

Federal and State Proposal

Front and Rear License Plate Requirements for Public Safety and Accountability

Purpose

This proposal recommends that all motor vehicles operating within the United States display clearly visible license plates on both the **front and rear** of the vehicle in order to strengthen public safety, improve accountability, and assist in the prevention and investigation of crimes involving vehicles.

The proposal seeks cooperation between federal and state governments to create a more uniform system that supports law enforcement, emergency response, roadway safety, environmental responsibility, and civil accountability.

Rationale

Vehicles are frequently involved in crimes and civil violations including:

- Hit-and-run incidents
- Assaults involving vehicles
- Reckless driving and road rage
- Vehicle theft
- Illegal dumping and littering
- Evading tolls or cameras
- Organized criminal activity
- Human trafficking and smuggling operations
- Drug transportation and narcotics trafficking
- Property damage and vandalism
- Parking and traffic violations
- Fleeing the scene of accidents
- Harassment or stalking involving vehicles

When only one license plate is visible, identification may become significantly more difficult depending on:

- Direction of travel
- Camera angle
- Weather conditions
- Obstructions
- Damaged or missing rear plates

- Surveillance limitations

Requiring both front and rear plates increases the probability that witnesses, cameras, businesses, and law enforcement agencies can accurately identify a vehicle involved in unlawful or dangerous activity.

Public Safety Benefits

1. Improved Hit-and-Run Investigations

Front and rear plates allow:

- Better identification from intersection cameras
 - Easier reporting by witnesses
 - Faster suspect location
 - Greater accountability for fleeing drivers
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2. Crime Deterrence

Visible identification on both ends of a vehicle may discourage:

- Assaults involving vehicles
- Drive-by vandalism
- Illegal dumping
- Street racing
- Vehicle-enabled crimes

Criminal actors often rely upon limited visibility or obstructed identification to avoid detection.

3. Assistance for Law Enforcement

Dual-plate systems help:

- Police investigations
 - Amber Alert systems
 - Missing persons investigations
 - Stolen vehicle recovery
 - Highway patrol enforcement
 - Border and interstate monitoring
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4. Environmental and Community Protection

Illegal dumping and roadway littering place financial burdens on taxpayers and communities.

Dual-plate visibility may assist in:

- Identifying littering vehicles
 - Reporting illegal dumping
 - Protecting parks, neighborhoods, and highways
 - Reducing environmental cleanup costs
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Proposed Federal-State Framework

Federal Recommendations

The federal government may:

- Establish minimum visibility standards
 - Encourage interstate consistency
 - Provide grants for implementation
 - Support public safety camera integration
 - Assist states with transition funding
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State Responsibilities

Each state may:

- Issue front and rear plates
 - Define placement requirements
 - Establish penalties for removal or obstruction
 - Create exemptions for historic or specialty vehicles where appropriate
 - Coordinate with local law enforcement agencies
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Suggested Enforcement Standards

Vehicles should:

- Maintain clearly visible plates
- Avoid plate obstruction devices or coverings
- Keep plates illuminated and readable at night
- Replace damaged or illegible plates promptly

Violations may include:

- Missing front or rear plates
 - Intentionally obscured identification
 - Fraudulent or counterfeit plates
 - Tampering with registration identifiers
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Civil Responsibility and Community Safety

Operating a vehicle on public roads carries a shared civic responsibility to:

- Protect fellow citizens
- Reduce harm
- Support lawful accountability
- Preserve safe transportation systems

Uniform front-and-rear identification standards may help strengthen trust, improve investigations, and support safer communities nationwide.

Conclusion

This proposal encourages federal and state leaders to work collaboratively toward stronger vehicle identification standards that improve public safety while balancing practicality, fairness, and constitutional protections.

By improving vehicle accountability systems, communities may better address:

- Hit-and-run incidents
- Violent crime involving vehicles
- Illegal dumping and littering
- Organized criminal activity
- Public roadway safety concerns

Respectfully Submitted,

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for the

Union of Saints