

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
12 website~~[Web site]~~ designated by the cabinet. The cabinet shall produce the
13 requested license plate upon approval and receipt of the fee required in subsection
14 (4) of this section for a special license plate, or the fee required in KRS 186.162 for
15 a standard issue license 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
27 divided between the cabinet and the county clerk of the county where the

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