

DURHAM UPDATE REGARDING COVID-19

Vehicle Registrations/ Dog Licensing

3/19/2020

The State has passed legislation to address motor vehicle registrations. Most municipalities are closed to the public and the BMV is closed.

FAQ

What if my registration expires in March?

All motor vehicle registrations due after the declaration of emergency are deemed extended until 30 days following the termination of the state of emergency.

What if my registration expired before March?

LD 2167 specifically refers to vehicles that are due during the emergency. If your car expired previous to the declaration (February or before), please try to complete the registration online at <https://www1.maine.gov/online/bmv/rapid-renewal/>. If you are unable to complete the registration, please call us during regular office hours.

What if I purchased a car from a dealership and my 10 day plate is expiring?

The 10-day plates issued by dealers is included in the declaration.

What if I purchased a vehicle out of state or through a private sale and I need the car registered for transportation?

Call the office during regular office hours and we will handle the registrations on a case by case basis.

When the emergency is lifted will the date on my plate change?

All registrations processed after the emergency will not change the registration fees or interval.

Even though we are not open to the public, know that we are here working behind the scenes to assist you in any way we can.

Below is an excerpt from LD 2167. It can be accessed in its entirety at <https://www.durhamme.com/home/urgent-alerts/update-town-response-covid-19>

PART F

Sec. F-1. Registrations issued by a municipality. This section affects certain registration and licensing performed at the municipal or county level.

1. Vehicles and trailers. Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, chapter 5 or any other law or municipal charter provision or ordinance to the contrary, a registration, including a temporary registration, of a vehicle, including, without limitation, a motor vehicle, all-terrain vehicle, watercraft or snowmobile, or a trailer required to be registered in this State that expires during the period of a state of emergency declared by the Governor in accordance with Title 37-B, section 742 due to the outbreak of COVID-19 is deemed extended until 30 days following the termination of the state of emergency.

2. Renewal of licenses for sale of liquor. Notwithstanding Title 28-A, section 653, 18 subsection 1 or any other law or municipal charter provision or ordinance to the contrary, during the period of a state of emergency declared by the Governor in accordance with Title 37-B, section 742 due to the outbreak of COVID-19 and 30 days following the termination of that state of emergency, the municipal officers or, in the case of unincorporated places, the county commissioners may grant the request for a renewal of a license issued pursuant to Title 28-A, Part 3 without a hearing; this subsection does not prohibit the municipal officers or county commissioners, as applicable, from denying a renewal of a license issued pursuant to Title 28-A, Part 3 based upon a finding specified in Title 28-A, section 653, subsection 2 or 3.

3. Dog licenses. Notwithstanding Title 7, chapter 721 or any other law or municipal charter provision or ordinance to the contrary, a license of a dog required to be licensed in this State that expires during the period of a state of emergency declared by the Governor in accordance with Title 37-B, section 742 due to the outbreak of COVID-19 is deemed extended until 30 days following the termination of the state of emergency.

4. Registration or license fees due. The extensions granted pursuant to subsections 1 and 3 of this section do not change the registration or licensing interval for any vehicle or trailer or dog for which the registration or license period was extended, and all registration or licensing fees that would have been due but for the extension are due within 30 days of the termination of the state of emergency.

Sec. F-2. Access to online registration. The Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, during the period of a state of emergency declared by the Governor in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 37-B, section 742 due to the outbreak of COVID-19, shall allow a resident of this State to renew the registration of a motor vehicle, trailer, all-terrain vehicle or watercraft online, regardless of whether the municipality in 1 which that resident resides participates in the online registration service maintained by the bureau or department, for the duration of the state of emergency and 30 days following the termination of the state of emergency.