

missioner shall proceed against it in the manner prescribed in section 200.08.

Approved July 30, 1945.

No. 270, S.]

[Published August 1, 1945.]

CHAPTER 518.

AN ACT to repeal 85.04 (1); to renumber 85.01 (1a) to be 85.01 (1e), 85.01 (6) (c) to be 85.01 (6) (c) 1, 85.01 (10) (a) to be 85.01 (10) (a) 1, and 85.04 (2), (3) and (5) to be 85.04 (1), (2) and (3); to amend 85.01 (4) (a), (5), (6) (c) 1, as renumbered, and (d) 2, (8) (a), (10) (a) 1, as renumbered, and (11) (a), 85.04 (1) and (2), as renumbered; to create 85.01 (1a), (1b), (1c), (1d), (4) (am), (an), (ao), (6) (c) 2, (8) (am), (10) (a) 2 and (11) (c) of the statutes, relating to auto registration and providing a penalty.

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

SECTION 1. 85.01 (1a) of the statutes is renumbered 85.01 (1e).

SECTION 2. 85.01 (1a), (1b), (1c) and (1d) of the statutes are created to read:

85.01 (1a) DEFINITIONS. In this section, unless the context otherwise requires, the following words and terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "Automobile" shall mean every motor vehicle not excluded by paragraph (b) designed for the purpose of transporting not more than 7 persons including the operator.

(b) The term "automobile" does not include motorcycles, motor vehicles used for the purpose of transporting persons or goods for hire, and motor vehicles owned and operated exclusively in the public service by the state of Wisconsin or by any county or municipality thereof.

(1b) MONTHLY SERIES REGISTRATION SYSTEM ESTABLISHED. (a) There is adopted and established, and the commissioner of the motor vehicle department is authorized and empowered to effectuate 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 July 1, 1946, 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 start on the first day of each calendar month of the year and shall end on the last day of the twelfth month from date of beginning. The period ending January 31 shall be designated the first period; that ending February 28 (29) shall be designated the second; that ending March 31 shall be designated the third; that ending April 30 shall be designated the fourth; that ending May 31 shall be designated the fifth; that ending June 30 shall be designated the sixth; that ending July 31 shall be designated the seventh; that ending August 31 shall be designated the eighth; that ending September 30 shall be designated the ninth; that ending October 31 shall be designated the tenth; that ending November 30 shall be designated the eleventh; and that ending December 31 shall be designated the twelfth.

(c) 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 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.

(d) During the time necessary to accomplish the change-over from the present system of annual calendar year registration to the monthly series system, all automobiles subject to registration on January 1, 1946 shall be registered for one of 12 registration periods, which shall vary in length from a minimum of 6 consecutive calendar months to a maximum of 17 calendar months as hereinafter provided. In the order of the receipt of applications for registration of automobiles by the owners thereof, the commissioner shall allocate to each of said 12 registration periods such number of automobiles, not to exceed 99,999 in any one month, as will, in his judgment, as uniformly as practicable, distribute the clerical work of registering such vehicles throughout the 12-month period in which such registrations shall expire and come up for renewal. In determining the number of registrations to be allocated to any given period, he may take into con-

sideration the volume of registrations of trucks and other vehicles not under the monthly series registration system which may conflict with the registration of automobiles in any given month, being governed by considerations of efficiency and the equalization of the monthly volume of clerical work of said department. The 12 registration periods necessary to accommodate the change-over from the one system to the other, are established as follows: Each period shall commence January 1, 1946. The first period shall expire June 30, 1946; the second, July 31, 1946; the third, August 31, 1946; the fourth, September 30, 1946; the fifth, October 31, 1946; the sixth, November 30, 1946; the seventh, December 31, 1946; the eighth, January 31, 1947; the ninth, February 28, 1947; the tenth, March 31, 1947; the eleventh, April 30, 1947; and the twelfth, May 31, 1947.

(1c) FRACTIONAL REGISTRATION PERIODS, WHEN PERMISSIBLE. REFUNDS. Automobiles not previously registered in Wisconsin and operated for the first time upon the public highways of this state after January 1, 1946 shall be registered for a full 12-month period without regard for the varying periods of registration provided for during the period of change-over to the staggered registration system, subject, however, to the following provisions:

(a) Notwithstanding any requirement to the contrary, automobiles may be initially registered for less than a 12-month period at the commissioner's option, when in his judgment such fractional registration period shall tend to fulfill the purpose of the monthly series registration system.

(b) Upon expiration of the initial fractional registration periods automobiles so registered shall thereafter be registered for full 12-month periods as provided in subsection (1b).

(c) Whenever the commissioner shall determine from an increase or a decrease in the number of registrations of any and all types of motor vehicles in any given month, that the volume of clerical work of registration of all types of motor vehicles in such month has become so disproportionate to the volume of work in the remaining registration periods as to render the system burdensome or inefficient, he is authorized and empowered to change the registration period of such number of automobiles as may be necessary to increase or reduce the volume of registrations in one or more periods, as the case may be, by advancing the renewal date, and shortening the registration period of such automobiles.

Such shifting of registration periods shall be accomplished by notifying the registrants of the change and refunding to them a pro rata portion of the fee for such portion of the registration period not yet elapsed. In such instances the commissioner shall order the registrant to surrender the license plates and title certificate held by him, and shall issue new plates and title certificate designating the new registration expiration date.

(d) When an owner has been required to register his automobile for a period in excess of 12 months during the change-over to the monthly series registration system, and he shall have moved out of the state or ceased to operate an automobile after the expiration of one year, he shall, upon surrender of his license plates and upon furnishing satisfactory evidence of his removal from the state or cessation of operation, be entitled to a refund to be computed on the basis of one-twelfth of the full year registration fee prescribed for such vehicles, multiplied by the number of months not to exceed 5, which have not expired at the time of his removal or cessation of operation. Refunds shall be made in accordance with sections 14.68 (5) and 20.051 (2).

(1d) (a) Subsections (1a), (1b), (1c), (4), (5), (6), (8), (10) and (11) as amended or created to establish and effectuate the system of staggered registration of automobiles and the permanent retention of license plates by the owners of automobiles registered under that system, are declared to supersede all existing statutes governing registration and licensing insofar as they may conflict therewith. Insofar as the existing statutes relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles are consistent with the staggered system of registration and permanent retention of license plates, the same shall continue to be applicable to the vehicle defined as "automobiles" under section 85.01 (1a).

(b) If any of the provisions of subsections (1a), (1b), (1c), (4), (5), (6), (8), (10) and (11), relating to the establishment of a system for the staggered registration of automobiles, and providing the formula for accomplishing same shall be held invalid and unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, with the resultant effect of nullifying the system of staggered registration so provided for, the class or classes of persons and automobiles affected thereby shall become subject to the existing provisions of this chapter as if no system of staggered registration had been provided for. All provisions enumerated above are declared to be severable, so that in the event of a declaration of

invalidity as to one or more of such sections which does not effectually nullify the system of staggered registration, the existing provisions of this chapter shall be applicable to the extent of such nullification.

SECTION 3. 85.01 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

85.01 (4) (a) There shall be paid annually to the motor vehicle department for the registration of each automobile, a fee of \$2 if said automobile shall weigh 400 pounds or less; a fee of \$10 if said automobile shall weigh more than 400 pounds and less than 1,600 pounds; a fee of \$11 if said automobile shall weigh more than 1,600 pounds and less than 1,800 pounds; a fee of \$12 if said automobile shall weigh 1,800 pounds or more and less than 2,000 pounds; a fee of \$13 if said automobile shall weigh 2,000 pounds or more and less than 2,400 pounds; a fee of \$14 if said automobile shall weigh 2,400 pounds or more and less than 2,800 pounds; a fee of \$16 if said automobile shall weigh 2,800 pounds or more and less than 3,200 pounds; a fee of \$18 if said automobile shall weigh 3,200 pounds or more and less than 3,600 pounds; a fee of \$20 if said automobile shall weigh 3,600 pounds or more and less than 4,000 pounds; a fee of \$24 if said automobile shall weigh 4,000 pounds or more and less than 4,500 pounds; a fee of \$36 if said automobile shall weigh 4,500 pounds or more and less than 5,000 pounds; a fee of \$48 if said automobile shall weigh 5,000 pounds or more. If the car is 5 or more years old, the motor vehicle department shall register said automobile upon payment of 75 per centum of the fee specified for a car of like weight, which has not been so operated. * * *

SECTION 4. 85.01 (4) (am), (an) and (ao) of the statutes are created to read:

85.01 (4) (am) *Automobiles under monthly series registration.* The fees payable during the 17 months commencing January 1, 1945 and ending May 31, 1947 for the registration of automobiles as defined in section 85.01 (1a) shall be computed on the basis of one-twelfth of the full year registration fee prescribed for such vehicles in paragraph (a) multiplied by the number of months for which said automobiles shall be required to be registered. Commencing January 1, 1946 there shall be paid to the motor vehicle department for the registration of each automobile required to be registered for a 12-month period a fee equal to the annual fee prescribed for such class of vehicles in paragraph (a).

(an) *Change of automobiles.* Upon application for registration of an automobile by an owner who holds a valid registration not yet expired for another car of which he has disposed, the commissioner shall register the car which is the subject of the application for the unexpired portion of the registration period for which applicant holds a license. When in such instances the automobile which is the subject of the application for registration for remainder of unexpired period is of the same weight class as the automobile for which the license was originally issued no further fee shall be required. When such automobile is in a heavier weight class for which a greater fee is prescribed applicant shall pay a pro rata portion of the difference in fees. When such automobile is in a lighter weight class for which a lesser fee is prescribed applicant shall not be entitled to a refund of the difference.

(ao) *Fee Prorated.* Upon application for registration of an automobile by an owner who holds license plates for a registration period which has expired, as permitted by section 85.01 (8) (am), the commissioner shall register said vehicle for such fraction of a 12-month period as will enable said owner to use said license plates so held by him, and he shall be required to pay a fee computed on the basis of one-twelfth of the full year registration fee prescribed for such vehicles in paragraph (a), multiplied by the number of months remaining in the registration period for which he shall be required to register.

SECTION 5. 85.01 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

85.01 (5) All motor vehicles, trailers and semitrailers except as hereinafter provided shall be registered annually and automobile and motorcycle registrations shall expire on December 31 of the year for which registration is made. After June 30, 1930, the annual registration of all motor trucks, busses, tractor trucks, tractors, trailers and semitrailers shall expire on the succeeding June 30. After October 31, any application for registration of an automobile or motorcycle shall be given a registration number of the succeeding year, which shall serve as a registration for the balance of the current year. After May 31, any application for registration of a motor truck, bus, tractor truck, tractor, trailer or semitrailer shall be given a registration number of the succeeding fiscal year which shall serve as a registration for the balance of the current fiscal year. Motor vehicle registrations paid on a quarterly basis shall expire on the last day of the quarter for

which a permit is issued. *This section shall not be applicable to expiration date of registrations under the monthly series system provided in subsection (1b).*

SECTION 6. 85.01 (6) (c) of the statutes is renumbered 85.01 (6) (c) 1 and amended to read:

85.01 (6) (c) 1. One of the said number plates shall be firmly and rigidly fastened and placed horizontally in a conspicuous place on the front of each motor vehicle, and the other of such number plates shall be firmly and rigidly fastened and placed horizontally in a conspicuous place on the rear of such vehicle, and the number plate issued for a trailer or semitrailer shall be firmly attached in a horizontal position to the rear of such vehicle. All such number plates shall be so displayed and kept reasonably clean at all times that the same can be readily and distinctly seen and read. Any peace officer may require the operator of any vehicle on which plates are not properly displayed to display such plates as required by this paragraph. Plates shall not be removed from any vehicle, until the plates for the succeeding year are attached, *except as provided in subsection (6) (c) 2.*

SECTION 7. 85.01 (6) (c) 2 of the statutes is created to read:

85.01 (6) (c) 2. Plates issued to owners of automobiles registered under the monthly series system of registration provided for in subsection (1b) shall remove such plates on sale or transfer of ownership of such vehicles. Such plates shall thereafter be retained and preserved by the person to whom issued, to be fastened to such other automobile as said person shall thereafter register in his name and for which he shall pay the required fee, if any be due under subsection (4) (am). It shall be a misdemeanor, punishable under subsection (12), to fasten said plates to any vehicle not validly registered in the name of the person to whom such plates have been issued.

SECTION 8. 85.01 (6) (d) 2 and (8) (a) of the statutes are amended to read:

85.01 (6) (d) 2. The motor vehicle department shall devise, secure, issue and deliver, prepaid, to each owner of any motor vehicle, 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. Such number plate

shall be firmly and rigidly fastened and placed horizontally in a conspicuous place on the rear of each motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer, except that the number plate for a vehicle registered under subsection (4) (c) used exclusively to draw a trailer or semitrailer shall be so attached to the front of the vehicle. The commissioner of the motor vehicle department may, by reasonable rules and regulations, provide for the front of the vehicle a substitute for the number plate which was provided for under subsection (6) (a) before March 28, 1943. Such substitute may be of such material and design so that it can be applied to the inside of the windshield and may have thereon the registration number assigned to the vehicle. All such number plates or other means of identification shall be so displayed and kept reasonably clean at all times that the same can be readily and distinctly seen and read. Any peace officer may require the operator of any vehicle on which a plate is not properly displayed to display such plate as required by this subdivision. Any plate shall not be removed from any vehicle unless the plate for the succeeding year is immediately attached, *excepting upon transfer of ownership of vehicles registered under the monthly series registration system, which shall be governed by subsection (6) (c) 2.*

(8) (a) The rights conferred by the certificate of title specified in subsection (3) shall be transferable with the sale of the vehicle covered thereby, and the number plates issued for any calendar year shall be valid for use on the identical vehicle for which they were issued during said calendar year, notwithstanding the sale or sales of such vehicle. Provided, that no such transfer shall be valid nor shall the use of such plates after sale be valid unless the motor vehicle department shall have been notified in writing of such sale or transfer, such notice to be accompanied by the certificate of title properly signed by the new owner. Upon receipt of said certificate of title, accompanied by the payment of a fee of \$1, to cover the cost thereof, the motor vehicle department shall issue and mail to said new owner a new certificate of title. If ownership of the vehicle be transferred, the owner shall assign the certificate of title in writing at the time of sale. When ownership shall pass by judicial decree or sale, or by operation of law, the new owner shall be entitled to a certificate of title upon filing appropriate evidence thereof. Within 5 days thereafter, the transferee shall present such certificate or evidence to the motor vehicle department. License plates issued

for the vehicle being transferred, must remain on the same notwithstanding such transfer or transfers. *This section, insofar as it requires license plates to remain on vehicles notwithstanding transfer, shall not be applicable to automobiles as that term is defined under the system of monthly series registration in subsection (1a).*

SECTION 9. 85.01 (8) (am) of the statutes is created to read:

85.01 (8) (am) *Plates not transferable.* License plates issued upon the registration of automobiles as defined in subsection (1a) shall not be transferred upon sale of the vehicle for which originally issued, but shall remain with the owner to identify him as the owner of any other automobile registered by him in the future.

SECTION 10. 85.01 (10) (a) of the statutes is renumbered 85.01 (10) (a) 1 and is amended to read:

85.01 (10) (a) 1. Upon satisfactory proof of the loss or destruction of any number plate, except those issued as provided by section 85.02, the motor vehicle department shall issue a duplicate thereof to the owner of the registered vehicle upon the payment of a sum not exceeding \$1, *provided that issuance of duplicate plates for automobiles registered under the monthly series system of registration shall be governed by subdivision 2.*

SECTION 11. 85.01 (10) (a) 2 of the statutes is created to read:

85.01 (10) (a) 2. Upon satisfactory evidence of the loss, destruction or illegibility of any number plate issued for automobiles registered under the monthly series system provided for in subsection (1b), the motor vehicle department shall issue a duplicate thereof to the owner of the registered vehicle upon the payment of a sum not exceeding \$1 if the duplicate is issued within one year of date of issuance of the plate or plates to be replaced, and without fee if application is made after the expiration of one year. Duplicates shall be issued at any time without fee if the reason for issuance is illegibility of a plate, which illegibility shall be certified in writing by any law enforcement officer who has inspected same. Whenever a law enforcement officer shall observe a plate to be in such condition as to hinder or make difficult the identification of the same, and shall notify the motor vehicle department, the licensee may be required by order of the commissioner to surrender said plate for the issuance of a duplicate thereof without fee. If the plate for which duplicate is requested has not been destroyed, the same shall be sur-

rendered to the motor vehicle department when application for duplicate has been made. Failure to surrender plate for which duplicate has been issued is declared to be a misdemeanor punishable under subsection (12).

SECTION 12. 85.01 (11) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

85.01 (11) (a) The motor vehicle department shall before April 1 of each year transmit 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, to the state department of taxation 5 copies, of an up-to-date numerical list, from January 1, and from time to time thereafter up to November 15, supplementary lists in book form of all registrations of motor vehicles, *excepting therefrom automobiles as that term is defined in subsection (1a)*. Such lists shall contain the name and address of the owner of such vehicle, the name and make thereof, the weight used to determine the registration fee, and the registered number. 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 bureau of purchases shall sell copies of such registration lists at not exceeding * * * \$50 for the entire annual series.

SECTION 13. 85.01 (11) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

85.01 (11) (c) The motor vehicle department shall before August 1, 1946, and before August 1 of each fifth year thereafter, publish and distribute an up-to-date numerical list in book form of all registrations of automobiles as that term is defined in subsection (1a) as provided in paragraph (a). The supplementary lists provided for in paragraph (a) shall include automobile registrations which are made during the periods between the publication of the 5-year automobile registry lists. The 5-year registry list of automobiles shall be distributed as provided above without additional fee beyond that provided in paragraph (a).

SECTION 14. 85.04 (1) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 15. 85.04 (2) and (3) of the statutes are renumbered 85.04 (1) and (2) and are amended to read:

85.04 (1) Any * * * person, firm or corporation who applies for a Wisconsin license for any used motor vehicle which was previously licensed and used in another state or country, shall furnish the motor vehicle department an affidavit pertaining to

the title history of such motor vehicle as shall be required by such motor vehicle department, which shall be sworn to before a notary public or any person authorized to administer oaths. Such application shall contain a certification by a sheriff, deputy sheriff, police officer or other law enforcement officer, stating that the physical description of said motor vehicle has been checked and conforms to the description given in said application.

(2) No person, firm or corporation shall knowingly offer for sale or exchange in this state to any resident thereof any motor vehicle which was previously licensed and used * * * as a taxicab or for public transportation until the certificate of title for such motor vehicle shall have been surrendered to the motor vehicle department and until the motor vehicle department has stamped in a conspicuous place on such certificate of title the words "This motor vehicle has previously been used as a taxicab or for public transportation." * * *

SECTION 16. 85.04 (5) of the statutes is renumbered 85.04 (3).

Approved July 30, 1945.

No. 375, S.]

[Published August 3, 1945.

CHAPTER 519.

AN ACT to create 66.406 of the statutes, relating to the replanning of blighted and other areas of cities of this state, and the assembly, by grant, gift, purchase or condemnation, of real property in such areas, and the sale or lease thereof for the redevelopment of such areas in accordance with said plans.

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

66.406 of the statutes is created to read:

66.406 BLIGHTED AREA LAW. (1) SHORT TITLE. This section shall be known and may be cited and referred to as the "blighted area law."

(2) FINDING AND DECLARATION OF NECESSITY.

It is hereby found and declared that, owing to the age and obsolescent condition or obsolescent or substandard character of existing buildings or the obsolete lot layout of the obsolete character of the existing land uses, or combinations of these factors or causes, portions of certain cities of the state have become blighted, with