



FORSYTHCOUNTY
Department of Communications
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHANGES TO GEORGIA'S
TITLE AD VALOREM TAX PROGRAM

Changes effective March 6, 2013

FORSYTHCOUNTY, Georgia – On March 5, 2013, Governor Nathan Deal approved changes to Georgia's Title Ad Valorem Tax (TAVT) program that was recently enacted by the Georgia General Assembly. These changes became effective March 6, and address the period of time qualifying residents have to opt in vehicles purchased from January 1, 2012 through February 28, 2013, as well as vehicles purchased out-of-state during the same period. Also addressed by the changes are leased vehicles, the method of valuation used for new vehicles in calculating the amount of TAVT due, and TAVT-paying former residents who return to Georgia.

The following changes became effective March 6, 2013:

- Vehicles purchased out-of-state from January 1, 2012 through February 28, 2013 that have a current Georgia title are now eligible to be opted in to the program. Any Georgia sales tax paid when the vehicle was titled, as well as any previously paid Georgia ad valorem taxes, may be credited toward the TAVT amount due.
- The deadline to opt in those vehicles purchased from January 1, 2012 through February 28, 2013 has been extended to February 28, 2014.
- Vehicles leased from January 1, 2012 through February 28, 2013 may be opted in by either the lessor or lessee of the vehicle. Any eligible Georgia sales and use tax previously paid, as well as any annual ad valorem taxes paid, will be credited toward the amount of TAVT due to opt in.

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- Vehicles leased on or after March 1, 2013 and subject to TAVT are now exempt from monthly sales and use tax, as well as annual ad valorem taxes.
- Any outstanding (past-due) taxes on a vehicle must be paid prior to opting in to the TAVT program.
- Georgia residents who pay TAVT and later move out of state are not charged TAVT on the vehicle when returning to Georgia.
- For both new and used motor vehicles, the higher of the (1) vehicle sale price (less any trade-in value, rebate or cash discount) or (2) vehicle fair market value (FMV) as expressed in the Georgia Department of Revenue valuation manual is to be used for the purpose of calculating the amount of TAVT due.

About TAVT

Tax reform legislation enacted by the Georgia General Assembly in 2012 created a new system for taxing motor vehicles registered in Georgia. Effective March 1, 2013, House Bill 386 removed both sales tax and annual ad valorem taxes for vehicles purchased March 1, 2013 and thereafter, replacing them with a single, one-time title ad valorem tax (TAVT).

The new tax rate will be 6.5% of FMV for vehicles purchased March 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013, increasing to 6.75% for vehicles purchased January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014, and to 7% for those purchased January 1, 2015 and beyond.

For additional information, please visit <http://onlinemvd.dor.ga.gov/TAP/faqs.aspx> or contact the Forsyth County Tax Commissioner's Office at 770.781.2110.

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