SENATE BILL NO. 192-COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

(ON BEHALF OF THE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AUTHORITY)

FEBRUARY 21, 2003

Referred to Committee on Transportation

SUMMARY—Makes various changes to provisions governing certain motor carriers and drivers. (BDR 58-537)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: Yes. Effect on the State: No.

EXPLANATION - Matter in bolded italics is new: matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to transportation; revising provisions governing the regulation of certain motor carriers and drivers; imposing an annual fee upon certain motor carriers; requiring drivers of certain motor carriers to obtain a driver's permit from the Transportation Services Authority; imposing a fee for the issuance and renewal of such a permit; requiring the Transportation Services Authority to adopt regulations governing the conduct of certain drivers; increasing the amount of certain application fees and filing fees; revising provisions relating to disciplinary action; prohibiting discriminatory conduct by certain motor carriers and drivers; revising provisions relating to certificates of public convenience and necessity and permits; increasing the annual fee to operate a tow car; revising provisions governing the impoundment of certain vehicles; revising provisions relating to driver's permits issued by the Taxicab Authority; revising provisions administered by the Taxicab Authority; providing penalties; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:



- **Section 1.** Chapter 706 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 13, inclusive, of this act
- Sec. 2. 1. "Driver of a fully regulated carrier of passengers" means a person who:
- (a) Is employed to drive a vehicle of a fully regulated carrier of passengers: or
- (b) Is an independent contractor and is authorized to lease and drive a vehicle of a fully regulated carrier of passengers pursuant to NRS 706.011 to 706.791, inclusive, and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act, and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto.
- 2. The term includes, without limitation, a person who is the lessee of a taxicab pursuant to NRS 706.473.
- 3. The term does not include a person who drives a vehicle of a carrier whose certificate is limited to providing charter service by bus.
- Sec. 3. 1. "Fully regulated carrier of passengers" means a common motor carrier of passengers or contract motor carrier of passengers that is required to obtain from the Authority a certificate of public convenience and necessity, except for a carrier whose certificate is limited to providing charter service by bus.
- 2. The term includes, without limitation, a carrier that operates a taxicab or limousine.
- Sec. 4. "Limousine" includes, without limitation, a traditional limousine and a livery limousine.
- Sec. 5. 1. A fully regulated carrier shall pay to the Authority a fee of not more than \$350 per year for each vehicle that the Authority has authorized the carrier to operate.
 - 2. The provisions of this section do not apply to:
 - (a) A taxicab motor carrier; or

- (b) An operator of a tow car.
- Sec. 6. 1. A member or the Deputy of the Authority shall issue a driver's permit to each qualified person who wishes to be a driver of a fully regulated carrier of passengers and who complies with the requirements for the issuance of a driver's permit.
- 2. Before a member or the Deputy of the Authority may issue a driver's permit to an applicant, the member or Deputy shall:
- (a) Require the applicant to submit a complete set of his fingerprints and written permission authorizing the Authority to forward the fingerprints to the Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal History for submission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation to ascertain whether the applicant has a criminal record and the nature of any such record, and shall further investigate the applicant's background; and



- (b) Require proof that the applicant has a valid and appropriate license issued pursuant to NRS 483.340 which authorizes the applicant to drive in this state the vehicle that he will be driving for the fully regulated carrier of passengers.
- 3. A member or the Deputy of the Authority may refuse to issue a driver's permit to an applicant if the applicant has been convicted of:
- (a) A felony, other than a sexual offense, in this state or any other jurisdiction within the 5 years immediately preceding the date on which he filed his application;
- (b) A felony involving any sexual offense in this state or any other jurisdiction at any time before the date on which he filed his application: or
- (c) A violation of NRS 484.379 or 484.3795, or a law in another jurisdiction that prohibits the same or similar conduct, within the 3 years immediately preceding the date on which he filed his application.
- 4. A member or the Deputy of the Authority may refuse to issue a driver's permit to an applicant who has been convicted of an offense involving moral turpitude.
- 5. A driver's permit issued pursuant to this section is valid for 1 year and may be renewed.
 - 6. A person must pay to the Authority:

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- (a) A fee of \$50 for the issuance of an original driver's permit.
- (b) A fee of \$50 for the renewal of a driver's permit.
- Sec. 7. 1. In addition to any other requirements, a person who applies for the issuance or renewal of a driver's permit shall submit to the Authority:
- (a) In any application for issuance of a driver's permit, the social security number of the applicant and the statement prescribed by the Welfare Division of the Department of Human Resources pursuant to NRS 425.520. The statement must be completed and signed by the applicant.
- (b) In any application for renewal of a driver's permit, the statement prescribed by the Welfare Division of the Department of Human Resources pursuant to NRS 425.520. The statement must be completed and signed by the applicant.
- 2. The Authority shall include the statement required pursuant to subsection 1 in:
- (a) The application or any other forms that must be submitted for the issuance or renewal of the driver's permit; or
 - (b) A separate form prescribed by the Authority.
- 43 3. The Authority shall not issue or renew a driver's permit if 44 the applicant:



(a) Fails to submit the statement required pursuant to subsection 1; or

- (b) Indicates on the statement submitted pursuant to subsection 1 that he is subject to a court order for the support of a child and is not in compliance with the order or a plan approved by the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order for the repayment of the amount owed pursuant to the order.
- 4. If an applicant indicates on the statement submitted pursuant to subsection 1 that he is subject to a court order for the support of a child and is not in compliance with the order or a plan approved by the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order for the repayment of the amount owed pursuant to the order, the Authority shall advise the applicant to contact the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order to determine the actions that the applicant may take to satisfy the arrearage.
- Sec. 8. 1. If the Authority receives a copy of a court order issued pursuant to NRS 425.540 that provides for the suspension of all professional, occupational and recreational licenses, certificates and permits issued to a person who is the holder of a driver's permit, the Authority shall deem the driver's permit issued to that person to be suspended at the end of the 30th day after the date on which the court order was issued unless the Authority receives a letter issued to the holder of the driver's permit by the district attorney or other public agency pursuant to NRS 425.550 stating that the holder of the driver's permit has complied with the subpoena or warrant or has satisfied the arrearage pursuant to NRS 425.560.
- 2. The Authority shall reinstate a driver's permit that has been suspended by a district court pursuant to NRS 425.540 if the Authority receives a letter issued by the district attorney or other public agency pursuant to NRS 425.550 to the person whose driver's permit was suspended stating that the person whose driver's permit was suspended has complied with the subpoena or warrant or has satisfied the arrearage pursuant to NRS 425.560.
- Sec. 9. 1. A fully regulated carrier of passengers shall not accept an application for employment from or enter into a lease with a person who wishes to be a driver of the fully regulated carrier of passengers unless the person submits to the carrier a physician's certificate which complies with the provisions of this section and which is issued by a physician who is licensed to practice medicine in this state.
- 2. A physician shall issue a physician's certificate and two copies thereof to a person who wishes to be a driver of a fully regulated carrier of passengers if the physician finds that the



person meets the applicable health requirements established by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, 49 C.F.R. §§ 391.41 et sea.

- 3. A physician's certificate that is issued pursuant to this section must:
- (a) State that the physician has examined the person and has found that the person meets the applicable health requirements established by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, 49 C.F.R. §§ 391.41 et seq.; and
- (b) Be signed and dated by the physician issuing the certificate.
- 4. A physician's certificate that is issued pursuant to this section expires 2 years after the date on which it was issued and may be renewed.
- Sec. 10. 1. A fully regulated carrier of passengers shall not employ, enter into a lease with, or require or allow a person to be a driver of the fully regulated carrier of passengers and a person shall not operate as a driver of a fully regulated carrier of passengers unless:
 - (a) The person has obtained and has on his person:
- (1) A driver's license issued to the person by this state pursuant to NRS 483.010 to 483.630, inclusive;
- (2) A driver's permit issued to the person by a member or the Deputy of the Authority pursuant to section 6 of this act; and
- (3) A copy of the physician's certificate issued to the person by a physician pursuant to section 9 of this act; and
- (b) If the person intends to operate as a driver of a taxicab motor carrier, the person has met any additional qualifications that have been established by ordinance pursuant to NRS 268.097.
- 2. At the time that a fully regulated carrier of passengers employs or enters into a lease with a person to be a driver of the fully regulated carrier of passengers, the carrier shall:
- (a) Provide the person with a complete copy of NRS 706.011 to 706.791, inclusive, and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act, and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto; and
- (b) Require the person to sign a statement acknowledging that he has received a complete copy of NRS 706.011 to 706.791, inclusive, and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act, and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, and has read and familiarized himself with the provisions included therein.
- Sec. 11. The Authority shall adopt regulations governing the conduct of the drivers of a fully regulated carrier of passengers to ensure the safety and comfort of the general public.



- Sec. 12. In addition to any other requirements, a person who applies for the issuance or renewal of a driver's permit shall submit to the Administrator:
- (a) In any application for issuance of a driver's permit, the social security number of the applicant and the statement prescribed by the Welfare Division of the Department of Human Resources pursuant to NRS 425.520. The statement must be completed and signed by the applicant.

(b) In any application for renewal of a driver's permit, the statement prescribed by the Welfare Division of the Department of Human Resources pursuant to NRS 425.520. The statement must

be completed and signed by the applicant.

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- 2. The Administrator shall include the statement required pursuant to subsection 1 in:
- (a) The application or any other forms that must be submitted for the issuance or renewal of the driver's permit; or
 - (b) A separate form prescribed by the Administrator.
- The Administrator shall not issue or renew a driver's permit if the applicant:
- (a) Fails to submit the statement required pursuant to subsection 1; or
- (b) Indicates on the statement submitted pursuant to subsection 1 that he is subject to a court order for the support of a child and is not in compliance with the order or a plan approved by the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order for the repayment of the amount owed pursuant to the order.
- 4. If an applicant indicates on the statement submitted pursuant to subsection 1 that he is subject to a court order for the support of a child and is not in compliance with the order or a plan approved by the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order for the repayment of the amount owed pursuant to the order, the Administrator shall advise the applicant to contact the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order to determine the actions that the applicant may take to satisfy the arrearage.
- Sec. 13. 1. If the Administrator receives a copy of a court order issued pursuant to NRS 425.540 that provides for the suspension of all professional, occupational and recreational licenses, certificates and permits issued to a person who is the holder of a driver's permit, the Administrator shall deem the driver's permit issued to that person to be suspended at the end of the 30th day after the date on which the court order was issued unless the Administrator receives a letter issued to the holder of the driver's permit by the district attorney or other public agency pursuant to NRS 425.550 stating that the holder of the driver's



permit has complied with the subpoena or warrant or has satisfied the arrearage pursuant to NRS 425.560.

2. The Administrator shall reinstate a driver's permit that has been suspended by a district court pursuant to NRS 425.540 if the Administrator receives a letter issued by the district attorney or other public agency pursuant to NRS 425.550 to the person whose driver's permit was suspended stating that the person whose driver's permit was suspended has complied with the subpoena or warrant or has satisfied the arrearage pursuant to NRS 425.560.

Sec. 14. NRS 706.011 is hereby amended to read as follows: 706.011 As used in NRS 706.011 to 706.791, inclusive, *and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act,* unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 706.013 to 706.146, inclusive, *and sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act* have the meanings

ascribed to them in those sections.

 Sec. 15. NRS 706.168 is hereby amended to read as follows: 706.168 *I*. The authority of the Transportation Services Authority to supervise and regulate [motor] carriers, *drivers* and brokers respectively, to the extent provided in this chapter, must be exercised separately. A [motor] carrier is responsible only for his own acts and [those of his employees or agents who are not brokers.] for any acts that the carrier knowingly required or allowed a driver, employee, agent or broker to perform. A broker is responsible only for his own acts and [those of his employees or agents who are not motor carriers.] for any acts that the broker knowingly required or allowed an employee or agent to perform.

2. The provisions of this section do not relieve a carrier from any obligation under its certificate of public convenience and necessity or from its duty to comply with this chapter and the

regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

Sec. 16. NRS 706.197 is hereby amended to read as follows: 706.197 1. [The] Except as otherwise provided in this section, the Authority may charge and collect fees for any application or for the filing of any official document required by this chapter or by a regulation of the Authority.

- 2. [Filing] Application fees and filing fees may not exceed:
- (a) For [applications, \$200.
- (b) For petitions an application to modify a tariff, \$100.
 - (b) For any other application, \$400.
 - (c) For the filing of a petition seeking affirmative relief, \$200.
- [(c) For each tariff page that requires public notice and is not attached to an application, \$10. If more than one page is filed at one time, the total fee may not exceed the cost of notice and publication.
- 44 (d) For all other documents that require]



(d) For the filing of any other document that requires public notice, [\$10.] \$75.

- 3. If an application or other document is rejected by the Authority because it is inadequate or inappropriate, the *application fee or* filing fee must be returned.
- 4. The Authority may not charge *or collect* any fee for *the* filing *of* a complaint.
- **Sec. 17.** NRS 706.2885 is hereby amended to read as follows: 706.2885 1. A certificate of public convenience and necessity, permit or license issued in accordance with this chapter is not a franchise and may be revoked.
- 2. [The Authority may at any time, for good cause shown,] Except as otherwise provided in this section and NRS 706.398, after investigation and hearing and upon 5 days' written notice to the [grantee, suspend any] holder of a certificate, permit or license issued pursuant to NRS 706.011 to 706.791, inclusive, and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act, the Authority may:
- (a) Suspend, for good cause shown, the holder's certificate, permit or license [issued in accordance with the provisions of NRS 706.011 to 706.791, inclusive,] for a period not to exceed 60 days.
- [3. Upon receipt of a written complaint or on its own motion, the Authority may, after investigation and hearing, revoke any]
- (b) Revoke the holder's certificate, permit or license [. If service] if the holder has:
- (1) Violated any provision of NRS 706.011 to 706.791, inclusive, and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto; or
- (2) Knowingly required or allowed any driver, employee, agent or broker of the holder to violate any provision of NRS 706.011 to 706.791, inclusive, and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto.
- 3. The Authority may, without a hearing, suspend or revoke the holder's certificate, permit or license and impose any other penalties authorized by NRS 706.011 to 706.791, inclusive, and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act if:
- (a) Service of the notice required by subsection 2 cannot be made [or if the grantee];
 - (b) The holder waives the right to a hearing; or
- (c) The holder relinquishes his interest in the certificate, permit or license by so notifying the Authority in writing. [, the Authority may revoke the certificate, permit or license without a hearing.
 - 4. The proceedings thereafter are governed by]
- 4. If the holder of a certificate, permit or license fails to appear at the time and place set forth in the notice for any hearing, the Authority shall enter a finding of default. Upon the



entering of a finding of default, the Authority may suspend or revoke the holder's certificate, permit or license and impose any other penalties authorized by NRS 706.011 to 706.791, inclusive, and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act. For good cause shown, the Authority may set aside a finding of default entered pursuant to this subsection and proceed with a hearing on the matter.

5. If the Authority suspends or revokes a certificate, permit or license or imposes any other penalties authorized by NRS 706.011 to 706.791, inclusive, and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act, the person aggrieved by the decision of the Authority may seek judicial review pursuant to the provisions of chapter 233B of NRS.

Sec. 18. NRS 706.361 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 706.361 1. A person with a disability is entitled to the full and equal enjoyment of the facilities of any common motor carrier of passengers, contract motor carrier of passengers or other entity providing a means of public conveyance and transportation operating within this state.
- 2. A common motor carrier of passengers, a contract motor carrier of passengers and *any* other [entities] entity providing *a* means of public conveyance and transportation operating within this state shall designate a person responsible for ensuring that the carrier or entity complies with the applicable provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 to 12213, inclusive, and 47 U.S.C. §§ 225 and 611, and the regulations adopted pursuant to that act.
- 3. The person designated pursuant to subsection 2 shall conduct training sessions for the employees of the carrier or entity. And for the independent contractors who are drivers of the carrier or entity. Each such employee and independent contractor must be provided at least 3 hours of training during one or more training sessions. The training must be completed not later than 3 months after the employee begins his employment with the carrier or entity or the independent contractor begins driving for the carrier or entity. During the training sessions, the designee shall:
- (a) Describe the [carrier's] plan of the carrier or entity for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the regulations adopted pursuant to that act;
- (b) Explain the obligations of the employees *and independent contractors* to assist a person with a disability to store a mobility device;
- (c) Explain the illegality of charging an additional fee or a higher fare to a person with a disability; and
- (d) Ensure that each employee *and independent contractor* is trained in accordance with the requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 37.173.



4. It is unlawful for any person to deny any of the privileges granted by subsection 1.

- 5. It is unlawful for any common motor carrier [,] of passengers, contract motor carrier of passengers or other entity providing a means of public conveyance or transportation operating within this state, to:
- (a) Deny the equal enjoyment of its services and facilities to a person with a disability by the arbitrary, capricious or unreasonable interference, direct or indirect, with the use of aids and appliances used by a person with a disability;
 - (b) Fail to designate a person pursuant to subsection 2; or
- (c) Fail to conduct the training sessions in the manner described in subsection 3.
- 6. It is unlawful for a driver of any common motor carrier of passengers, contract motor carrier of passengers or other entity providing a means of public conveyance or transportation operating within this state, to:
- (a) Deny the equal enjoyment of the services and facilities of the driver, carrier or entity to a person with a disability by the arbitrary, capricious or unreasonable interference, direct or indirect, with the use of aids and appliances used by a person with a disability; or
- (b) Fail to complete the training sessions in the manner described in subsection 3.
- 7. As used in this section, "disability" has the meaning ascribed to it in 49 C.F.R. § 37.3.
 - **Sec. 19.** NRS 706.366 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 706.366 1. It is unlawful for [a] any common motor carrier of passengers, contract motor carrier of passengers or other entity providing a means of public conveyance or transportation operating [in] within this state, or for a driver of such a carrier or entity, to:
- (a) Refuse service to a visually, aurally or physically handicapped person because he is accompanied by a guide dog, hearing dog, helping dog or other service animal;
- (b) Refuse service to a person who is training a guide dog, hearing dog, helping dog or other service animal because he is accompanied by such an animal; or
 - (c) Charge an additional fee for such an animal.
- 2. This section does not relieve a visually, aurally or physically handicapped person or a person who trains a guide dog, hearing dog, helping dog or other service animal from liability for damage which may be caused by his animal.
- 3. Visually, aurally or physically handicapped persons accompanied by guide dogs, hearing dogs, helping dogs or other



service animals are subject to the same conditions and limitations that apply to persons who are not so handicapped and accompanied.

4. [For the purposes of] As used in this section, the terms "guide dog," "hearing dog," "helping dog" and "service animal" have the meanings ascribed to them respectively in NRS 426.075, 426.081, 426.083 and 426.097.

Sec. 20. NRS 706.386 is hereby amended to read as follows:

706.386 [It is unlawful, except] Except as otherwise provided in NRS 373.117, 706.446, 706.453 and 706.745, it is unlawful for any person to operate as a fully regulated common motor carrier [to operate as a carrier of] within this state in intrastate commerce [and] or for any operator of a tow car to perform towing services within this state without first obtaining a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Authority.

Sec. 21. NRS 706.391 is hereby amended to read as follows:

706.391 1. Upon the filing of an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to operate as a *common* motor carrier, other than an operator of a tow car, *or an application for modification of such a certificate*, the Authority shall fix a time and place for *a* hearing [thereon.] *on the application*.

- 2. The Authority shall **[issue such a]** grant the certificate or modification if it finds that:
- (a) The applicant is fit, willing and able to perform the services of a common motor carrier [;] and has paid all fees and costs related to the application;
- (b) The proposed operation *or the proposed modification* will be consistent with the legislative policies set forth in NRS 706.151;
- (c) The granting of the certificate *or modification* will not unreasonably and adversely affect other carriers operating in the territory for which the certificate *or modification* is sought; and
- (d) The proposed **[service]** *operation or the proposed modification* will benefit the traveling and shipping public and the motor carrier business in this state.
- 3. The Authority shall not find that the potential creation of competition in a territory which may be caused by the granting of [a certificate,] the certificate or modification, by itself, will unreasonably and adversely affect other carriers operating in the territory for the purposes of paragraph (c) of subsection 2.
- 4. [An] The applicant for [such a certificate has] the certificate or modification:
- (a) Has the burden of proving to the Authority that the proposed operation or the proposed modification will meet the requirements of subsection 2 : and
- (b) Must pay the amounts billed to the applicant by the Authority for the costs incurred by the Authority in conducting



any investigation or hearing regarding the applicant and the application.

- 5. The Authority may issue *or modify* a certificate of public convenience and necessity to operate as a common motor carrier, or issue *or modify* it for:
 - (a) The exercise of the privilege sought.

- (b) The partial exercise of the privilege sought.
- 6. The Authority may attach to the certificate such terms and conditions as, in its judgment, the public interest may require.
- 7. The Authority may dispense with the hearing on the application if, upon the expiration of the time fixed in the notice thereof, no petition to intervene has been filed on behalf of any person who has filed a protest against the granting of the certificate or modification.
- Sec. 22. NRS 706.398 is hereby amended to read as follows: 706.398 [The] In accordance with the procedural requirements set forth in NRS 706.2885, the Authority:
- 1. Shall revoke or suspend [, pursuant to the provisions of this chapter,] the certificate of public convenience and necessity of a common motor carrier which has failed to:
- (a) File the annual report required by NRS 706.167 within 60 days after the report is due; or
- (b) Operate as a carrier of intrastate commerce in this state under the terms and conditions of its certificate, unless the carrier has obtained the prior permission of the Authority.
- 2. May revoke or suspend [, pursuant to the provisions of NRS 706.2885,] the certificate of public convenience and necessity of a common motor carrier which has [failed to comply with]:
- (a) Violated any provision of [this chapter] NRS 706.011 to 706.791, inclusive, and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act or any regulation [of the Authority] adopted pursuant thereto [.]; or
- (b) Knowingly required or allowed any driver, employee, agent or broker of the carrier to violate any provision of NRS 706.011 to 706.791, inclusive, and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto.
 - **Sec. 23.** NRS 706.411 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 706.411 Every order [refusing or] of the Authority granting or refusing to grant any [certificates] certificate of public convenience and necessity [,] or granting or refusing [permission to discontinue, modify or restrict service] to grant any modification of a certificate of public convenience and necessity is prima facie lawful from the date of the order until changed or modified by the order of the Authority pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.



Sec. 24. NRS 706.421 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 706.421 It is unlawful for any *person to operate as a* contract motor carrier [to act as such] within this state in intrastate commerce without first [having obtained] obtaining a permit [therefor.] for the operation.
 - **Sec. 25.** NRS 706.436 is hereby amended to read as follows:

706.436 Any person who has been denied a permit to [aet] operate as a contract motor carrier after hearing may not file a similar application with the Authority covering the same type of service and over the same route or routes or in the same territory for which the permit was denied except after the expiration of 180 days after the date the permit was denied.

- **Sec. 26.** NRS 706.4463 is hereby amended to read as follows: 706.4463 1. In addition to the other requirements of this chapter, each operator of a tow car shall, to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public:
- (a) Obtain a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Authority before he provides any services other than those services which he provides as a private motor carrier of property pursuant to the provisions of this chapter;
- (b) Use a tow car of sufficient size and weight which is appropriately equipped to transport safely the vehicle which is being towed; and
- (c) Comply with the provisions of NRS 706.011 to 706.791, inclusive [...], and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act.
- 2. A person who wishes to obtain a certificate of public convenience and necessity to operate a tow car *or to modify such a certificate* must file an application with the Authority.
- 3. The Authority shall **[issue a certificate of public convenience** and necessity to an operator of a tow car] grant the certificate or modification if it determines that the applicant:
- (a) Complies with the requirements of paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection 1;
- (b) Complies with the requirements of the regulations adopted by the Authority pursuant to the provisions of this chapter;
- (c) Has provided evidence that he has filed with the Authority a liability insurance policy, a certificate of insurance or a bond of a surety and bonding company or other surety required for every operator of a tow car pursuant to the provisions of NRS 706.291; [and]
- (d) Has provided evidence that he has filed with the Authority schedules and tariffs pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 706.321 [-4. An]; and
 - (e) Has paid all fees and costs related to the application.



4. The applicant for [a certificate has] the certificate or modification:

- (a) Has the burden of proving to the Authority that the proposed operation or the proposed modification will meet the requirements of subsection 3 : ; and
- (b) Must pay the amounts billed to the applicant by the Authority for the costs incurred by the Authority in conducting any investigation or hearing regarding the applicant and the application.
- 5. The Authority may hold a hearing to determine whether [an] the applicant is entitled to [a] the certificate or modification only if:
- (a) Upon the expiration of the time fixed in the notice [that an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity is pending,] of the application, a petition to intervene has been granted by the Authority; or
- (b) The Authority finds that after reviewing the information provided by the applicant and inspecting the operations of the applicant, it cannot make a determination as to whether the applicant has complied with the requirements of subsection 3.
 - **Sec. 27.** NRS 706.451 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 706.451 1. Each owner or operator of a tow car subject to the jurisdiction of the Authority shall, before commencing to operate or continuing operation after July 1, 1971, and annually thereafter, pay to the Authority, for each tow car operated, a fee of not more than [\$36.] \$75.
- 2. The fee provided in this section must be paid on or before January 1 of each year.
- 3. The initial fee must be reduced one-twelfth for each month which has elapsed since the beginning of the calendar year before July 1, 1971, for those tow cars lawfully operating on that date or before the commencement of operation of each tow car commencing operation after July 1, 1971.
- 4. Any person who fails to pay any fee on or before the date provided in this section shall pay a penalty of 10 percent of the amount of the fee plus interest on the amount of the fee at the rate of 1 percent per month or fraction of a month from the date the fee is due until the date of payment.
 - **Sec. 28.** NRS 706.476 is hereby amended to read as follows: 706.476 Except as otherwise provided in NRS 706.478:
- 1. A vehicle used [as a taxicab, limousine or other passenger vehicle in passenger service] by any person or entity in this state to provide any kind of transportation of passengers or property that is subject to the jurisdiction of the Authority must be impounded by the Authority if a valid and appropriate certificate [of public convenience and necessity], permit or license has not been issued



authorizing [its operation.] the operation of the vehicle. A hearing must be held by the Authority [no] not later than the conclusion of the second normal business day after impoundment, weekends and holidays excluded. As soon as practicable after impoundment, the Authority shall notify the registered owner of the vehicle [:

(a) That the registered owner of the vehicle must post a bond in the amount of \$20,000 to ensure his presence at all proceedings held pursuant to this section;

(b) Of the of:

(a) The time set for the hearing; and (c) Of his]

(b) His right to be represented by counsel during all phases of the proceedings.

- 2. The Authority shall hold the vehicle until the registered owner of the vehicle appears and [:
- 16 (a) Proves that hel proves that:
 - (a) He is the registered owner of the vehicle;
 - (b) [Proves that he] He holds a valid and appropriate certificate [of public convenience and necessity;
 - (c) Proves that the permit or license authorizing the operation of the vehicle; and
 - (c) The vehicle meets all required standards of the Authority. [;
 - (d) Posts a bond in the amount of \$20,000 with the Authority.]

The Authority shall return the vehicle to its registered owner when the owner meets the requirements of this subsection and pays all costs of impoundment.

3. If the registered owner is unable to meet the requirements of paragraph (b) or (c) of subsection 2, the Authority may assess an administrative fine against the registered owner for each such violation in the amount of \$5,000. The maximum amount of the administrative fine that may be assessed against a registered owner for a single impoundment of his vehicle pursuant to this section is \$10,000. The Authority shall return the vehicle after any administrative fine imposed pursuant to this subsection and all costs of impoundment have been paid.

Sec. 29. NRS 706.6411 is hereby amended to read as follows: 706.6411 1. All motor carriers, other than operators of tow cars, regulated pursuant to NRS 706.011 to 706.791, inclusive, *and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act* to whom the certificates, permits and licenses provided by NRS 706.011 to 706.791, inclusive, *and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act* have been issued may transfer them to another carrier, other than an operator of a tow car, qualified pursuant to NRS 706.011 to 706.791,



inclusive, and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act but no such transfer is valid for any purpose until a joint application to make the transfer has been made to the Authority by the transferor and the transferee, and the Authority has authorized the substitution of the transferee for the transferor. No transfer of stock of a corporate motor carrier subject to the jurisdiction of the Authority is valid without the prior approval of the Authority if the effect of the transfer would be to change the corporate control of the carrier or if a transfer of 15 percent or more of the common stock of the carrier is proposed.

- 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the Authority shall fix a time and place for a hearing to be held unless the application is made to transfer the certificate from a natural person or partners to a corporation whose controlling stockholders will be substantially the same person or partners, and may hold a hearing to consider such an application.
- 3. The Authority may also dispense with the hearing on the joint application to transfer if, upon the expiration of the time fixed in the notice thereof, no protest against the transfer of the certificate or permit has been filed by or in behalf of any interested person.
- 4. In determining whether or not the transfer of a certificate of public convenience and necessity or a permit to [aet] operate as a contract motor carrier should be authorized, the Authority shall consider:
- (a) The service which has been performed by the transferor and that which may be performed by the transferee.
- (b) Other authorized facilities for transportation in the territory for which the transfer is sought.
- (c) Whether or not the transferee is fit, willing and able to perform the services of a common or contract motor carrier by vehicle and whether or not the proposed operation would be consistent with the legislative policy set forth in NRS 706.151.
- 5. Upon a transfer made pursuant to this section, the Authority may make such amendments, restrictions or modifications in a certificate or permit as the public interest may require.
- 6. No transfer is valid beyond the life of the certificate, permit or license transferred.
 - **Sec. 30.** NRS 706.756 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 706.756 1. Except as otherwise provided in [subsection 2,] this section, any person who:
- (a) Operates a vehicle or causes it to be operated in any carriage to which the provisions of NRS 706.011 to 706.861, inclusive, *and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act* apply without first obtaining any certificate, permit or license [required for the operation,



or in violation of the terms [thereof;] of any certificate, permit or license required for the operation;

- (b) Fails to make any return or report required by the provisions of NRS 706.011 to 706.861, inclusive, and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act, or by the Authority or the Department pursuant to the provisions of NRS 706.011 to 706.861, inclusive [;], and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act;
- (c) Violates [,] or procures, aids or abets the [violating of,] violation of any provision of NRS 706.011 to 706.861, inclusive [,], and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto or knowingly requires or allows any driver, employee, agent or broker to violate or procure, aid or abet the violation of any provision of NRS 706.011 to 706.861, inclusive, and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto;
- (d) Fails to obey any order, decision or regulation of the Authority or the Department;
- (e) Procures, aids or abets any person in his failure to obey such an order, decision or regulation of the Authority or the Department;
- (f) Advertises, solicits, proffers bids or otherwise holds himself out to perform transportation as a common or contract *motor* carrier in violation of any of the provisions of NRS 706.011 to 706.861, inclusive ; and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act;
 - (g) Advertises as providing:

- (1) The services of a fully regulated carrier; or
- (2) Towing services,
- without including the number of his certificate of public convenience and necessity or contract carrier's permit in each advertisement;
- (h) Knowingly offers, gives, solicits or accepts any rebate, concession or discrimination in violation of the provisions of this chapter:
- (i) Knowingly, willfully and fraudulently seeks to evade or defeat the purposes of this chapter;
- (j) Operates or causes to be operated a vehicle which does not have the proper identifying device;
- (k) Displays or causes or permits to be displayed a certificate, permit, license or identifying device, knowing it to be fictitious or to have been canceled, revoked, suspended or altered;
- (1) Lends or knowingly permits the use of by one not entitled thereto any certificate, permit, license or identifying device issued to the person so lending or permitting the use thereof; [or]
- (m) Refuses or fails to surrender to the Authority or *the* Department any certificate, permit, license or identifying device



which has been suspended, canceled or revoked pursuant to the provisions of this chapter ; or

- (n) Knowingly makes or causes to be made, directly or indirectly, a false statement on any application, account or other statement required by or filed with the Authority,
- 6 is guilty of a misdemeanor [, and upon conviction thereof] and shall 7 be punished by a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000. [, 8 or] In addition to the fine, the person may be punished by 9 imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 6 months. [, or by both fine and imprisonment.
 - 2. A person convicted of a misdemeanor for a]

- 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, any person who, in violation of the provisions of NRS 706.386, operates as a fully regulated common motor carrier or as an operator of a tow car without first obtaining a certificate of public convenience and necessity or any person who, in violation of the provisions of NRS 706.421, operates as a contract motor carrier without first obtaining a permit is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished:
- (a) For [the] a first offense [,] within a period of 12 consecutive months, by a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000. [;] In addition to the fine, the person may be punished by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 6 months.
- (b) For a second offense within a period of 12 consecutive months and for each subsequent offense [,] that is committed within a period of 12 consecutive months of any prior offense under this subsection, by a fine of \$1,000. [; or
- (c) For any offense, In addition to the fine, the person may be punished by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 6 months. [, or by both the prescribed fine and imprisonment.]
- 3. Any person who, *in violation of the provisions of NRS* 706.386, operates or permits the operation of a vehicle in passenger service without *first obtaining* a certificate of public convenience and necessity [issued pursuant to NRS 706.391] is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.
- 4. If a law enforcement officer witnesses a violation of [this subsection, he] any provision of subsection 2 or 3, the law enforcement officer may cause the vehicle to be towed immediately from the scene [.
- —4.] and impounded in accordance with NRS 706.476.
- 5. The fines provided in this section are mandatory and must not be reduced under any circumstances by the court.
- **[5.]** 6. Any bail allowed must not be less than the appropriate fine provided for by this section.



7. The conviction of a person pursuant to this chapter does not prohibit the Authority or another agency or officer from seeking a civil remedy or penalty, imposing an administrative fine, or suspending or revoking any certificate, permit or license of the person convicted. The imposition of a civil remedy or penalty or an administrative fine or the suspension or revocation of a certificate, permit or license by the Authority or another agency or officer does not operate as a defense in any criminal proceeding brought pursuant to this chapter.

Sec. 31. NRS 706.881 is hereby amended to read as follows:

706.881 1. The provisions of NRS [706.8811] 706.881 to 706.885, inclusive, *and sections 12 and 13 of this act* apply to any county:

(a) Whose population is 400,000 or more; or

- (b) For whom regulation by the Taxicab Authority is not required, if the board of county commissioners of the county has enacted an ordinance approving the inclusion of the county within the jurisdiction of the Taxicab Authority.
- 2. Upon receipt of a certified copy of such an ordinance from a county for whom regulation by the Taxicab Authority is not required, the Taxicab Authority shall exercise its regulatory authority pursuant to NRS [706.8811] 706.881 to 706.885, inclusive, and sections 12 and 13 of this act within that county.
- 3. Within any such county, the provisions of this chapter which confer regulatory authority over taxicab motor carriers upon the Transportation Services Authority do not apply.

Sec. 32. NRS 706.8811 is hereby amended to read as follows: 706.8811 As used in NRS 706.881 to 706.885, inclusive, *and sections 12 and 13 of this act,* unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 706.8812 to 706.8817, inclusive, have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

Sec. 33. NRS 706.88395 is hereby amended to read as follows:

706.88395 1. A vehicle used [as a taxicab, limousine or other passenger vehicle in passenger service] by any person or entity in this state to provide any kind of transportation of passengers or property that is subject to the jurisdiction of the Taxicab Authority must be impounded by the Administrator if a certificate of public convenience and necessity has not been issued authorizing [its operation.] the operation of the vehicle. A hearing must be held by the Administrator [no] not later than the conclusion of the second normal business day after impoundment, weekends and holidays excluded. As soon as practicable after impoundment, the Administrator shall notify the registered owner of the vehicle:



- (a) That the registered owner of the vehicle must post a bond in the amount of \$20,000 to ensure his presence at all proceedings held pursuant to this section:
 - (b) Of the time set for the hearing; and

- (c) Of his right to be represented by counsel during all phases of the proceedings.
- 2. The Administrator shall hold the vehicle until the registered owner of the vehicle appears and:
 - (a) Proves that he is the registered owner of the vehicle;
- (b) Proves that he holds a valid certificate of public convenience and necessity;
- (c) Proves that the vehicle meets all required standards of the Authority; and
- (d) Posts a bond in the amount of \$20,000 with the Administrator.

The Administrator shall return the vehicle to its registered owner when the owner meets the requirements of this subsection and pays all costs of impoundment.

- 3. If the registered owner is unable to meet the requirements of paragraph (b) or (c) of subsection 2, the Administrator may assess an administrative fine against the registered owner for each such violation in the amount of \$5,000. The maximum amount of the administrative fine that may be assessed against a registered owner for a single impoundment of his vehicle pursuant to this section is \$10,000. The Administrator shall return the vehicle after any administrative fine imposed pursuant to this subsection and all costs of impoundment have been paid.
- **Sec. 34.** NRS 706.8841 is hereby amended to read as follows: 706.8841 1. The Administrator shall issue a driver's permit to qualified persons who wish to be employed by certificate holders as taxicab drivers [-] and who comply with the requirements for the issuance of a driver's permit.
 - 2. Before issuing a driver's permit, the Administrator shall:
- (a) Require the applicant to submit a *complete* set of his fingerprints [, which must be forwarded] and written permission authorizing the Administrator to forward the fingerprints to the Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal History for submission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation to ascertain whether the applicant has a criminal record and the nature of any such record, and shall further investigate the applicant's background; and
 - (b) Require proof that the applicant:
- (1) Has been a resident of the State for 30 days before his application for a permit;



(2) Can read and orally communicate in the English language; and

- (3) Has a valid license issued under NRS 483.325 which authorizes him to drive a taxicab in this state.
- [2.] 3. The Administrator may refuse to issue a driver's permit if the applicant has been convicted of:
- (a) A felony, other than a felony involving any sexual offense, in this state or any other jurisdiction within 5 years before the date of the application;
- (b) A felony involving any sexual offense in this state or any other jurisdiction at any time before the date of the application; or
- (c) A violation of NRS 484.379 or 484.3795, or a law of any other jurisdiction that prohibits the same or similar conduct, within 3 years before the date of the application.
- [3.] 4. The Administrator may refuse to issue a driver's permit if the Administrator, after the background investigation of the applicant, determines that the applicant is morally unfit or if the issuance of the driver's permit would be detrimental to public health, welfare or safety.
- [4.] 5. A taxicab driver shall pay to the Administrator, in advance, \$20 for an original driver's permit and \$5 for a renewal.
 - **Sec. 35.** NRS 706.885 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 706.885 1. Any person who knowingly makes or causes to be made, either directly or indirectly, a false statement on an application, account or other statement required by the Taxicab Authority or the Administrator or who violates any of the provisions of NRS 706.881 to 706.885, inclusive, *and sections 12 and 13 of this act* is guilty of a misdemeanor.
- 2. The Taxicab Authority or Administrator may at any time, for good cause shown and upon at least 5 days' notice to the grantee of any certificate or driver's permit, and after a hearing unless waived by the grantee, penalize the grantee of a certificate to a maximum amount of \$15,000 or penalize the grantee of a driver's permit to a maximum amount of \$500, or suspend or revoke the certificate or driver's permit granted by it or him, respectively, for:
- (a) Any violation of any provision of NRS 706.881 to 706.885, inclusive, *and sections 12 and 13 of this act* or any regulation of the Taxicab Authority or Administrator.
- (b) Knowingly permitting or requiring any employee to violate any provision of NRS 706.881 to 706.885, inclusive, *and sections* 12 and 13 of this act or any regulation of the Taxicab Authority or Administrator.
- 43 If a penalty is imposed on the grantee of a certificate pursuant to this section, the Taxicab Authority or Administrator may require the



grantee to pay the costs of the proceeding, including investigative costs and attorney's fees.

- 3. When a driver or certificate holder fails to appear at the time and place stated in the notice for the hearing, the Administrator shall enter a finding of default. Upon a finding of default, the Administrator may suspend or revoke the license, permit or certificate of the person who failed to appear and impose the penalties provided in this chapter. For good cause shown, the Administrator may set aside a finding of default and proceed with the hearing.
- 4. Any person who operates or permits a taxicab to be operated in passenger service without a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued pursuant to NRS 706.8827 [,] is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. If a law enforcement officer witnesses a violation of this subsection, [he] the law enforcement officer may cause the vehicle to be towed immediately from the scene [.] and impounded in accordance with NRS 706.88395.
- 5. The conviction of a person pursuant to [subsection 1] this chapter does not bar the Taxicab Authority [or], the Administrator, or another agency or officer from seeking a civil remedy or penalty, imposing an administrative fine, or suspending or revoking any certificate, permit or license of the person convicted. The imposition of a civil remedy or penalty or an administrative fine or the suspension or revocation of any certificate, permit or license by the Taxicab Authority [or], the Administrator, or another agency or officer does not operate as a defense in any criminal proceeding brought [under subsection 1.] pursuant to this chapter.

Sec. 36. NRS 268.097 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 268.097 1. Except as otherwise provided in [subsections 2 and 3,] this section, notwithstanding the provisions of any local, special or general law, after July 1, 1963, the governing body of any incorporated city in this state, whether incorporated by general or special act [,] or otherwise, may not supervise or regulate any taxicab motor carrier as defined in NRS 706.126 which is under the supervision and regulation of the Transportation Services Authority pursuant to law.
- 2. The governing body of any incorporated city in this state, whether incorporated by general or special act [,] or otherwise, may fix, impose and collect a license tax on and from a taxicab motor carrier for revenue purposes only.
- 3. The governing body of any incorporated city in any county in which the provisions of NRS [706.8811] 706.881 to 706.885, inclusive, *and sections 12 and 13 of this act* do not apply, whether incorporated by general or special act [,] or otherwise, may regulate



by ordinance the qualifications required of employees or lessees of a taxicab motor carrier in a manner consistent with *the provisions of NRS 706.011 to 706.791*, *inclusive*, *and sections 2 to 11*, *inclusive*, *of this act and* the regulations adopted by the Transportation Services Authority.

- **Sec. 37.** 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of this act, before March 1, 2004, if a person is not in compliance with the provisions of sections 6 to 11, inclusive, of this act, a fully regulated carrier of passengers may employ, enter into a lease with, or require or allow the person to be a driver of the fully regulated carrier of passengers and the person may operate as a driver of the fully regulated carrier of passengers without being in compliance with the provisions of sections 6 to 11, inclusive, of this act.
- 2. On and after March 1, 2004, each fully regulated carrier of passengers and each person who is or who wishes to be a driver of a fully regulated carrier of passengers shall comply with the provisions of sections 6 to 11, inclusive, of this act.
- **Sec. 38.** 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of this act, before March 1, 2004, the provisions of this act do not preempt any ordinance enacted pursuant to NRS 268.097 which regulates the qualifications of a driver of a taxicab motor carrier.
- 2. On and after March 1, 2004, the provisions of this act do not preempt any ordinance enacted pursuant to NRS 268.097 which regulates the qualifications of a driver of a taxicab motor carrier if the ordinance may be enforced in a manner consistent with the provisions of NRS 706.011 to 706.791, inclusive, and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act and the regulations adopted by the Transportation Services Authority.
- **Sec. 39.** 1. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.
- 2. The provisions of sections 7, 8, 12 and 13 of this act expire by limitation on the date on which the provisions of 42 U.S.C. § 666 requiring each state to establish procedures under which the State has authority to withhold or suspend, or to restrict the use of professional, occupational and recreational licenses of persons who:
- (a) Have failed to comply with a subpoena or warrant relating to a procedure to determine the paternity of a child or to establish or enforce an obligation for the support of a child; or
- (b) Are in arrears in the payment for the support of one or more children,
- are repealed by the Congress of the United States.



