

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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**REPRESENTATIVE PEGGY WILSON  
HOUSE DISTRICT 33**

## **SPONSOR STATEMENT**

### **HB 293**

**"An Act relating to motor vehicle registration plates; and providing for an effective date."**

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HB 293 would allow for a second license plate to be chosen as the state's primary plate. Currently the primary license plate is a plain yellow background. This bill would allow residents to have a choice between the plain yellow and a plate that has a bear insignia – very similar to one of our most popular plates back in 1976.

According to a recent national poll, Alaska's primary license plate is rated number 48 out of the 50 states and 2 territories. Our state deserves better recognition! Bears are indelibly linked to Alaska.

This bill will also correct an error from a prior bill intended to allow retired firefighters and emergency medical service providers the honor of purchasing a plate indicating "Retired". Currently statute indicates "former", this will change that to "retired" which was the original intent of the bill.

Lastly, this bill will provide the Commissioner of Administration, Motor Vehicles Division the ability to develop a procedure to work directly with individuals or groups to create personalized background designed registration plates. It will require the Commissioner to develop a standardized template, process and fees for all applications.

This bill will be revenue neutral as it would require that the cost of specialized plates be fully covered by those making the request.

This will relieve the Legislature from the responsibility and time that it takes each session to approve specialty plates

