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Strasbaugh
3/17/14

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 293()
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE PEGGY WILSON

A BILL
FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

"An Act relating to motor vehicle registration plates; relating to special request registration plates; relating to special registration plates for firefighters and emergency medical service providers; and providing for an effective date."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

* Section 1. AS 28.10.161(b) is amended to read:

(b) Every passenger vehicle registration plate, except as specifically provided in AS 28.10.181, shall have displayed upon it

(1) either

(A) the Alaska flag design, consisting of the Alaska flag, [; (2)] the traditional colors of yellow-gold and blue, and [; (3)] the slogan "The Last Frontier"; or

(B) the bear design, consisting of a standing grizzly bear in the center of the plate; the bear design shall be modeled after the 1976 bicentennial plate without the bicentennial symbol;

(2) [(4)] the registration number assigned to the vehicle for which it is issued;

(3) [(5)] the name of this state, which may be abbreviated; and

(4) [(6)] the registration year number or expiration date for which time it is validated; the registration year number or expiration date may be part of the license plate or contained on a suitable sticker or tab device issued by the department; however, only one sticker or tab device may be issued for each pair of plates, and the sticker or tab device must be affixed to the rear plate.

* Sec. 2. AS 28.10.161(c) is amended to read:

(c) The department may not adopt a new or altered passenger vehicle registration plate, except as specifically provided in AS 28.10.181, unless it substantially embodies the specifications of this section.

* Sec. 3. AS 28.10.161 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(d) The department shall produce registration plates in both of the designs described in (b)(1) of this section. Upon registering a passenger vehicle, the owner shall select the plate design described in (b)(1) of this section that is to be issued by the department for the vehicle.

* Sec. 4. AS 28.10.181(z) is amended to read:

(z) Special request active firefighter and emergency medical service provider plates and retired [FORMER] firefighter and emergency medical service provider plates. On application by the owner of a motor vehicle, the department may issue registration plates for active firefighters and emergency medical service providers and registration plates for retired [FORMER] firefighters and emergency medical service providers. The commissioner shall determine the design and color of the plates. The department may disapprove the issuance of registration plates under this subsection when the requested plates are a duplication of an existing registration. To be eligible for

(1) an active firefighter and emergency medical service provider plate, a person must present satisfactory proof that the person is an active member of

(A) a fire department in this state and the fire department is recognized as a fire department by the state fire marshal; or

(B) an out-of-hospital emergency medical service certified by the Department of Health and Social Services;

(2) a retired [FORMER] firefighter and emergency medical service provider plate, a person must present satisfactory proof that the person was an active member of

(A) a fire department in this state for a minimum of 10 years;

or

(B) an out-of-hospital emergency medical service certified by the Department of Health and Social Services for a minimum of 10 years.

* Sec. 5. AS 28.10.181 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(ii) Special request specialty organization plates. The department shall adopt regulations to allow for the issuance of special request specialty organization registration plates sponsored by an organization that is based in this state and is tax exempt under 26 U.S.C. 501(c), is an Alaska chapter of a national organization that is tax exempt under 26 U.S.C. 501(c), is a department of the state, or is a municipality of the state. The department shall determine a common design and color for the plates and provide for the placement of the artwork of the organization and a short piece of descriptive text on the plate. The department may disapprove the issuance of registration plates under this subsection when the requested plates duplicate an existing registration. The regulations

(1) must provide that the entity requesting the issuance of the plates

(A) submit an application on a form provided by the department;

(B) pay an application fee set by the department for issuance of the new registration plates;

(C) may not be offensive in purpose, nature, activity, or name;

(D) may charge a fee for issuance of a specialty registration plate in addition to any registration fees set by statute or regulation;

(2) must establish procedures for owners of vehicles to purchase specialty registration plates under this subsection.

* Sec. 6. AS 28.10.421(d)(18) is amended to read:

1 (18) special request plates

2 (A) for active firefighter and emergency medical service
3 provider\$30;

4 (B) for retired [FORMER] firefighter and emergency medical
5 service provider\$50
6 plus the fee required for that vehicle under (b), (c), (h), or (i) of this section;
7 the fee required by (A) and (B) of this paragraph shall be collected only on the
8 first issuance of and the replacement of the plates;

9 * Sec. 7. AS 28.10.421(d) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

10 (25) special request specialty organization plates under
11 AS 28.10.181(ii)..... a fee in an amount established by the department by regulation
12 plus the fee required for that vehicle under (b), (c), (h), or (i) of this section; the fee
13 required by this paragraph shall be collected only on the first issuance of and the
14 replacement of the plates; in addition, an entity sponsoring a special request specialty
15 organization plate may charge a fee on first issuance and renewal of the plates.

16 * Sec. 8. This Act takes effect January 1, 2015.