

Vehicle Registration Amendments

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Katy Hall

LONG TITLE**General Description:**

This bill allows the cancellation of vehicle registration and the refund of certain taxes and fees on a pro rata basis.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- allows the owner of certain vehicles to cancel the registration of the vehicle;
- allows the owner of a vehicle that cancels the registration of the vehicle to receive a refund of the registration fees and uniform fees in lieu of ad valorem tax on a pro rata basis; and
- makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

This bill provides a special effective date.

Utah Code Sections Affected:**AMENDS:**

41-1a-209, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 135

59-2-405.1 (Effective 01/01/26), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2012, Chapter 397

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **41-1a-209** is amended to read:

41-1a-209 . Application for registration -- Contents -- Cancellation of registration.

- (1) An owner of a vehicle subject to registration under this part shall apply to the division for registration on forms furnished by the division.
- (2) The application for registration shall include:
 - (a) the signature of an owner of the vehicle to be registered;
 - (b) the name, bona fide residence and mailing address of the owner, or business address of the owner if the owner is a firm, association, or corporation;

(c) a description of the vehicle including the make, model, type of body, the model year as specified by the manufacturer, the number of cylinders, and the identification number of the vehicle;

(d) other information required by the division to enable it to determine whether the owner is lawfully entitled to register the vehicle; and

(e) an indication if the applicant is applying for automatic registration renewal as described in Section 41-1a-216.

(3)(a) A vehicle owner may cancel registration of the vehicle electronically in the manner prescribed by the division.

(b) A cancellation of registration described in Subsection (3)(a) does not obviate the requirement for registration described in Section 41-1a-201.

(4)(a) Subject to Subsection (4)(c) and (d), if an owner of a vehicle cancels the registration of the vehicle, the owner of the vehicle that is 12,000 pounds or less gross laden weight subject to registration under this part is entitled to a refund of the following fees for the portion of the year remaining since the date the fees were due for that year:

(i) fees described in Section 41-1a-1206;

(ii) fees described in Section 41-1a-1222; and

(iii) fees described in Section 41-1a-1223.

(b) The division shall refund the registration fee on a pro rata monthly basis for any whole month remaining in the 12-month registration period after the date of the cancellation.

(c) The division may withhold from the refund amount the mailing and administrative costs of administering the refund.

(d) If the costs to administer the refund exceed the amount of the refund, the owner of the vehicle is not entitled to the refund.

Section 2. Section 59-2-405.1 is amended to read:

59-2-405.1 (Effective 01/01/26). Uniform fee on certain vehicles weighing 12,000 pounds or less -- Distribution of revenues -- Appeals -- Refunds.

(1) The property described in Subsection (2) is exempt from ad valorem property taxes pursuant to Utah Constitution, Article XIII, Section 2, Subsection (6).

(2)(a) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(b), there is levied as provided in this part a statewide uniform fee in lieu of the ad valorem tax on:

(i) motor vehicles as defined in Section 41-1a-102 that:

- 65 (A) are required to be registered with the state; and
 66 (B) weigh 12,000 pounds or less; and
 67 (ii) state-assessed commercial vehicles required to be registered with the state that
 68 weigh 12,000 pounds or less.
 69 (b) The following tangible personal property is exempt from the statewide uniform fee
 70 imposed by this section:
 71 (i) aircraft;
 72 (ii) tangible personal property subject to a uniform fee imposed by:
 73 (A) Section 59-2-405;
 74 (B) Section 59-2-405.2; or
 75 (C) Section 59-2-405.3; and
 76 (iii) tangible personal property that is exempt from state or county ad valorem
 77 property taxes under the laws of this state or of the federal government.
 78 (3)(a) Except as provided in Subsections (3)(b) and (c), beginning on January 1, 1999,
 79 the uniform fee for purposes of this section is as follows:

Age of Vehicle	Uniform Fee
12 or more years	\$10
9 or more years but less than 12 years	\$50
6 or more years but less than 9 years	\$80
3 or more years but less than 6 years	\$110
Less than 3 years	\$150

- 86 (b) For registrations under Section 41-1a-215.5, the uniform fee for purposes of this
 87 section is as follows:

Age of Vehicle	Uniform Fee
12 or more years	\$7.75
9 or more years but less than 12 years	\$38.50
6 or more years but less than 9 years	\$61.50
3 or more years but less than 6 years	\$84.75
Less than 3 years	\$115.50

- 94 (c) Notwithstanding Subsections (3)(a) and (b), beginning on September 1, 2001, for a
 95 motor vehicle issued a temporary sports event registration certificate in accordance

with Section 41-3-306, the uniform fee for purposes of this section is \$5 for the event period specified on the temporary sports event registration certificate regardless of the age of the motor vehicle.

(4) Notwithstanding Section 59-2-407, property subject to the uniform fee that is brought into the state and is required to be registered in Utah shall, as a condition of registration, be subject to the uniform fee unless all property taxes or uniform fees imposed by the state of origin have been paid for the current calendar year.

(5)(a) The revenues collected in each county from the uniform fee shall be distributed by the county to each taxing entity in which the property described in Subsection (2) is located in the same proportion in which revenue collected from ad valorem real property tax is distributed.

(b) Each taxing entity shall distribute the revenues received under Subsection (5)(a) in the same proportion in which revenue collected from ad valorem real property tax is distributed.

(6)(a) If the owner of a vehicle subject to the uniform fee in lieu of the ad valorem tax described in this section cancels the registration of the vehicle as described in Section 41-1a-209, the owner is entitled to a refund of the uniform fee in lieu of the ad valorem tax paid under this section for the portion of the year remaining since the date the uniform fee in lieu of the ad valorem tax was paid.

(b) The division shall refund the uniform fee in lieu of the ad valorem tax on a pro rata monthly basis for any whole month remaining in the 12-month registration period after the date of the cancellation.

(c) The commission may withhold from the refund amount the mailing and administrative costs of administering the refund.

(d) If the costs to administer the refund exceed the amount of the refund, the owner of the vehicle is not entitled to the refund.

Section 3. **Effective Date.**

This bill takes effect on January 1, 2026.