

Sec. 14-15a. Registration of vehicles leased or rented for use in Connecticut. (a) Each passenger motor vehicle, as defined in section 14-1, which is leased or rented for a period of more than thirty days in a calendar year primarily for use in this state shall be registered in this state in accordance with the provisions of section 14-12. For the purpose of this section, such period shall include all times during which such vehicle may be absent from the state while being used on a daily round-trip basis.

(b) (1) If the commissioner finds, upon investigation, that any motor vehicle available for lease or rental in this state has been registered in another state for the purpose of evading, or the effect of which is the avoidance of, the motor vehicle laws of this state, for the purposes of paying a lower registration fee or evading the payment of any tax levied by this state or any Connecticut municipality, said commissioner may, in said commissioner's discretion, (A) prohibit the lease or rental of any such motor vehicle in this state, (B) require that such motor vehicle be registered in this state in accordance with the provisions of section 14-12, (C) suspend or revoke a license to engage in such leasing or renting issued under the provisions of section 14-15, or (D) require a licensee to furnish a bond in the amount of one thousand dollars for each vehicle registered in another state. (2) If the commissioner finds, upon investigation, that any licensee has failed to satisfy its obligations for payment of municipal property taxes, the commissioner may, thirty days after the issuance of notice to such licensee, and after notice and an opportunity for a hearing in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, suspend such license until all such obligations are satisfied.

(c) On and after January 1, 1996, the commissioner may transfer any special registration issued pursuant to the provisions of section 14-19a, 14-20, 14-20a, 14-21, 14-21c, 14-21d, 14-21e, subsection (s) of section 14-49, section 14-160, 14-253a or 14-254 to any motor vehicle leased for a period of at least one year by a person to whom such special registration was issued. Any such motor vehicle may display the special number plates issued pursuant to the provisions of any of said sections. The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54 to implement the provisions of this subsection.

(d) Any person who fails to register any motor vehicle under the provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall be fined one thousand dollars for each such vehicle.

(1967, P.A. 820, S. 1, 2; P.A. 75-577, S. 15, 126; P.A. 88-340, S. 2; P.A. 95-260, S. 5, 24; P.A. 02-70, S. 19; P.A. 04-217, S. 25.)

History: P.A. 75-577 added Subsec. (c); P.A. 88-340 amended Subsec. (a) to require the registration of each "passenger" motor vehicle, as defined in Sec. 14-1, leased for more than 30 days in a calendar year for use in this state, added Subsec. (b)(3) and (4), authorizing commissioner to suspend or revoke licenses and require licensees to furnish a bond for each vehicle registered in another state, and amended Subsec. (c) to increase fine from an infraction to \$1,000 for each unregistered vehicle; P.A. 95-260 inserted new Subsec. (c) allowing commissioner, on and after January 1, 1996, to transfer special registrations to any motor vehicle leased for a period of at least one year by a person to whom such special registration was issued, permitting such motor vehicle to display special number plates and requiring commissioner to adopt regulations to implement provisions of subsection, and relettered former Subsec. (c) as Subsec. (d), making a technical change within, effective June 13, 1995; P.A. 02-70 amended Subsec. (b) by designating existing provisions

as Subdiv. (1), changing internal designators and making technical changes for purposes of gender neutrality therein, and by adding Subdiv. (2) authorizing suspension of license if the commissioner finds that any licensee has failed to satisfy its obligations for payment of municipal property taxes; P.A. 04-217 amended Subsec. (a) to eliminate reference to Sec. 14-1(40), effective January 1, 2005.