

HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill:	House File 593	House Committee:	PASSED 21-0 (3/1/2023)
Committee:	Transportation	House Floor:	PASSED 96-0 (3/9/2023)
Floor Manager:	Rep. Jon Dunwell	Senate Floor:	PASSED 50-0 (4/17/2023)
Date:	May 9, 2023	Governor:	SIGNED (5/3/2023)
Staff:	Brad Trow (1-3471)		

Issuance and Suspension of Motor Vehicle Registrations & Titles

- Current law requires the Dept. of Transportation or County Treasurers to refuse to issue a motor vehicle registration or title if the vehicle cannot be registered or state law prohibits the owner from registering the vehicle.
- House File 593 clarifies the process by which this is to occur and enables the transfer of vehicles to parties who can register them.

Section by Section Analysis

Section 1 – Iowa Code (321.30 (1) (d)):

The section amends the current law dealing with the grounds for which a county treasurer or the DOT may refuse to issue a motor vehicle registration or title. Subsection 1 (d), which deals with a vehicle's registration being suspended, is changed by adding an additional reason for not issuing a registration or title. The bill adds that the person applying for registration is already prohibited from registering a vehicle. Among the circumstances why a person could be prohibited from registering a vehicle is being required to have SR-22 insurance coverage and not acquiring the coverage.

Section 1 also adds language to the Code which provides, in certain circumstances, a county treasurer or DOT may issue the registration or title but then immediately suspend it by a procedure established in sections 2 and 3 of the bill.

Section 2 – Iowa Code (321A.5):

The section amends existing law requiring a security deposit to be paid by a person who was involved in a motor vehicle accident that results in death, bodily injury, or damage to property of \$1500 or more in order to maintain their driver's license. The new language provides that when a person under this requirement seeks to register or title a vehicle, the county treasurer or DOT will issue the registration or title, but immediately suspend it until the required deposit is paid.

Section 3 – Iowa Code (321A.17):

The section amends existing state law dealing with the financial responsibility required of drivers who have their licenses suspended or revoked. Under the new language of the bill, if a person with a suspended or revoked license seeks to register or title a motor vehicle, the county treasurer or DOT will issue the registration or title but immediately suspend it until the person can prove they have financial responsibility coverage.