Charter Buses Subject to IRP Registration

Issue Date: July 7, 2015

New Policy

Effective January 1, 2016, nongovernment owned buses that transport chartered parties (charter buses and motor coaches) and operate on an interstate basis or outside of their base state will be subject to International Registration Plan (IRP) registration.

Definition of Chartered Party

A chartered party is defined by IRP as:

- A group of persons who, pursuant to a common purpose and under a single contract, have acquired the exclusive use of a passenger-carrying motor vehicle to travel together as a group to a specified destination or for a particular itinerary, either agreed upon in advance or modified by the group after leaving the place of origin.
- Services rendered to a number of passengers that a passenger carrier or its agent has assembled into a travel group through ticket sales to individual passengers covering a round trip from one or more points of origin to a single advertised destination.

New Information

If transporting passengers for hire on an interstate basis:

- Current commercial registration can be converted to IRP apportioned registration when registration renewal fees are due in 2015.

**NOTE:** Effective January 1, 2016, any unused portion of commercial registration fees cannot be credited to IRP registration.

- Inactive California IRP accounts may be reactivated.
- Companies with a California International Fuel Tax Association (IFTA) account may register for IRP registration under the same account.
- The IRP Handbook and IRP forms are available online at www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/detail/mcs/mcs_vr.

IRP registration is not processed at Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) field offices. Applicants must submit IRP applications by either:

Regular mail to: DMV Registration Operations Division IRP Operations Section, MS H160 PO Box 932320 Sacramento, CA 94232-3200

Overnight mail to: DMV Registration Operations Division IRP Operations Section, MS H160 2415 1st Ave. Sacramento, CA 95818
Background
IRP Ballot 391 (Apportionable Vehicle) was approved in 2014 which removed the charter bus exemption from the IRP definition of apportionable vehicle.

Effective January 1, 2015, full reciprocity plan (FRP) grants full reciprocity for apportioned IRP fleets to all IRP member jurisdictions. This provides IRP customers with greater operational flexibility, and allows registrants to travel interstate and pay fees for the accrued distance during the next renewal cycle.

Distribution
Notification that this memo is available online, at www.dmv.ca.gov under Publications was made via California DMV’s Automated E-mail Alert System in July 2015.

References
California Vehicle Code §§8050 and 8058
International Registration Plan, REV. 2014, Article 2
IRP Handbook
VIN 2014-24 IRP Changes–Full Reciprocity Plan
IRP Inc. website for IRP and FRP information and publications at www.irponline.org/Publications/ThePlan/

Contact
Call the DMV IRP Operations Section, at (916) 657-7971 for further clarification of this memo. Upon request, this document can be produced in Braille or large print.

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Communication Programs Division