

204. No certificate of the registration of any vehicle or registration markers therefor, whether original issues or duplicates, shall hereafter be issued or furnished by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles unless the applicant therefor shall at the same time make application for and be granted an official certificate of title of such motor vehicle, or shall present satisfactory evidence that such a certificate has been previously issued to the applicant covering such motor vehicle. Said application shall be upon a blank form to be furnished by the Commissioner and shall contain a full description of the motor vehicle, together with a statement of the applicant's title and of any liens or encumbrances upon said motor vehicle. The Commissioner shall use reasonable diligence in ascertaining whether or not the facts stated in said application for a certificate of title are true, and if satisfied that the applicant is the lawful owner of such motor vehicle, or otherwise entitled to have the same registered in his name, shall thereupon issue an appropriate certificate over his signature and sealed with the seal of his office, procured and used for such purpose. Said certificate shall contain such description and other evidences of identification of said motor vehicle as the Commissioner may deem reasonably necessary and proper, together with a statement of any liens or encumbrances which the application may show to be thereon. The charge for each original certificate so issued shall be one dollar (\$1.00) which charge shall be in addition to the charge for the registration of such motor vehicle. Said certificate shall be good for the life of the car so long as the same is owned or held by the original holder of such certificate, and shall not have to be renewed annually. It shall be unlawful and a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not less than five dollars (\$5.00) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) for any person to operate in this State a motor vehicle required to be registered under the Motor Vehicle Laws of this State unless such certificate of title shall have been issued as herein provided.

In the event of the sale or transfer of the ownership, title or right of possession, of a motor vehicle for which an original certificate of title has been issued as aforesaid, the original holder of such certificate shall endorse on the back of the same an assignment thereof, with warranty of title in form printed thereon, with a statement under oath of all liens or encumbrances on said motor vehicle, and shall deliver the same to the purchaser or transferee at the time of the delivery to him of such motor vehicle. The purchaser or transferee shall then immediately present such certificate, assigned as aforesaid, to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, and file an application with said Commissioner of Motor Vehicles on a