

HB 1483-FN – AS INTRODUCED

2014 SESSION

14-2310
03/04

HOUSE BILL ***1483-FN***

AN ACT relative to transfers of motor vehicle registration.

SPONSORS: Rep. Christiansen, Hills 37

COMMITTEE: Transportation

ANALYSIS

This bill allows a person who transfers the registration of his or her vehicle to receive a refund if the registration and permit fees for the new motor vehicle is less than the registration fee for the previously-registered motor vehicle.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
 Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough~~].
 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Fourteen

AN ACT relative to transfers of motor vehicle registration.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Temporary Registrations and Number Plates; Refund. Amend RSA 261:57-a, III to read as
2 follows:

3 III. The registration and title fees paid in accordance with paragraph I of this section shall
4 ~~[not be refunded, except that the fees shall]~~ be deemed the fees for the permanent registration and
5 certificate of title. Any registration fee paid shall be transferable credit on a replacement vehicle in
6 accordance with RSA 261:66. ***If the registration fee of the replacement vehicle is less than***
7 ***that of the first vehicle registered, he or she shall receive a refund for the difference.***

8 2 Transfer of Registration; Refund. Amend RSA 261:66, II to read as follows:

9 II. A person who ~~[so]~~ transfers or loses a registered vehicle, upon filing a new application,
10 may have registered in his ***or her*** name a like vehicle for the remainder of the registration period. If
11 the registration fee of said vehicle is the same ~~[or less than]~~ ***as*** that of the one first registered by him
12 ***or her***, he ***or she*** shall pay no additional fee~~[, but]~~; if the fee is greater, he ***or she*** shall pay the
13 difference; ***if the fee is lesser, he or she shall receive a refund for the difference.***

14 3 Transfer Credits. Amend RSA 261:150, I to read as follows:

15 I. Upon transfer of ownership of a vehicle the permit shall expire; provided, however, that
16 any owner who has paid a permit fee for registration of a vehicle the ownership of which is
17 transferred or of one which is subsequently totally lost by fire, theft, or accident, during the same
18 registration period, shall be entitled, upon the payment of \$5, to credit to the amount of any such
19 permit fee toward other permit fees which may be required of him ***or her*** in the same registration
20 period. The difference, if any, between the credit and the amount due on the newly registered
21 vehicle shall be prorated for the remainder of the registration period. ***If the registration fee of the***
22 ***newly registered vehicle is less than that of the first vehicle registered, the owner shall***
23 ***receive a refund for the difference.***

24 4 Refunds. RSA 261:151 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

25 261:151 Refunds.

26 I. If a person transfers or loses a registered vehicle, upon filing a new application for
27 registration in his or her name, if the registration fee of the newly registered vehicle is less than the
28 one first registered by him or her, he or she shall receive a refund for the difference.

29 II. If the department acting under the authority of law shall have refused upon original
30 application for the registration period to register the vehicle to which a permit relates, the town
31 clerk, upon application therefor, shall refund the permit fee.

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1 5 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.

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HB 1483-FN - FISCAL NOTE

AN ACT relative to transfers of motor vehicle registration.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Department of Safety states this bill, **as introduced**, will decrease state highway fund and local revenues by an indeterminable amount in FY 2016 and each year thereafter, and will increase state highway fund expenditures by \$315,000 in FY 2015 and by an indeterminable amount in FY 2017 and each year thereafter. There will be no impact on county and local revenues or county expenditures.

METHODOLOGY:

The Department of Safety states this bill allows a person who transfers registration of their vehicle to receive a refund if the registration and permit fees for the new motor vehicle are less than the registration fee for the previously registered vehicle. The Department states it would need to complete system programming changes to reflect the law changes which would total an estimated \$315,000 in FY 2015 (1,800 labor hours @ \$175/hour). The Department also states it would expect state highway fund and local revenues to decrease as this bill allows for refunds of registration fees which are currently not refunded. The Department is unable to estimate how many refunds may be issued as a result of this bill. In addition, pursuant to RSA 235:23, I, 12% of total previous year motor vehicle fees are distributed to municipalities for highway block grant aid. To the extent highway fund revenues would be decreased by this bill, state highway fund expenditures and local revenue will decrease in FY 2017 and each year thereafter.