



**JULIE P. MAGEE**  
Commissioner

# State of Alabama Department of Revenue

(www.revenue.alabama.gov)  
50 North Ripley Street  
Montgomery, Alabama 36132

August 12, 2015

**MICHAEL E. MASON**  
Assistant Commissioner

**JOE W. GARRETT, JR.**  
Deputy Commissioner

**CURTIS E. STEWART**  
Deputy Commissioner

## MEMORANDUM

**2015-015**

**TO:** License Plate Issuing Officials SCH  
**FROM:** Sherry Helms, Registration Manager  
Motor Vehicle Division  
**SUBJECT:** Legislation Effective August 2015

During the special session of the 2015 legislature, Act 2015-506 was signed into law by Governor Bentley and became effective immediately. This memorandum outlines the provisions of the Act.

### Provisions

- This act amends 31-2-12, 32-6-110, and 40-12-244 related to the license tax and registration fee exemption provided to active and retired members of the Alabama National Guard or the Alabama State Guard. The amendment removes the restriction to the exemption only applying to the National Guard plate category. With this change, a person entitled to receive the Alabama National Guard plate is not required to obtain the National Guard plate in order to claim their one (1) license plate exemption. This is similar to the way the Active Reserve plate exemption is applied.
- This act amends 32-7A-6 to allow registrants/ vehicle operators to present evidence of insurance to law enforcement and licensing officials in a tangible (paper) or electronic format, including a cellular telephone or other electronic device. The act does not provide consent for law enforcement or licensing officials to access any other content on the electronic device. Law enforcement officers and other governmental employees will be subject to the provisions of Section 36-1-12 for damages to the electronic device when viewing the device pursuant to this act. Section 36-1-12 provides sovereign immunity for an officer, employee, or agent of the state when they are exercising their judgment in the administration of a department or agency of government duty imposed by statute, rule, or regulation.
- The act adds Section 32-7A-26 to provide the department the authority to promulgate rules regarding electronic notices (i.e. insurance questionnaires, notices of suspension, reinstatement notices, etc.). This will allow the department the option to send electronic notices to the registrant instead of paper notices.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the Motor Vehicle Division at: [tags@revenue.alabama.gov](mailto:tags@revenue.alabama.gov) or (334) 242-9006.