



August 24, 2023

**Registration and Title Bulletin # 004-23
Policy and Procedure**

TO: All County Tax Assessor-Collectors and Dealers

SUBJECT: **House Bill 198 Self-Inspection of Travel Trailers More Than 7,500 lbs.**

PURPOSE

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide information on the registration of certain travel trailers as a result of House Bill (HB) 198, enacted during the 88th Legislature.

DETAILS

Effective September 1, 2023, owners may self-inspect travel trailers with a gross vehicle weight (GVW) greater than 7,500 lbs. in lieu of obtaining a state safety inspection. Customers must self-certify they have inspected the travel trailer during the existing annual inspection period and the vehicle is in “proper and safe condition” and complies with the provisions of the state inspection program.

A new form, *Application for Self-Certification of Travel Trailer More Than 7,500 lbs.* (Form VTR-269), has been created for owners renewing at the county tax office in person or by mail. Owners renewing online will be presented with an electronic checkbox to self-certify.

Currently, travel trailers with a GVW of 4,501-7,500 lbs. are already exempt from the inspection requirement as set forth in Chapter 548, Texas Transportation Code, and assessed a \$7.50 fee. Due to HB 198, owners completing a self-inspection of travel trailers more than 7,500 lbs. GVW will be assessed a \$7.50 fee. If the travel trailer has a current inspection in the inspection database, the state portion of the inspection fee remains the same.

Counties are not required to retain a copy of the completed VTR-269. Release notes detailing programming changes will be distributed prior to the deployment of Registration and Title System (RTS) Release 23.4.1 on September 22, 2023.

COUNTY ACTION

Effective September 1, 2023, please ensure customers complete and sign the *Application for Self-Certification of Travel Trailer More Than 7,500 lbs.* (Form VTR-269) or have a current inspection at the time of registration. Form VTR-269 will be treated the same as a Vehicle Inspection Report for registration purposes. Please accept Form VTR-269 from dealers who submit the completed form on behalf of retail purchasers for eligible travel trailers.

Until system programming is complete in September 2023 to include a self-certification inspection type in RTS, please follow the manual verification process for inspection in RTS. You will select the “TLMC” inspection type designated for trailers and motorcycles on the INS001 inspection list in RTS and enter the date provided on Form VTR-269.

Counties that contract with subcontractor locations that allow for manual verification of inspection will follow the existing process. Otherwise, customers renewing at a webSUB location that does not allow for manual verification must be directed to the county or online to renew.

CONTACT

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "A. Quintero".

Annette Quintero, Director
Vehicle Titles and Registration Division
Texas Department of Motor Vehicles