

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 304—ASSEMBLYWOMAN ANDERSON

MARCH 15, 2023

Referred to Committee on Growth and Infrastructure

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing certain special license plates. (BDR 43-699)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to special license plates; exempting special license plates that encourage the donation of human organs from certain provisions limiting the number of designs of special license plates issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles; eliminating the requirement to provide proof of current or former employment as a professional full-time salaried firefighter or current or former service as a volunteer firefighter in an application for the renewal of certain special license plates recognizing such employment or service; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

- 1 Existing law authorizes the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue special
- 2 license plates that encourage the donation of human organs. (NRS 482.37905)
- 3 Under existing law, certain special license plates, including special license plates
- 4 that encourage the donation of human organs, are subject to a limitation of the
- 5 number of separate designs of special license plates which the Department may
- 6 issue at any one time. (NRS 482.367008) **Section 1** of this bill exempts the special
- 7 license plates that encourage the donation of human organs from the limitation on
- 8 the number of separate designs of special license plates which the Department may
- 9 issue at any one time.
- 10 Existing law authorizes the Department to issue special license plates
- 11 recognizing: (1) current or former employment as a professional full-time salaried
- 12 firefighter; and (2) current or former service as a volunteer firefighter. Existing law
- 13 requires an application for the issuance or renewal of such special license plates to
- 14 include documentation providing reasonable proof of the applicant’s eligibility to
- 15 receive the special plates. (NRS 482.3753, 482.3754) **Sections 2 and 3** of this bill



16 eliminate the requirement to include such documentation in an application for the
17 renewal of such special license plates.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 482.367008 is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:

3 482.367008 1. As used in this section, “special license plate”
4 means:

5 (a) A license plate that the Department has designed and
6 prepared pursuant to NRS 482.367002 in accordance with the
7 system of application described in that section;

8 (b) A license plate approved by the Legislature that the
9 Department has designed and prepared pursuant to NRS 482.3747,
10 482.37903, ~~482.37905,~~ 482.37917, 482.379175, 482.37918,
11 482.37919, 482.3792, 482.3793, 482.37933, 482.37934, 482.37935,
12 482.379355, 482.379365, 482.37937, 482.379375, 482.37938,
13 482.37939, 482.37945 or 482.37947; and

14 (c) Except for a license plate that is issued pursuant to NRS
15 482.3746, 482.3751, 482.3752, 482.3757, 482.3783, 482.3785,
16 482.3787, 482.37901, 482.37902, 482.37906, 482.3791, 482.3794,
17 482.37941 or 482.3817, a license plate that is approved by the
18 Legislature after July 1, 2005.

19 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary,
20 and except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the Department
21 shall not, at any one time, issue more than 30 separate designs of
22 special license plates. Whenever the total number of separate
23 designs of special license plates issued by the Department at any one
24 time is less than 30, the Department shall issue a number of
25 additional designs of special license plates that have been authorized
26 by an act of the Legislature or the application for which has been
27 approved by the Department pursuant to NRS 482.367002, not to
28 exceed a total of 30 designs issued by the Department at any one
29 time. Such additional designs must be issued by the Department in
30 accordance with the chronological order of their authorization or
31 approval by the Department.

32 3. In addition to the special license plates described in
33 subsection 2, the Department may issue not more than five separate
34 designs of special license plates in excess of the limit set forth in
35 that subsection. To qualify for issuance pursuant to this subsection:

36 (a) The Department must approve the design, preparation and
37 issuance of the special plates as described in NRS 482.367002; and



1 (b) The special license plates must have been applied for,
2 designed, prepared and issued pursuant to NRS 482.367002, except
3 that:

4 (1) The application for the special license plates must be
5 accompanied by a surety bond posted with the Department in the
6 amount of \$20,000; and

7 (2) Pursuant to the assessment of the viability of the design
8 of the special license plates that is conducted pursuant to this
9 section, it is determined that at least 3,000 special license plates
10 have been issued.

11 4. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, on
12 October 1 of each year the Department shall assess the viability of
13 each separate design of special license plate that the Department is
14 currently issuing by determining the total number of validly
15 registered motor vehicles to which that design of special license
16 plate is affixed. The Department shall not determine the total
17 number of validly registered motor vehicles to which a particular
18 design of special license plate is affixed if:

19 (a) The particular design of special license plate was designed
20 and prepared by the Department pursuant to NRS 482.367002; and

21 (b) On October 1, that particular design of special license plate
22 has been available to be issued for less than 12 months.

23 5. If, on October 1, the total number of validly registered motor
24 vehicles to which a particular design of special license plate is
25 affixed is:

26 (a) In the case of special license plates not described in
27 subsection 3, less than 1,000; or

28 (b) In the case of special license plates described in subsection
29 3, less than 3,000,

30 the Director shall provide notice of that fact in the manner
31 described in subsection 6.

32 6. The notice required pursuant to subsection 5 must be
33 provided:

34 (a) If the special license plate generates financial support for a
35 cause or charitable organization, to that cause or charitable
36 organization.

37 (b) If the special license plate does not generate financial
38 support for a cause or charitable organization, to an entity which is
39 involved in promoting the activity, place or other matter that is
40 depicted on the plate.

41 7. If, on December 31 of the same year in which notice was
42 provided pursuant to subsections 5 and 6, the total number of validly
43 registered motor vehicles to which a particular design of special
44 license plate is affixed is:



1 (a) In the case of special license plates not described in
2 subsection 3, less than 1,000; or

3 (b) In the case of special license plates described in subsection
4 3, less than 3,000,

5 ↪ the Director shall, notwithstanding any other provision of law to
6 the contrary, issue an order providing that the Department will no
7 longer issue that particular design of special license plate. Except as
8 otherwise provided in subsection 2 of NRS 482.265, such an order
9 does not require existing holders of that particular design of special
10 license plate to surrender their plates to the Department and does not
11 prohibit those holders from renewing those plates.

12 **Sec. 2.** NRS 482.3753 is hereby amended to read as follows:

13 482.3753 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the
14 Department, in cooperation with professional full-time salaried
15 firefighters in the State of Nevada, shall design, prepare and issue
16 license plates that recognize current or former employment as a
17 professional full-time salaried firefighter using any colors and
18 designs which the Department deems appropriate. The Department
19 shall not design, prepare or issue the license plates unless it receives
20 at least 250 applications for the issuance of those plates.

21 2. The Department shall issue license plates that recognize
22 current or former employment as a professional full-time salaried
23 firefighter for a passenger car or a light commercial vehicle upon
24 application by a qualified person who is entitled to license plates
25 pursuant to NRS 482.265 and who otherwise complies with the
26 requirements for registration and licensing pursuant to this chapter.
27 A person may request that personalized prestige license plates
28 issued pursuant to NRS 482.3667 be combined with license plates
29 that recognize current or former employment as a professional full-
30 time salaried firefighter if that person pays the fees for the
31 personalized prestige license plates in addition to the fees for the
32 license plates that recognize current or former employment as a
33 professional full-time salaried firefighter.

34 3. An application for the issuance ~~for renewal~~ of license plates
35 that recognize current or former employment as a professional full-
36 time salaried firefighter is void unless it is accompanied by
37 documentation which, in the determination of the Department,
38 provides reasonable proof of the identity of the applicant and proof
39 of the applicant's:

40 (a) Current employment as a professional full-time salaried
41 firefighter; or

42 (b) Status as a former professional full-time salaried firefighter
43 who retired from employment after completing at least 10 years of
44 creditable service as a firefighter within this State or any other
45 jurisdiction with:



- 1 (1) A fire department; or
- 2 (2) A federal or state agency, the duties of which involve the
- 3 prevention and suppression of fires, including, without limitation,
- 4 the Bureau of Land Management and the Division of Forestry of the
- 5 State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

6 4. Proof of an applicant's current or former employment as a

7 professional full-time salaried firefighter must consist of:

8 (a) An identification card issued by the Professional Fire

9 Fighters of Nevada or its successor;

10 (b) An identification card issued by the Nevada Fire Chiefs

11 Association or its successor;

12 (c) An identification card issued by a professional firefighters'

13 or chiefs' organization or association from any other jurisdiction

14 that is acceptable to the Department; or

15 (d) A letter certifying the applicant's current or former

16 employment as a professional full-time salaried firefighter, which

17 letter must be from:

18 (1) The Professional Fire Fighters of Nevada or its successor;

19 (2) The Nevada Fire Chiefs Association or its successor;

20 (3) A professional firefighters' or chiefs' organization or

21 association from any other jurisdiction that is acceptable to the

22 Department; or

23 (4) The chief officer of a federal or state agency or any other

24 jurisdiction, the duties of which involve the prevention and

25 suppression of fires, including, without limitation, the Bureau of

26 Land Management and the Division of Forestry of the State

27 Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

28 5. *An application for the renewal of license plates issued*

29 *pursuant to this section is not required to be accompanied by proof*

30 *of the applicant's current or former employment as a professional*

31 *full-time salaried firefighter.*

32 6. The fee payable to the Department for license plates that

33 recognize current or former employment as a professional full-time

34 salaried firefighter is \$35, in addition to all other applicable

35 registration and license fees and governmental services taxes. The

36 license plates are renewable upon the payment to the Department of

37 \$10 in addition to all other applicable registration and license fees

38 and governmental services taxes.

39 ~~6.~~ 7. In addition to all other applicable registration and

40 license fees and governmental services taxes and the fees prescribed

41 in subsection ~~5.~~ 6, a person who requests a set of license plates that

42 recognize current or former employment as a professional full-time

43 salaried firefighter must pay for the initial issuance of the plates an

44 additional fee of \$25 and for each renewal of the plates an additional



1 fee of \$20 to support the Professional Fire Fighters of Nevada
2 Benevolent Association.

3 ~~[7.]~~ 8. The Department shall deposit the fees collected
4 pursuant to subsection ~~[6.]~~ 7 with the State Treasurer for credit to the
5 State General Fund. The State Treasurer shall, on a quarterly basis,
6 distribute the fees deposited pursuant to this subsection to the
7 Professional Fire Fighters of Nevada Benevolent Association.

8 ~~[8.]~~ 9. If, during a registration period, the holder of license
9 plates issued pursuant to the provisions of this section disposes of
10 the vehicle to which the plates are affixed, the holder shall:

11 (a) Retain the plates and affix them to another vehicle that meets
12 the requirements of this section if the transfer and registration fees
13 are paid as set out in this chapter; or

14 (b) Within 30 days after removing the plates from the vehicle,
15 return them to the Department.

16 ~~[9.]~~ 10. As used in this section:

17 (a) "Any other jurisdiction" means any governmental or quasi-
18 governmental entity within the United States which employs
19 professional full-time salaried firefighters and includes, without
20 limitation, any city, county, state, territory, Indian tribe or branch of
21 the Armed Forces of the United States.

22 (b) "Professional full-time salaried firefighter" means a person
23 employed in this State or any other jurisdiction in a full-time
24 salaried occupation of fire fighting for the benefit or safety of the
25 public.

26 **Sec. 3.** NRS 482.3754 is hereby amended to read as follows:

27 482.3754 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the
28 Department, in cooperation with the Nevada State Firefighters'
29 Association or its successor, shall design, prepare and issue license
30 plates that recognize current or former service as a volunteer
31 firefighter using any colors and designs which the Department
32 deems appropriate. The Department shall not design, prepare or
33 issue the license plates unless it receives at least 250 applications for
34 the issuance of those plates.

35 2. The Department shall issue license plates that recognize
36 current or former service as a volunteer firefighter for a passenger
37 car or a light commercial vehicle upon application by a qualified
38 person who is entitled to license plates pursuant to NRS 482.265
39 and who otherwise complies with the requirements for registration
40 and licensing pursuant to this chapter. A person may request that
41 personalized prestige license plates issued pursuant to NRS
42 482.3667 be combined with license plates that recognize current or
43 former service as a volunteer firefighter if that person pays the fees
44 for the personalized prestige license plates in addition to the fees for



1 the license plates that recognize current or former service as a
2 volunteer firefighter.

3 3. An application for the issuance ~~for renewal~~ of license plates
4 that recognize current or former service as a volunteer firefighter is
5 void unless it is accompanied by documentation which, in the
6 determination of the Department, provides reasonable proof of the
7 identity of the applicant and proof of the applicant's current service
8 as a volunteer firefighter or status as a former volunteer firefighter
9 who retired from service as a volunteer firefighter within this State
10 after completing at least 10 years of active service. Proof of an
11 applicant's current or former service as a volunteer firefighter must
12 consist of:

13 (a) An identification card which indicates that the applicant
14 currently serves as a volunteer firefighter; or

15 (b) A letter from the chief officer of a volunteer or combination
16 fire department certifying the applicant's current or former service
17 as a volunteer firefighter.

18 4. *An application for the renewal of license plates issued*
19 *pursuant to this section is not required to be accompanied by proof*
20 *of the applicant's current or former service as a volunteer*
21 *firefighter.*

22 5. The fee payable to the Department for license plates that
23 recognize current or former service as a volunteer firefighter is \$35,
24 in addition to all other applicable registration and license fees and
25 governmental services taxes. The license plates are renewable upon
26 the payment to the Department of \$10 in addition to all other
27 applicable registration and license fees and governmental services
28 taxes.

29 ~~5.1~~ 6. In addition to all other applicable registration and
30 license fees and governmental services taxes and the fees prescribed
31 in subsection ~~4.1~~ 5, a person who requests a set of license plates that
32 recognize current or former service as a volunteer firefighter must
33 pay for the initial issuance of the plates an additional fee of \$25 and
34 for each renewal of the plates an additional fee of \$20 to support the
35 training of volunteer firefighters.

36 ~~6.1~~ 7. The Department shall deposit the fees collected
37 pursuant to subsection ~~5.1~~ 6 with the State Treasurer for credit to the
38 State General Fund. The State Treasurer shall account separately for
39 the money deposited pursuant to this subsection and reserve such
40 money for expenditure by the State Fire Marshal in accordance with
41 this subsection. The State Fire Marshal may expend the money
42 reserved pursuant to this subsection solely for the support of, and to
43 pay expenses related to, training for volunteer firefighters provided
44 by or as directed by the Board of Directors of the Nevada State
45 Firefighters' Association or its successor.



1 ~~§ 7.~~ 8. If, during a registration period, the holder of license
2 plates issued pursuant to the provisions of this section disposes of
3 the vehicle to which the plates are affixed, the holder shall:

4 (a) Retain the plates and affix them to another vehicle that meets
5 the requirements of this section if the transfer and registration fees
6 are paid as set out in this chapter; or

7 (b) Within 30 days after removing the plates from the vehicle,
8 return them to the Department.

9 ~~§ 8.~~ 9. As used in this section:

10 (a) "Combination fire department" means a fire department that
11 is:

12 (1) Served by both volunteer and full-time salaried
13 firefighters; and

14 (2) Recognized as such by the State Fire Marshal.

15 (b) "Volunteer fire department" means a fire department
16 recognized as a bona fide volunteer fire department by the State Fire
17 Marshal.

18 (c) "Volunteer firefighter" means a person who serves actively
19 in an unpaid capacity in a volunteer or combination fire department
20 within this State as a firefighter for the benefit or safety of the
21 public.

22 **Sec. 4.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and
23 approval.

24 2. Sections 1, 2 and 3 of this act become effective:

25 (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any
26 regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative
27 tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

28 (b) On January 1, 2024, for all other purposes.

