December 31, 2020

Registration and Title Bulletin # 014-20 Policy and Procedure

TO: All County Tax Assessor-Collectors and Licensed Motor Vehicle Dealers

SUBJECT: Title and Registration Determination for Mopeds

PURPOSE

To provide information regarding the discontinuation of the list of mopeds certified by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) and how to determine whether to title and register a vehicle as a moped.

DETAILS

House Bill 3171, enacted by the 86th Legislature, repealed Transportation Code, Section 521.225, which required DPS to maintain a list of certified mopeds. DPS notified the department that the list of certified mopeds will no longer be maintained. Therefore, the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (TxDMV) board adopted amendments to Administrative Code, Rule 217.3(1)(B), removing the requirement that a vehicle must be on the DPS certified moped list to be titled and registered as a moped. Effective December 30, 2020, a vehicle will be titled and registered as a moped if the vehicle meets the criteria in Transportation Code, Section 541.201(8).

Section 541.201(8) defines a moped as a motor vehicle that is equipped with a rider's saddle; designed to have not more than three wheels on the ground when propelled; cannot attain a speed in one mile of more than 30 miles per hour; and the engine of which cannot produce more than five-brake horsepower. If it has an internal combustion engine, the piston displacement must be 50 cubic centimeters or less and must connect to a power drive system that does not require the operator to shift gears.

The ownership evidence surrendered should be used in conjunction with available resources, such as the manufacturer's website, to ensure a vehicle meets the definition of a moped in Section 541.201(8). The DPS certified moped list is no longer maintained or available on the DPS website and should not be used to title and register a vehicle as a moped.

COUNTY ACTION

Ensure a vehicle meets the statutory definition of a moped before titling and registering it as a moped. Discontinue using the DPS certified moped list to determine if a vehicle should be titled and registered as a moped.

CONTACT

If you have any questions, please contact your local TxDMV Regional Service Center.

Sincerely,

Tim Thompson, Deputy Director

Vehicle Titles and Registration Division