

**HOUSE BILL NO. 166**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY REPRESENTATIVE MCCABE**

**Introduced: 4/7/21**

**Referred: Transportation, Finance**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1   **"An Act relating to the issuance of vehicle registration plates."**

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

3    \* **Section 1.** AS 28.10.108(g) is amended to read:

4           (g) The department shall issue to the registered owner, upon receipt of the  
5           proper application and fees, one registration plate [PLATES], tabs, and a registration  
6           form displaying the month and year in which the registration expires.

7    \* **Sec. 2.** AS 28.10.108(h) is amended to read:

8           (h) The department shall mail or deliver notice of registration expiration to the  
9           registered owner of record at the owner's mailing address or electronic mail address as  
10          shown in the records of the department. An owner of a vehicle subject to registration  
11          who has received notice under this subsection may renew registration of the vehicle on  
12          the department's Internet website or by returning the notice form, together with  
13          appropriate fees, to the department by mail postmarked not later than the fifth day of  
14          the registration renewal period shown on the vehicle's current registration or notice  
15          form. Upon receipt of a timely registration renewal application and the appropriate

1 fees and taxes, the department shall renew the registration and mail the current  
2 registration card and registration plate [PLATES] or tabs to the owner at the owner's  
3 mailing address as shown in the department's records.

4 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 28.10.155(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) The owner of a motor vehicle, other than a commercial motor vehicle, that  
6 is required to be registered under this chapter may elect to register the motor vehicle  
7 permanently in lieu of registration under AS 28.10.108 if the vehicle is at least eight  
8 years old and the owner resides in the unorganized borough or in a municipality that  
9 elects, by passage of an appropriate ordinance, to allow the permanent registration of  
10 motor vehicles. The permanent registration expires when the owner transfers or  
11 assigns the owner's title or interest in the vehicle. A permanent registration may not be  
12 renewed. Upon [ON] receiving the proper application and fees, the department shall  
13 issue to the registered owner one registration plate [PLATES], tabs, and a permanent  
14 registration form.

15 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 28.10.161(a) is amended to read:

16 (a) Except for a vehicle registered under AS 28.10.152, the department, upon  
17 registering a vehicle, shall issue the owner one fully reflectorized registration plate for  
18 the [A TRAILER OR A MOTORCYCLE AND TWO FULLY REFLECTORIZED  
19 REGISTRATION PLATES FOR EVERY OTHER] vehicle. Except as specifically  
20 provided in AS 28.10.181, the plate [OR PLATES] must remain with the vehicle as  
21 long as the vehicle is subject to registration under this chapter.

22 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 28.10.161(b) is amended to read:

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

25 (1) one of the following designs:

26 (A) the Alaska flag design, consisting of the Alaska flag, the  
27 traditional colors of yellow-gold and blue, and the slogan "The Last Frontier";

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

31 (C) the design celebrating the arts chosen by the commissioner

1 through consultation with the Alaska State Council on the Arts; the  
 2 commissioner shall choose a new design for the plates celebrating the arts  
 3 every four years and discontinue issuance of the previous design;

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

6 (3) the name of this state, which may be abbreviated; and

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

12 \* **Sec. 6.** AS 28.10.161 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

13 (e) A person or organization owning a vehicle that is issued two registration  
 14 plates by the department may elect to return one registration plate to the department.  
 15 The registration plate that is not returned to the department shall be attached to the rear  
 16 of the vehicle for which it is issued.

17 \* **Sec. 7.** AS 28.10.181(b) is amended to read:

18 (b) Historic vehicles. The owner of a historic vehicle may make application  
 19 for special registration under this subsection. The department, when satisfied that the  
 20 vehicle meets the requirements for historic vehicle registration under regulations  
 21 adopted by the commissioner, shall register the vehicle and (1) issue one [TWO]  
 22 permanent registration plate [PLATES] of distinctive design and color bearing no  
 23 date; a vehicle [VEHICLES] qualifying for registration under this paragraph shall be  
 24 issued a registration plate [PLATES] numbered in a separate numerical series  
 25 beginning with "Historic Vehicle No. 1"; or (2) allow the vehicle to use a registration  
 26 plate [PLATES] of this state supplied by the vehicle owner that corresponds  
 27 [CORRESPOND] to the year the vehicle was manufactured if the vehicle was  
 28 manufactured 30 or more years before the year of application. A registration plate  
 29 [REGISTRATION PLATES] issued under this subsection remains [REMAIN] with  
 30 the vehicle as long as the vehicle is registered under this subsection.

31 \* **Sec. 8.** AS 28.10.181(j) is amended to read:

(j) Vehicles owned by dealers. A state-registered and bonded vehicle dealer may apply for a dealer registration plate [PLATES]. A plate issued under this subsection may be used only on dealer-owned vehicles during the routine and normal course of the dealer's business, excluding service vehicles, or for transporting an unregistered vehicle from a port of entry to the dealer's facilities or from one dealer to another or, in the case of a house trailer, from the retail facility to a trailer space. A vehicle permitted to have a dealer plate [PLATES] must be affixed with one plate [TWO PLATES] issued under this subsection. If the dealer sells or transfers the vehicle, the dealer plate [PLATES] may be used on the vehicle by the new owner or transferee for a period of not more than five days after the sale or transfer. The department may seize the dealer plate [PLATES] if it has reason to believe that the plate is [PLATES ARE] being used to defeat the purposes of, or is [ARE] in violation of, this chapter.

\* **Sec. 9.** AS 28.10.421(d)(9) is amended to read:

(9) dealer registration plates

(A) the initial plate [SET OF PLATES] ..... \$88;

(B) each subsequent plate [SET OF PLATES] ..... \$50;

\* **Sec. 10.** AS 28.10.441 is amended to read:

**Sec. 28.10.441. Schedule of other fees and charges.** The following fees and charges are imposed by the department for the stated services that it provides:

(1) title fee, including transfer of title ..... \$15;

(2) lien filing fee ..... \$15;

(3) replacement of any registration plate [SET], including a special request plate [PLATES] ..... \$5;

(4) duplicate of original certificate of title ..... \$15;

(5) duplicate of certificate of registration ..... \$2;

(6) temporary preregistration permit issued under AS 28.10.031 none;

(7) special transport permit issued under AS 28.10.151 ..... \$5;

(8) special permit for vehicle used for transport of a person with a disability issued under AS 28.10.495 none.