

IMPORTANT MOTOR VEHICLE AND DRIVER LICENSE CHANGES FROM 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION



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The following legislative changes affect the Missouri Department of Revenue's motor vehicle and driver licensing processes and are effective August 28, 2023 (unless otherwise noted).

Motor Vehicle Bureau

Back the Blue Specialty License Plates (SB 186)

Currently, vehicle registrants who wish to register and display Back the Blue specialty license plates can only do so on non-apportioned vehicles registered at 24,000 pounds and less. This provision eliminates this weight classification restriction, which allows all passenger, vanpool, truck, log truck, land improvement, recreational vehicle, motorcycle, autocycle, private school bus, shuttle bus, transit bus, commercial bus, public school bus, and one- and three-year trailers to obtain the Back the Blue specialty license plate.

Motor Vehicle Dealer Sales Tax Collection (SB 398)

This provision requires Missouri licensed motor vehicle dealers to collect and remit sales tax on purchases of motor vehicles. Dealers will begin collecting sales tax with the implementation of the Motor Vehicle Driver License (MVDL) system integration project that is currently scheduled for completion July of 2026. Additional guidance for nonresidents of Missouri who purchase a vehicle from a Missouri licensed motor vehicle dealer will be provided at a later date.

Motor Vehicle Franchise Practices (SB 398)

This provision prohibits motor vehicle manufacturers, who submit a dealer license application to the Department of Revenue on or after August 28, 2023, from engaging in the business of selling motor vehicles directly to retail consumers.

Uninsured Motorists (SB 398)

This provision creates a Motor Vehicle Financial Responsibility Enforcement and Compliance Incentive Program and a Motor Vehicle Financial Responsibility Enforcement System, which will give the Department additional methods to identify and take action against Missouri registrants who do not have or maintain motor vehicle financial responsibility. This system shall be operational by January 1, 2025, and further information will be provided at a later date.

Driver License Bureau

Texting While Driving (SB 398)

This provision imposes a prohibition on the use of electronic communication devices while operating a motor vehicles for all ages (currently law only applies to drivers under 21 years of age), with multiple exceptions.

Medical Certificate Submission for CDL Holders (SB 167/171)

This provision allows for Commercial Driver License (CDL) holders to submit a medical certificate to the Department by electronic submission. While this legislation codifies this process for medical certificate submission into law, the Department has already implemented this process as of March 22, 2023.