

(S. B. 287)
(Reconsidered)

(No. 116)

(Approved June 30, 2006)

AN ACT

To amend Section 1.75 and the first paragraph of Section 23.01 of Act No. 22 of January 7, 2000, as amended, known as the “Puerto Rico Vehicle and Traffic Act,” in order to establish that only one (1) sticker shall be affixed to the motor vehicle during the year of effectiveness of the fees payment.

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

Section 23.01 of Act No. 22 of January 7, 2000, as amended, known as the “Puerto Rico Vehicle and Traffic Act,” sets forth that any owner of a motor vehicle subject to the payment of annual license fees shall pay at any Internal Revenue Office of any municipality, at the place designated by the Secretary of the Treasury, at official inspection stations, banks, or at the place designated by the Secretary, the fees corresponding to the vehicle for each year, as indicated in the notice to be sent by the Secretary to that effect. It also provides that the fees shall be paid in advance for the whole year or for the remaining portion thereof on the date of the payment, and that fractions of a month shall be deemed as full months.

What we commonly know as the sticker (marbete) fee payment represents an important resource for in the support of our transportation system. Instead of being perceived as a tax levied by the State, it should be perceived as a tax collected for the people themselves, insofar as it contributes towards transportation purposes.

At present, more than one sticker is affixed to a motor vehicle complicates the task of verifying compliance with the established legal requirement to travel on our public thoroughfares. Due control is made easier by clearly establishing that only a single sticker shall be affixed to the motor vehicle, and more importantly, the fair contribution of all motor vehicle owners shall be achieved, thus making us all a part of the efforts to optimize the transportation systems of our country.

The Legislature, aware of its duty to promote the progress and well being of our people, deems it necessary to establish that only one (1) sticker shall be affixed to the motor vehicle during the year of effectiveness of the fees paid.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:

Section 1.- Section 1.75 of Act No. 22 of January 7, 2000, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 1.75- Motor Vehicle or Trailer Permit

“Motor Vehicle or Trailer Permit” means any certificate of registration of a motor vehicle or trailer issued by the Secretary, authorizing a motor vehicle or trailer to operate on the public roads of Puerto Rico. Only one (1) sticker shall be affixed to the motor vehicle during the year of effectiveness of the fees paid.”

The first paragraph of Section 23.01 of Act No. 22 of January 7, 2000, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 23.01* - Procedure for the payment of fees

Every owner of a motor vehicle subject to the payment of annual license fees shall pay at any Internal Revenue Office of any municipality, at the

* Section 24.01

place designated by the Secretary of the Treasury, at official inspection stations, banks, or at the place designated by the Secretary, the fees corresponding to the vehicle for each year, as indicated in the notice to be sent by the Secretary to that effect. The fees on such an account shall be paid in advance for the whole year or for the remaining portion thereof, and fractions of a month shall be deemed as full months. This provision shall only apply to motor vehicles paying license fees for more than forty (40) dollars per year. Upon receipt of the corresponding fees, the collector shall issue the motor vehicle license consisting of the notice form issued by the Secretary with the corresponding annotations and the signature of the collector indicating that the fees have been duly paid. Together with the license, the collector shall include the corresponding sticker or license plates, as the case may be. Only one (1) sticker shall be affixed to the motor vehicle during the year of effectiveness of the fees paid.”

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Section 2.- The Secretary of the Department of Transportation and Public Works shall implement the herein provided and the corresponding fines for those who violate the aforementioned provisions, pursuant to the procedures established in the regulations.

Section 3.- This Act shall take effect immediately after its approval.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following Act No. 116 (S.B. 287) (Reconsidered) of the 3rd Session of the 15th Legislature of Puerto Rico:

AN ACT to amend Section 1.75 and the first paragraph of Section 23.01 of Act No. 22 of January 7, 2000, as amended, known as the “Puerto Rico Vehicle and Traffic Act,” in order to establish that only one (1) sticker shall be affixed to the motor vehicle during the year of effectiveness of the fees payment,

has been translated from Spanish to English and that the English version is correct.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today 15th of December of 2006.

Francisco J. Domenech
Director