE IN THE PLACE OF AND THAT SERVES THE FUNCTION OF A NUMBER PLATE ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

(e) THIS SUBSECTION (8) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2027. BEFORE THE REPEAL, THE USE OF DIGITAL NUMBER PLATES BY THE OWNER OF A REGISTERED VEHICLE PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (8) ARE SCHEDULED FOR REVIEW IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-34-104.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-34-104, **add** (28)(a)(VII) as follows:

24-34-104. General assembly review of regulatory agencies and functions for repeal, continuation, or reestablishment - legislative declaration - repeal. (28) (a) The following agencies, functions, or both, are scheduled for repeal on September 1, 2027:

(VII) THE USE OF DIGITAL NUMBER PLATES BY THE OWNER OF A REGISTERED VEHICLE PURSUANT TO SECTION 42-3-201 (8).

SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2022 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

Approved: April 22, 2022