

1 AN ACT relating to personalized license plates, making an appropriation therefor,
2 and declaring an emergency.

3 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

4 ➔Section 1. KRS 186.174 is amended to read as follows:

- 5 (1) For purposes of this section, "personalized license plate" means a license plate
6 manufactured by the cabinet upon an applicant's request with specific letters or
7 numbers or combinations of letters and numbers significant to the applicant.
- 8 (2) Any owner or lessee of a motor vehicle that is required to be registered under the
9 provisions of KRS 186.050(1), (3)(a), or (4)(a), or any owner or lessee of a
10 motorcycle required to be registered under the provisions of KRS 186.050(2) may
11 obtain a personalized license plate by submitting an application through a Web site
12 designated by the cabinet. The cabinet shall produce the requested license plate
13 upon approval and receipt of the fee required in subsection (4) of this section for a
14 special license plate, or the fee required in KRS 186.162 for a standard issue license
15 plate.
- 16 (3) Personalized license plates shall expire on the last day of the birth month of the
17 person to whom the license plate is registered.
- 18 (4) (a) A personalized license plate shall be replaced on the same schedule as regular
19 issue license plates unless it is damaged or unreadable.
- 20 (b) A standard issued license plate may be personalized for a forty-three dollar
21 (\$43) fee as provided in KRS 186.162(2)(m)~~, in addition to all other fees~~
22 ~~established in this section and in KRS 186.050~~.
- 23 (c) Any special license plate may be combined with a personalized license plate
24 for a twenty-five dollar (\$25) state fee in addition to all other fees for the
25 particular special license plate established in this section and in KRS 186.164.
26 The twenty-five dollar (\$25) fee required under this paragraph shall be divided
27 between the cabinet and the county clerk of the county where the applicant

1 resides with the cabinet receiving twenty dollars (\$20) and the county clerk
2 receiving five dollars (\$5).

3 (5) (a) A personalized plate shall not be issued that would conflict with or duplicate
4 any current issued license plate.

5 (b) A personalized plate shall not be issued if the cabinet determines:

6 1. The message to be placed on the license plate, if created, discriminates
7 against a race, color, religion, sex, or national origin;

8 2. The plate message is the name of a trademarked or copyrighted product
9 or brand name; or

10 3. The plate's lettering or message is obscene or profane, as determined by
11 the cabinet.

12 (c) Once an applicant obtains a personalized plate, he or she will have first
13 priority on that plate for each of the following years that he or she makes
14 timely renewal payments.

15 ➔Section 2. The Transportation Cabinet shall issue a refund to any individual
16 who, between July 14, 2022, and the effective date of this Act, paid any fees for an initial
17 or renewal registration for a personalized license plate that were in excess of those
18 identified in KRS 186.162.

19 ➔Section 3. Whereas this Act corrects a situation where individuals applying for
20 personalized license plates are essentially being charged a double vehicle registration fee,
21 an emergency is declared to exist, and this Act takes effect upon its passage and approval
22 by the Governor or upon its otherwise becoming a law.