

**Department of Motor Vehicles**  
**Noteworthy bills that were passed in the 2011 Legislative Session**

**[AB 2](#)**

Effective Date: October 1, 2011

This bill removes the requirement that vehicles pass a smog test before being issued Classic vehicle, Old Timer or Street Rod license plates.

**[AB 28](#)**

Effective Date: March 21, 2011

This bill makes Nevada's definition of a "low-speed vehicle" consistent with the federal definition.

**[AB 74](#)**

Effective Date: October 1, 2011

Section 53 of this bill makes a change on the vehicle insurance card issued by an insurance company by adding the word "fleet" if the vehicle is covered under a fleet policy.

**[AB 204](#)**

Effective Date: On or before December 31, 2011.

This bill eliminates the requirement that the Department issues vehicle salvage titles to automobile wreckers. Instead, the Department will invalidate the vehicle identification numbers of vehicles that are to be parted out or junked.

**[AB 245](#)**

Effective Date: July 1, 2011

This bill allows the veteran to transfer their governmental services tax exemption portion of their vehicle registration to his or her spouse.

**[AB 277](#)**

Effective Date: October 1, 2011

The Department will begin issuing license plates in honor of female veterans as well as disabled female veterans.

**[AB 511](#)**

Effective Date: March 1, 2012

The Department is to create regulations regarding driver's license endorsement, vehicle inspection and safety procedures and insurance requirements for operating an autonomous vehicle.

**[SB 130](#)**

Effective Date: May 19, 2011

This bill extends the go-live date of the Off-Highway Vehicle registering and titling program to July 1, 2012. Once in place, all existing OHVs will have one year to get registered and titled.

**[SB 140](#)**

Effective Date: Provides for issuance of a warning from law enforcement on or before December 31, 2011. It becomes a violation as of January 1, 2012.

This bill makes talking on your cell phone and texting while driving illegal. Devices with hands-free capability will still be allowed. Fines range from \$50 for the first offense to \$250 for a third offense.

**SB 154**

Effective Date: October 1, 2011

The Department will begin issuing special license plates to families of service members who died as a result of any type of injury sustained while on active duty.

**SB 159**

Effective Date: February 1, 2012

This bill provides for a waiver of fees for duplicate driver's licenses and identification cards to persons who are released from prison within 90 days.

**SB 248**

Effective Date: October 1, 2011

This bill requires a driver of a motor vehicle to maintain a safe distance of not less than three feet when passing a bicyclist.

**SB 320**

Effective Date: October 1, 2011

This bill gives the Department the authority to suspend the driver's license of a limousine or taxi driver for failure to pay certain administrative fines to the Nevada Transportation Authority (NTA).

**SB 323**

Effective Date: July 1, 2011

New residents to Nevada are now required to register their vehicles in Nevada within 30 days. Non-residents are required to register their vehicle if it is operated in Nevada for more than 30 days (aggregate) during a calendar year. This bill also establishes a tiered system of penalties and fines for insurance lapses. Fines and penalties increase depending on the duration of the lapse and the number of insurance lapses.

**SB 337**

Effective Date: October 1, 2011

This bill makes a significant change to organ donation in Nevada. Family members residing in Nevada now have priority to receive anatomical gifts rather than the gift going directly to a donor bank or another recipient out of state.

**SB 406**

Effective Date: July 1, 2011

This bill eliminates delinquent or late registration fees of a vehicle if the owner of the vehicle was a member of the military and deployed to a combat or supporting combat position at the time the registration expired.

**SB 408**

Effective Date: July 1, 2011

This bill increases the number of specialty license plates from 25 to 30 license plates.