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BILL ESSENTIALS

MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) (NO.2) BILL, 2026

Date Introduced: **November 24, 2026** House: **Senate**

Introduced by: **Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation**



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BACKGROUND

1. The **Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill, 2026,** (hereinafter referred to as the **"Bill"**) will be introduced in the Senate by Senator the Honourable Eli Zakour, Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation, on November 24, 2026.

2. The Bill proposes to amend the **Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, Chapter 48:50** (hereinafter referred to as the **"Act"**) to introduce into the existing statutory framework, a regime for the registration and management of classic, antique and vintage vehicles.

3. The Bill, once passed, will come into effect on such date as fixed by the President by Proclamation.

BILL SUMMARY

The Bill seeks to introduce the following:

- A system of registration for historic motor vehicles.
- The requirements for the inspection of historic motor vehicles
- The provision of new grounds upon which the Licensing Authority may cancel the registration of a motor vehicle.

KEY FEATURES OF THE BILL

Interpretation

4. **Clause 4** of the Bill amends the Act by inserting the following definitions into **section 2** of the Act:
   - ***"antique motor vehicle"*** means a motor vehicle that is at least forty-five years old from the date of original manufacture with a maximum gross weight not exceeding 3500 kilogrammes and with seating accommodation for not more than eight persons;
   - ***"classic motor vehicle"*** means a motor vehicle that is at least twenty-five years old from the date of original manufacture with a maximum gross weight not exceeding 3500 kilogrammes and with seating accommodation for not more than eight persons;
   - ***"historic motor vehicle"*** means an antique motor vehicle, a classic motor vehicle or a vintage motor vehicle; and
   - ***"vintage motor vehicle"*** means a motor vehicle that is at least ninety-five years old from the date of original manufacture with a maximum gross weight not exceeding 3500 kilogrammes and with seating accommodation for not more than eight persons.

Examination of Motor Vehicles

5. **Clause 5** amends **section 13(1)** of the Act by including historic motor vehicles under the framework for registration. Pursuant to **section 13**, prior to the registration of a motor vehicle[1], its particulars must be verified by a Transport Officer[2] and it may be subject to an inspection, if so directed by the Transport Commissioner. Verification and inspection of the vehicle ensures that it conforms with the requirements of the Act and the purpose of registration. Accordingly, this amendment effectively mandates that **historic motor vehicles** must have its particulars verified by the relevant Officer and inspected, as applicable, in the same manner as motor vehicles, generally.

6. **Clause 5** amends **section 13(2)**, which also pertains to the examination of motor vehicles prior to registration. This amendment provides that consistent with the requirements applicable to other vehicles defined in **section 13(2)**[3], the maximum gross weight of a historic motor vehicle or the maximum number of passengers which the historic motor may be authorised to carry, must be ascertained by the Transport Officer, prior to its registration.

Cancellation of Registration

7. **Clause 6** proposes to amend **section 15** of the Act by expanding the circumstances in which the Licensing Authority may cancel the registration of a motor vehicle. As such, registration shall not remain valid if:
   - the vehicle has a tampered chassis;
   - the vehicle was registered on the basis of fraudulent documents;
   - the age of the vehicle has been misrepresented in the case of a historic motor vehicle; and
   - the vehicle has been modified so as to materially alter the body configuration, vehicle identity or original appearance.

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8. **Clause 6** further inserts in **section 15**, **new subsections (6) and (7)**, which prohibits persons from driving a motor vehicle if its registration has been cancelled and the owner has been notified of said cancellation, in writing. Any person who breaches this provision is liable on summary conviction to **a fine of Twelve Thousand Dollars ($12,000.00)** and to **imprisonment for six (6) months**.

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[1] **Section 2** of the **Motor Vehicle and Road Traffic Act, Chap. 48:50** defines ***"motor vehicle"*** as any mechanically propelled vehicle intended or adapted for use on roads and includes a trolley vehicle, but does not include vehicles constructed, exclusively for use on tails or other specially prepared tracks.

[2] According to **section 2** of the **Motor Vehicle and Road Traffic Act, Chap. 48:50**, ***"Transport Officer"*** includes the Transport Commissioner, the Assistant Transport Commissioners, Motor Vehicles Officers and Motor Vehicle Supervisors.

[3] The registration requirements defined in **section 13(2)** are also applicable to the following: goods vehicles, freight passenger vehicles, motor omnibus and trailers.

Re-classification of Registration as a Historic Motor Vehicle

9. By virtue of **Clause 7**, the Bill inserts a **new section 18A** into the Act, which introduces the framework by which the owner of a motor vehicle may apply to the Licensing Authority to have the vehicle re-classified as a historic motor vehicle.

10. **New section 18A** provides that the owner of a motor vehicle that is registered for use for a particular purpose may apply to the Licensing Authority for registration of the vehicle as a historic motor vehicle, where he intends to use it for such purpose. The application to re-classify a motor vehicle as a historic motor vehicle shall be treated as if the vehicle had not previously been registered for any purpose.

11. The owner of the vehicle applying for the re-classification shall pay a fee of **One Hundred Dollars ($100.00)**[4] for re-classification of registration and a fee of **Thirty-Five Dollars ($35.00)**[5] to amend the Register. Additionally, the owner is required to pay the applicable tax for the registration of a historic motor vehicle, as prescribed in the **Fourth Schedule**[6], based on whether it is a classic motor vehicle, an antique motor vehicle or a vintage motor vehicle, less the tax paid in respect of the motor vehicle's current registration, also outlined in the **Fourth Schedule**. In the event that the tax paid in respect of a motor vehicle's current registration is more than what is payable for a historic motor vehicle, then no further tax is payable.

Cancellation or refusal of registration

12. **Clause 8** amends **section 27(1)** of the Act to empower the Licensing Authority to refuse to issue the registration of a motor vehicle or trailer if the condition of a motor vehicle or a trailer poses a health, safety or environmental hazard to persons in the vehicle or to the public or if it is injurious to the roads or otherwise fails to comply with the requirements of the Act.

Classes of Vehicles

13. **Clause 9** of the Bill amends **section 50** of the Act, thereby extending Class 3[7] motor vehicles to include a historic motor vehicle, which does not exceed a maximum gross weight of 2950 kilogrammes. This amendment also increases the maximum gross weight for Class 5 vehicles from **15,000 kilogrammes** to **15,240 kilogrammes**.

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[4] Fees and Duties, **First Schedule**, **Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, Chap. 48:50.**

[5] Fees and Duties, **First Schedule**, **Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, Chap. 48:50.**

[6] The Bill amends the Act by inserting a new item (11) into the **Fourth Schedule**, which prescribes the applicable taxes for the registration of historic motor vehicles.

[7] Pursuant to **section 50** of the **Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, Chap. 48:50**, Class 3 vehicles include:
Light motor vehicles (including private motor cars, taxis with a tare weight not exceeding 2 270 kilogrammes, maxi-taxis whatever their tare weight and light goods vehicles not exceeding a maximum gross weight of 2 950 kilogrammes).

Fourth Schedule

14. **Clause 11** amends the **Fourth Schedule** of the Act to outline to the vehicle tax applicable to historic motor vehicles, as illustrated in the table below.

Class of Description of Motor Vehicles	Vehicle Tax $
Classic Motor Vehicles:	
(a) Engine size not exceeding 1599 cc … … … … … … … … … … … … … … … …	10.00 per cc
(b) Engine size exceeding 1599 cc but not exceeding 1799 cc … … … … …	20.00 per cc
(c) Engine size exceeding 1799 cc but not exceeding 1999 cc … … … … …	37.50 per cc
(d) Engine size exceeding 1999 cc but not exceeding 2499 cc … … … … …	50.00 per cc
(e) Engine size exceeding 2499 cc but not exceeding 2999 cc … … … … …	60.00 per cc
(f) Engine size exceeding 2999 cc but not exceeding 3499 cc … … … … …	70.00 per cc
(g) Engine size exceeding 3499 cc … … … … …… … … … … … … … … … … …	100.00 per cc
Antique Motor Vehicles:	
(a) Engine size not exceeding 1599 cc … … … … … … … … … … … … … … … …	7.50 per cc
(b) Engine size exceeding 1599 cc but not exceeding 1799 cc … … … … …	15.00 per cc
(c) Engine size exceeding 1799 cc but not exceeding 1999 cc … … … … …	28.13 per cc
(d) Engine size exceeding 1999 cc but not exceeding 2499 cc … … … … …	37.50 per cc
(e) Engine size exceeding 2499 cc but not exceeding 2999 cc … … … … …	45.00 per cc
(f) Engine size exceeding 2999 cc but not exceeding 3499 cc … … … … …	52.50 per cc
(g) Engine size exceeding 3499 cc … … … … … … … … … … … … … … … … …	75.00 per cc
Vintage Motor Vehicles:	
(a) Engine size not exceeding 1599 cc … … … … … … … … … … … … … … … …	6.25 per cc
(b) Engine size exceeding 1599 cc but not exceeding 1799 cc … … … … …	12.50 per cc
(c) Engine size exceeding 1799 cc but not exceeding 1999 cc … … … … …	23.44 per cc
(d) Engine size exceeding 1999 cc but not exceeding 2499 cc … … … … …	31.25 per cc
(e) Engine size exceeding 2499 cc but not exceeding 2999 cc … … … … …	37.50 per cc
(f) Engine size exceeding 2999 cc but not exceeding 3499 cc … … … … …	43.75 per cc
(g) Engine size exceeding 3499 cc … … … … … … … … … … … … … … … … …	62.50 per cc

Ninth Schedule – Fixed Penalty and Demerit Points

15. **Clause 12** amends the **Ninth Schedule** of the Act to provide the fixed penalty of **seven Thousand Dollars ($7,000.00)** for the offence of driving a motor vehicle where the registration is cancelled and notice of cancellation has been given.

Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Regulations

16. **Clause 13** of the Bill proposes to amend the **Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Regulations**, made under **section 100** of the Act. **Regulation 7(1)(a)(i)** is amended to provide identification marks for vehicles registered as a class of historic motor vehicle. Accordingly, a "**C**" shall

identify classic motor vehicles, "**A**" shall identify antique motor vehicles and "**V**" shall identify vintage motor vehicles.

17. **Regulation 27(1)** is amended to require the registered owner of a historic motor vehicle to produce his vehicle for inspection by a Transport Officer, each year, and furnish the Transport Officer with information regarding the vehicle's model, year of manufacture, engine number and number of cylinders, *inter alia*. **Regulation 27(11)** prescribes that if the registered owner fails to produce the vehicle for inspection or drives the vehicle without obtaining an inspection sticker and certificate, he is liable to a **fine** of **Five Thousand Dollars ($5,000.00)**.

18. **Regulation 30** is amended by eliminating the requirement that only vehicles manufactured after the year 1960 must be fitted with directional indicators on either side of the front and reach of the vehicle. As such, this amendment effectively provides that vehicles which were manufactured even before 1960 are to be fitted with directional indicators.

REFERENCES

Key Legislation

- Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, Chapter 48:50

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