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Commissioner

State of Alabama Department of Revenue

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Assistant Commissioner

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Deputy Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

2011-24

TO: All License Plate Issuing Officials

FROM: Mike Gamble, Assistant Director
Motor Vehicle Division

SUBJECT: Title Procedure – Exemptions from Titling.

In accordance with Administrative Rule 810-5-75-.68, the following titling exemptions and title recordkeeping requirements will be in effect starting January 1, 2012:

- (1) Effective January 1, 2012, no certificate of title shall be issued for any trailer, semi-trailer, travel trailer, or folding or collapsible camping trailer more than twenty (20) model years old. This exemption is applicable on January 1 of each year and applies to all trailers, semi-trailers, travel trailers, and folding or collapsible camping trailers with a model year, as designated by the manufacturer, older than twenty (20) years from the current calendar year. All utility trailers, other than folding or collapsible camping trailers, are still exempt from titling regardless of the year model.

Example: As of January 1, 2012, all 1991 and prior year model trailers, semi-trailers, travel trailers, and folding or collapsible camping trailers are exempt from the titling provisions of Chapter 8, Title 32, Code of Alabama 1975.

- (2) Effective January 1, 2012, no certificate of title shall be issued for any motor vehicle more than thirty-five (35) model years old. This exemption is applicable on January 1 of each year and applies to all motor vehicles with a model year, as designated by the manufacturer, older than thirty-five (35) years from the current calendar year.

Example: As of January 1, 2012, all 1976 and prior year model motor vehicles are exempt from the titling provisions of Chapter 8, Title 32, Code of Alabama 1975.

- (3) Effective January 1, 2012, no certificate of title shall be issued for a low speed vehicle. A low speed vehicle is defined as a four-wheeled motor vehicle with a top speed of not greater than 25 miles per hour, a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of which is less than 3,000 pounds and complying with the safety standards provided in 49 C.F.R. Section 571.500. The term includes neighborhood electric vehicles.

NOTE: The exemption from titling does not invalidate any Alabama certificate of title that is currently in effect. However, no subsequent title, including a replacement certificate of title, can be issued if the vehicle is exempt from titling.

No title records are required to be maintained by the Department of Revenue for any motor vehicle or manufactured home exempted from titling under the provisions of Chapters 8 or 20 of Title 32, Code of Alabama 1975, or any rules promulgated thereunder.

Example: As of January 1, 2012, the title records for the following motor vehicles will no longer be maintained due to the motor vehicle being exempt from titling by statute or rules promulgated thereunder:

1. Trailers more than twenty (20) model years which would include all 1991 and prior year model trailers.
2. Manufactured homes more than twenty (20) model years old which would include all 1991 and prior year manufactured homes.
3. Motor vehicles more than thirty-five (35) model years old which would include all 1976 and prior year model motor vehicles.
4. All low speed vehicles as previously defined in this memorandum.

NOTE: Registration records for vehicles are still available for a ten year period.

Please feel free to contact this office by email at titles@revenue.alabama.gov if you have any questions concerning this matter.