



# **Texas Department of Transportation**

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

February 5, 2001

## **Registration and Title Bulletin # 014-01**

TO: ALL COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTORS

SUBJECT: BILLS OF SALE

### **PURPOSE**

To inform you of our new policy regarding the acceptance of bills of sale.

### **BACKGROUND**

The department's acceptance of bills of sale, in lieu of certificates of title, as evidence of ownership began many years ago, when all states and countries did not issue a recognized title or registration ownership document. At present, however, all states issue certificates of title for most vehicles (see attachment 1 for exceptions). Likewise, most countries now have a recognized registration or title document. Because the underlying reason for our acceptance of bills of sale in lieu of certificates of title no longer exists, we are revising our policy as to when such documents may be accepted.

### **NEW POLICY**

Effective May 1, 2001, bills of sale will only be accepted in the following situations:

- with out-of-state or out-of-country registration receipts that do not provide transfer of ownership sections, provided (1) the issuing state does not issue certificates of title as the negotiable evidence of ownership for that year model vehicle, or the issuing country only issues registration receipts, and (2) the out-of-state or out-of-country receipt reflects registration that is current or that has been expired for six months or less;
- with out-of-state titles on which all dealer reassignment sections have been completed, provided the issuing state does not utilize supplemental dealer reassignment forms (see attachment 2);
- with operation of law transfers;
- with component parts utilized to rebuild or assemble motor vehicles;
- with non-titled Texas vehicles.

Title applications supported by bills of sale which do not fall into one of the categories listed above, regardless of the date the bill of sale was executed, must be rejected.

**DEPARTMENT ACTIONS**


Revisions to the Motor Vehicle Title Manual are being completed and will be provided to you under separate cover.

**CONTACT(S)**

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact your local TxDOT Vehicle Titles and Registration Division regional office. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel Hunt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'D' and 'H'.

 Jerry L. Dike, Director  
Vehicle Titles and  
Registration Division

**Attachments**

cc: All Dealer Associations  
All Salvage Associations/Industries  
Lending Institutions  
Insurance Industry Partners  
ATPA Board  
Texas Department of Public Safety  
Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts  
TxDOT Motor Vehicle Division

Fig. 69  
Certificate of Title Information For Each State  
Rev. 7-98

STATE	APPLICABLE TO AND EXCEPTIONS
ALABAMA	1975 and subsequent year model vehicles and 1990 and subsequent year model travel trailers. ATVs and off-road vehicles are not titled.
ALASKA	All year model vehicles, except ATVs and off-road vehicles.
ARIZONA	All year model vehicles, except mopeds.
ARKANSAS	All year model vehicles, except off-road vehicles and mopeds.
CALIFORNIA	All year model vehicles.
COLORADO	All year model vehicles, except ATVs, off-road vehicles, and mopeds.
CONNECTICUT	All 1981 and subsequent year model vehicles. Effective July 1, 1998, 1980 and older year model vehicles are not titled. All trailers under 3,000 lbs. gross weight, ATVs, off-road vehicles, and mopeds are not titled.
DELAWARE	All year model vehicles, except ATVs and off-road vehicles.
DIST. OF COLUMBIA	All year model vehicles, except ATVs and off-road vehicles.
FLORIDA	All year model vehicles, except ATVs, mopeds, off-road vehicles, and trailers weighing less than 2,000 lbs.
GEORGIA	Only 1963 and subsequent year model vehicles and motorcycles. Vehicles 15 years old or older are not required to be titled. ATVs, mopeds, off-road vehicles, and boat and homemade trailers are not titled.
HAWAII	All year model vehicles, except trailers of all sizes, ATVs, off-road vehicles, and mopeds.
IDAHO	All year model vehicles, all trailers that weigh over 2,000 lbs. unladen, and ATVs or off-road vehicles purchased after January 1, 1991.
ILLINOIS	All year model vehicles.
INDIANA	All year model vehicles; trailers with a gross weight of 3,000 lbs. or less; and camping trailers of any size, manufactured after January 1, 1986, except ATVs or mopeds.
IOWA	All year model vehicles, except ATVs and trailers/semitrailers with an unladen weight of 2,000 lbs. or less.
KANSAS	All year model vehicles, except trailers under 2,000 lbs. gross weight and farm trailers under 6,000 lbs. laden weight.
KENTUCKY	All year model vehicles, except off-road vehicles and mopeds. ATVs are optional.
LOUISIANA	All year model vehicles.
MAINE	1984 and subsequent year model vehicles, except any trailer with an unladen weight of 3,000 lbs. or less. ATVs and mopeds are not titled.
MARYLAND	All year model vehicles, except mopeds. ATVs are optional.
MASSACHUSETTS	1972 and subsequent year model vehicles, except trailers having a gross weight of 3,000 lbs. or less. ATVs, off-road vehicles, and mopeds.
MICHIGAN	All year model vehicles, except trailers weighing less than 2,500 lbs. and mopeds.
MINNESOTA	All year model vehicles, except trailers having a gross weight of 4,000 lbs. or less, trailers designed primarily for agricultural purposes, ATVs, and off-road vehicles.
MISSISSIPPI	All motor vehicles that are in this state and are purchased from a licensed dealer after July 1, 1969, except pole trailers, utility trailers of less than 5,000 lbs. gross vehicle weight, ATVs, and off-road vehicles.
MISSOURI	All year model vehicles, except mopeds, motor vehicles used as ambulances, and patrol wagons and fire apparatus owned by any municipality in the State of Missouri.
MONTANA	All year model vehicles, except mopeds.
NEBRASKA	All year model vehicles, except ATVs, mopeds, non-commercial trailers with gross weight of 9,000 lbs. or less, and off-road vehicles.
NEVADA	All year model vehicles. Mopeds are not required to be titled but may be at the owner's request.
NEW HAMPSHIRE	Except trailers with a gross weight of less than 3,001 lbs., off-road, ATVs, and mopeds. Vehicles less than 11 model years, and heavy trucks and truck-trailers with a gross weight in excess of 18,000 lbs.
NEW JERSEY	All year model vehicles, except non-conventional type vehicles and ATVs.
NEW MEXICO	All year model vehicles.
NEW YORK	1973 and newer models and those vehicles manufactured on and after January 1, 1973, for which no model year is assigned. Except mopeds, off-highway vehicles, trailers with an unladen weight less than 1,000 lbs., and ATVs.
NORTH CAROLINA	All year model vehicles, except ATVs, mopeds and off-road vehicles.
NORTH DAKOTA	All year model vehicles, except boat, luggage and non-farm private trailers with a gross weight less than 1,500 lbs.
OHIO	All year model vehicles, except all trailers with a manufacturer's weight of 4,000 lbs. or less. ATVs, mopeds, and off-road vehicles.
OKLAHOMA	All year model vehicles used non-commercially, except for ATVs, off-road vehicles, and boat, luggage, and utility trailers.
OREGON	All year model vehicles, except trailers with a loaded weight of 1,800 lbs. or less.
PENNSYLVANIA	All year model vehicles and trailers.
RHODE ISLAND	All vehicles 10 years old or newer must be titled, except ATVs, off-road vehicles, trailers having a carrying capacity of 3,000 lbs. or less, and mopeds. No title certificate is required once a vehicle is 10 years old.
SOUTH CAROLINA	All year model vehicles, except for mopeds, and ATVs.
SOUTH DAKOTA	All year model vehicles, except mopeds.
TENNESSEE	All year model vehicles, except for collapsible camping trailers.
TEXAS	All year model vehicles, except for trailers with an empty weight of 4,000 lbs. or less, semitrailers with a gross weight of 4,000 lbs. or less.
UTAH	All year model vehicles, except trailers with an unladen weight of 750 lbs. or less that are not used for hire.
VERMONT	All 1972 or later model year vehicles, except trailers with an unladen weight of 1,500 lbs. or less and motorcycles with less than 300 cubic centimeters of engine displacement, mopeds, ATVs, and off-road vehicles. Effective September 1, 1996, vehicles over 15 years old are not titled.
VIRGINIA	All year model vehicles, except ATVs, off-road vehicles, and mopeds.
WASHINGTON	All year model vehicles.
WEST VIRGINIA	All year model vehicles.
WISCONSIN	All year model vehicles, except ATVs and off-road vehicles.
WYOMING	All year model vehicles, except trailers 1,000 lbs. or less unladen weight.

**STATES THAT DO NOT UTILIZE SUPPLEMENTAL DEALER REASSIGNMENT  
FORMS  
(As of June 2000)**

Alaska  
Arizona  
California  
Colorado  
Hawaii  
Illinois  
Indiana (not utilized with titles issued on or after September 1989)  
Iowa  
Kansas  
Michigan (not utilized with titles issued on or after November 1989)  
Montana  
Nebraska  
Nevada  
New Mexico  
New York  
Ohio  
Oklahoma  
Oregon  
Pennsylvania  
Vermont

Note: "Polk's Motor Vehicle Registration Manual" may be consulted for up-to-date information.