

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT  
with House Amendments  
ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2321**

Introduced by

Senators Klein, Burckhard, Heckaman

Representatives Boe, Fegley, Vigesaa

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 39-04-10.16 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to special vehicle license plates for volunteer emergency responders and firefighters;  
3 and to declare an emergency.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 39-04-10.16 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **39-04-10.16. Special vehicle license plates for volunteer emergency responders and**  
8 **volunteer firefighters.**

9 1. As used in this section:

- 10 a. "Fire department" means a certified city fire department, certified rural fire  
11 department, or certified fire protection district that has filed a certificate of  
12 existence under section 18-04-02.
- 13 b. "Volunteer emergency responder" means an emergency medical services  
14 provider certified by the state department of health and the individual's squad  
15 leader for a continuous period exceeding two years and who receives an annual  
16 compensation of less than ten thousand dollars.
- 17 c. "Volunteer firefighter" means an active member in good standing with a North  
18 Dakota fire department who has had a continuous membership for a period  
19 exceeding two years and receives an annual compensation of less than ten  
20 thousand dollars from the fire department.

21 2. Upon application, the director shall issue red personalized plates to volunteer  
22 emergency responders and volunteer firefighters at no initial or annual cost to the  
23 volunteers. ~~Volunteers shall include fire fighters and emergency medical responders.~~  
24 Qualified applicants are eligible to receive one set of plates. Plates may not be

1 displayed on a vehicle with a registered gross weight exceeding twenty thousand  
2 pounds [9071.85 kilograms]. The first three digits of the plate are the last three digits  
3 of the zip code where the volunteer's department is located. The remaining space may  
4 contain up to three characters of the volunteer's choosing. This plate serves as an  
5 entrance pass to all North Dakota state parks. In cooperation with the volunteer  
6 organizations, the director shall designate qualifications and verification procedures for  
7 the plates issued under this section.

8 3. On termination of the registrant's eligibility, the registrant shall return the plates to the  
9 director, who shall reissue for a fee of not more than five dollars, and upon payment of  
10 applicable registration fees, another number plate to which that registrant is entitled  
11 under this chapter.

12 4. If a registrant fails to return the plates to the director, the director, upon notification of  
13 the registrant's ineligibility, may revoke the plates and reissue for a fee of not more  
14 than five dollars, and upon payment of applicable registration fees, another number  
15 plate for which the registrant is entitled under this chapter.

16 **SECTION 2. EMERGENCY.** This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.