

Administration of Motor Vehicle Functions; Titling and Registration; SB 164

SB 164 creates the statutory mechanism to allow the Department of Revenue (Department) to contract out to a person, partnership, corporation, local or county government, county treasurer, or other state agency any services associated with vehicle functions. The bill also alphabetizes various definitions related to registration of vehicles, adds six definitions for terms related to vehicle registration (“contractor,” “electric vehicle,” “electronic notice of security interest,” “lien,” “notice of security interest,” and “vehicle functions”), modifies two definitions, and makes related technical amendments.

The bill allows the Department to appoint contractors to perform functions relating to certificates of title, driver’s licenses, division-issued identification cards, and personal property taxation duties. For services related to the application, processing, auditing, and distribution of original or renewal vehicle registrations, the Department first must determine that a county treasurer has failed to maintain minimum standards of practice and service, as determined by the Department, before a contractor may be appointed.

The Secretary of Revenue is authorized to adopt rules and regulations to implement and administer contracts with county treasurers and contractors to perform vehicle functions and establish minimum standards and practices for vehicle functions. Any Department order suspending or revoking a county treasurer’s responsibility to perform vehicle functions must include requirements for the county treasurer’s reinstatement.

The definition of “motor home” in the Uniform Act Regulating Traffic is modified, from “a vehicle designed, used or maintained primarily as a mobile dwelling, office or commercial space” to “a vehicle designed to provide temporary living quarters for recreational, camping or travel use.” The definition of “automobile dealer” in an insurance statute is modified to reflect vehicle registration statute definitions of “new vehicle dealer” and “used vehicle dealer” and remove a reference to a repealed statute.