



# **Texas Department of Transportation**

VEHICLE TITLES AND REGISTRATION DIVISION • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78779-0001 • (512) 465-7611

September 4, 2001

## **REGISTRATION AND TITLE BULLETIN # 125-01**

**TO:** All County Tax Assessor-Collectors

**SUBJECT:** House Bill (HB) 1365 – Additional Information For Amended Child Support Laws

### **PURPOSE**

To inform you of the procedures for the implementation of HB 1365. This legislation allows the suspension of a license, including the suspension of a salvage dealer license and their agent, as well as motor vehicle registration, when ordered by a court or a Title IV-D agency, i.e. child support agency, under certain conditions, as described in Registration and Title Bulletin (RTB) #094-01, dated July 19, 2001.

### **DETAILS**

This legislation amends Section 232.003(a)(b), Family Code, to allow its implementation when (1) an individual owes child support for at least three months through a support order; (2) an individual fails to pay child support under a court-ordered repayment schedule; or (3) a parent or alleged parent fails to pay child support as ordered by a court, after receiving appropriate notice, with a subpoena.

### **DEPARTMENT ACTIONS**

The above court-ordered actions will be administered by the Vehicle Titles and Registration Division (VTR). When a court order is received that orders VTR to suspend a motor vehicle registration or a license, including the suspension of a salvage dealer license and their agent, an Operations (OP) file will be established with a four digit number. A "Legal Restraint – Contact TxDOT, #OP xxxx" remark will be placed on the applicable motor vehicle record (see attached). The legal restraint is removed by VTR only upon the receipt of a court order signed by a judge for the appropriate court, or a Title IV-D agency court action, who renders a judgment according to the provisions of HB 1365.

### **COUNTY ACTIONS**

- When a county tax assessor-collector receives registration renewal fees for a motor vehicle and the RTS database indicates a "Legal Restraint – Contact TxDOT, #OP xxxx" remark, the local Regional Office should be contacted. The Regional Office will in turn contact the Operations Branch to determine, if the registration may be renewed. If so, an authorization code will be supplied. If not, renewal must be denied.

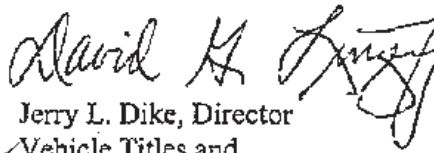
**NOTE:** As a reminder, when a motor vehicle record is listed with an OP legal restraint remark, the local VTR Regional Office must be notified to determine whether a registration and/or title request can be processed since the OP legal restraint remark indicates a pending legal action.

September 4, 2001

**VTR CONTACT PERSONS**

If you have any questions, please contact your local TxDOT Vehicle Titles and Registration Division Regional Office, or the Customer Help Desk at 512/465-7611. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

  
for Jerry L. Dike, Director  
Vehicle Titles and  
Registration Division

JLD:ps

Attachments

cc: Office of the Attorney General, State of Texas  
TxDOT, Office of General Counsel