

HOUSE BILL NO. 178

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE OLSON

Introduced: 2/25/05

Referred: State Affairs, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

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

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

4 *** Section 1.** AS 28.10.181(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) The department shall register unique and special vehicles and vehicles
6 used for special purposes and issue registration plates as provided in this section.
7 Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter, registration plates issued under this
8 section remain with the person or organization to whom they are issued when vehicle
9 ownership is transferred or title or interest in the vehicle is assigned, except for plates
10 issued under (b), (h) and (i) of this section. Registration plates issued under this
11 section may not be used on, or transferred to, a vehicle other than the vehicle for
12 which the plates are issued without the approval of the department and payment of any
13 required fees and taxes prescribed in AS 28.10.421(d), 28.10.431 and 28.10.441 [;
14 **HOWEVER, IF THE PLATES ISSUED UNDER (c), (f) AND (j) OF THIS**

1 SECTION ARE TRANSFERRED TO A VEHICLE FOR WHICH THE
2 REGISTRATION FEE IS MORE THAN THE FEE FOR THE VEHICLE FROM
3 WHICH THE PLATES ARE TRANSFERRED, THE OWNER SHALL PAY THE
4 DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO FEES]. Registration plates issued under this
5 section to which a person is no longer entitled or the transfer of the plates to another
6 vehicle **that** [WHICH] the department does not approve shall be returned immediately
7 to the department by the person or organization to whom the plates were originally
8 issued.

9 * **Sec. 2.** AS 28.10.181(c) is amended to read:

10 (c) Special request plates. Upon application by the owner of a **motor**
11 [PASSENGER] vehicle [, MOTORCYCLE, NONCOMMERCIAL VAN OR PICK-
12 UP TRUCK, OR MOTOR HOME], the department shall design and issue registration
13 plates containing a series of not more than six letters or numbers or combination of
14 letters and numbers as requested by the owner. The department may, in its discretion,
15 disapprove the issuance of registration plates under this subsection when the requested
16 symbols are a duplication of an existing registration or when the symbols are
17 considered unacceptable by the department.

18 * **Sec. 3.** AS 28.10.181(d) is amended to read:

19 (d) Vehicles owned by veterans with disabilities, including persons disabled in
20 the line of duty while serving in the Alaska Territorial Guard, or other persons with
21 disabilities. Upon the request of a person with a disability that limits or impairs the
22 ability to walk, as defined in 23 C.F.R. 1235.2, the department shall (1) register one
23 **motor** [PASSENGER] vehicle in the name of the person without charge; and (2) issue
24 a specially designed registration plate that displays (A) recognition of the disabled
25 veteran if the applicant's disability originated from the applicant's service with the
26 Alaska Territorial Guard or the armed forces of the United States; (B) the international
27 symbol of accessibility (the wheelchair logo); and (C) if the applicant is a veteran, the
28 Alaska and United States flags and red, white, and blue colors. A person who is not
29 otherwise qualified under this subsection, but who meets the qualifications of a
30 disabled veteran under AS 29.45.030(i), may register one **motor** [PASSENGER]
31 vehicle without charge, and the department shall issue a specially designed registration

1 plate that displays recognition of the disabled veteran that does not display the
 2 international symbol of accessibility and does not carry with it special parking
 3 privileges. For purposes of this subsection, proof of disability may be provided by a
 4 person licensed as a physician or physician assistant under AS 08.64 or as an advanced
 5 nurse practitioner under AS 08.68.

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

7 (f) Vehicles owned by elected state officials. The department shall issue
 8 special registration plates to each incumbent elected state official for display on
 9 [NONCOMMERCIAL] motor vehicles owned and driven by the official. The
 10 department shall number or design the plates so that registration by an elected state
 11 official is indicated upon the plates. The registration plates issued under this
 12 subsection remain with the owner of the vehicle only during the official's term of
 13 office.

14 * **Sec. 5.** AS 28.10.181(m) is amended to read:

15 (m) Special request plates for Alaska National Guard personnel. Upon
 16 application by the owner of a **motor** [PASSENGER] vehicle [, NONCOMMERCIAL
 17 VAN OR PICK-UP TRUCK, OR MOTOR HOME] who presents satisfactory proof of
 18 current membership in the Alaska National Guard, the department may design and
 19 issue registration plates that identify the vehicle as registered to a member of the
 20 Alaska National Guard.

21 * **Sec. 6.** AS 28.10.181(o) is amended to read:

22 (o) Special request university plates. Upon application by the owner of a
 23 **motor** [PASSENGER] vehicle, [VAN OR PICK-UP TRUCK, OR MOTOR HOME,]
 24 the department may design and issue registration plates representing the University of
 25 Alaska Anchorage, University of Alaska Fairbanks, University of Alaska Southeast, or
 26 Prince William Sound Community College. The department may disapprove the
 27 issuance of registration plates under this subsection when the requested plates are a
 28 duplication of an existing registration.

29 * **Sec. 7.** AS 28.10.181(p) is amended to read:

30 (p) Vehicles owned by veterans. The department, upon receipt of written
 31 proof that the veteran is a sole or joint owner of a [NONCOMMERCIAL] motor

1 vehicle, shall issue special registration plates for the [NONCOMMERCIAL] motor
 2 vehicle to a requesting person who is a veteran or retired veteran of the armed forces
 3 of the United States. The commissioner, after consulting with the director of the
 4 division of veterans affairs, shall determine the design and color of the veteran or
 5 retired veteran plates.

6 * **Sec. 8.** AS 28.10.181(q) is amended to read:

7 (q) Vehicles owned by recipients of the Purple Heart. The department, upon
 8 receipt of written proof that the person is the sole or joint owner of a
 9 [NONCOMMERCIAL] motor vehicle, shall issue special registration plates for the
 10 [NONCOMMERCIAL] motor vehicle to a requesting person who has received the
 11 Purple Heart medal awarded for wounds suffered in action against an armed enemy or
 12 as a result of the hostile action of an armed enemy. The commissioner, after
 13 consulting with the director of the division of veterans affairs, shall determine the
 14 design and color of the Purple Heart medal recipient plates.

15 * **Sec. 9.** AS 28.10.181(s) is amended to read:

16 (s) Special request dog mushing plates. Upon application by the owner of a
 17 **motor** [PASSENGER] vehicle, [VAN OR PICK-UP TRUCK, OR MOTOR HOME,]
 18 the department may design and issue registration plates representing the sport of dog
 19 mushing in the state. The department may disapprove the issuance of registration
 20 plates under this subsection when the requested plates are a duplication of an existing
 21 registration.

22 * **Sec. 10.** AS 28.10.181(t) is amended to read:

23 (t) Special request Alaska children's trust plates. Upon application by the
 24 owner of a **motor** [PASSENGER] vehicle [, NONCOMMERCIAL VAN OR PICK-
 25 UP TRUCK, OR MOTOR HOME], the department may design and issue registration
 26 plates representing the Alaska children's trust under AS 37.14.200. The department
 27 may disapprove the issuance of registration plates under this subsection when the
 28 requested plates are a duplication of an existing registration.

29 * **Sec. 11.** AS 28.10.181(u) is amended to read:

30 (u) Special request plates commemorating the arts. Upon application by the
 31 owner of a **motor** [PASSENGER] vehicle [, VAN OR PICK-UP TRUCK, OR

MOTOR HOME], the department may issue registration plates commemorating the arts. The commissioner, after consulting with the Alaska State Council on the Arts, shall determine the design and color of plates commemorating the arts. The department may disapprove the issuance of registration plates under this subsection when the requested plates are a duplication of an existing registration.

* Sec. 12. AS 28.10.181(w) is amended to read:

(w) Special request plates commemorating Alaska veterans. Upon application by the owner of a motor [PASSENGER] vehicle, [VAN, PICK-UP TRUCK, OR MOTOR HOME,] the department may issue registration plates commemorating Alaska veterans. The commissioner shall determine the design and color of plates commemorating Alaska veterans. The department may disapprove the issuance of registration plates under this subsection when the requested plates are a duplication of an existing registration.

* Sec. 13. AS 28.10.421(d) is amended to read:

(d) The special registration fees under this subsection are imposed biennially, unless otherwise specified, for

(1) a historic vehicle registered under

(A) AS 28.10.181(b)(1) and that is driven or moved on a highway for the primary purpose of historical exhibition or similar activity, one time only upon initial registration under AS 28.10.181(b) \$10;

(B) AS 28.10.181(b)(2) \$30 plus the fee required for that vehicle under (b) of this section, unless the historic vehicle is eligible for the fee described under (C) of this paragraph; the fee required by this subparagraph shall be collected only on the first issuance and on the replacement of the historic plates;

(C) AS 28.10.181(b)(2) and that is driven or moved on a highway for the primary purpose of historical exhibition or similar activity, one time only upon initial registration under AS 28.10.181(b) \$10;

(2) special request plates for

(A) Alaska National Guard personnel \$30;

(B) veterans or retired veterans \$30;

- 1 (C) recipients of the Purple Heart \$30;
- 2 (D) owners of custom collector vehicles \$50;
- 3 (E) other special request plates \$30;

4 plus the fee required for that vehicle under (b), (c), (h), or (i) of this section; the fee
 5 required by this paragraph shall be collected only on the first issuance and on the
 6 replacement of special request plates;

7 (3) a vehicle owned by a person with a disability and registered under
 8 AS 28.10.181(d), or by a resident 65 years of age or older who files a written
 9 application for an exemption on a form prescribed by the department none;

10 (4) a vehicle owned by the state none;

11 (5) a vehicle owned by an elected state official
 12 the fee required for that vehicle under (b), (c), (h), or (i) of this section;

13 (6) a vehicle owned by a rancher, farmer, or dairyman and registered
 14 under AS 28.10.181 \$68;

15 (7) a snowmobile or off-highway vehicle \$10;

16 (8) an amateur mobile radio station vehicle,

17 (A) with a transceiver capable of less than 5-band operation
 18the fee required for that vehicle under (b) or (c) of this section;

19 (B) in recognition of service to the public a mobile amateur
 20 radio station owned by an amateur with general class or higher license,
 21 provided the station must be satisfactorily proved capable of operating on at
 22 least five bands from 160 through 10 meters, must have an antenna, and must
 23 have a power supply and wiring as a permanent part of the vehicle; the
 24 transmitting unit may be removed from the car for service or dry storage
 25none

26 for a mobile amateur radio station vehicle included in (b) (1) or (2) of this
 27 section;

28 (9) dealer registration plates

29 (A) the initial set of plates \$88;

30 (B) each subsequent set of plates \$50;

31 (10) a vehicle owned by a municipality or charitable organization

1 meeting the requirements of AS 28.10.181(e) \$10;

2 (11) a vehicle owned by a Pearl Harbor survivor or a former prisoner
3 of war none;

4 (12) special request university plates \$50
5 plus the fee required for that vehicle under **(b), (c), (h), or (i)** [(b)(1) OR (2)] of this
6 section; the fee required by this paragraph shall be collected only on the first issuance
7 and on the replacement of special request plates; the commissioner of administration
8 shall separately account by university campus designation for the fees received under
9 this paragraph that the department deposits in the general fund; the annual estimated
10 balance in the accounts that is in excess of the cost of issuing special request
11 university plates may be appropriated by the legislature for the support of programs at
12 each campus;

13 (13) special request dog mushing plates \$50
14 plus the fee required for that vehicle under **(b), (c), (h), or (i)** [(b)(1) OR (2)] of this
15 section; the fee required by this paragraph shall be collected only on the first issuance
16 and on the replacement of special request plates; the commissioner of administration
17 shall separately account for the fees received under this paragraph that the department
18 deposits in the general fund; notwithstanding (g) of this section, the annual estimated
19 balance in the account that is in excess of the cost of issuing special request plates may
20 be appropriated by the legislature for the support of programs benefiting dog mushing;

21 (14) special request Alaska children's trust plates \$100
22 plus the fee required for that vehicle under **(b), (c), (h), or (i)** [(b)(1) OR (2)] of this
23 section; the fee required by this paragraph shall be collected only on the first issuance
24 and the replacement of special request plates; the commissioner of administration shall
25 separately account for the fees received under this paragraph that the department
26 deposits in the general fund; notwithstanding (g) of this section, the annual estimated
27 balance in the account that is in excess of the cost of issuing special request plates may
28 be appropriated by the legislature into the principal of the Alaska children's trust under
29 AS 37.14.200;

30 (15) special request plates commemorating the arts \$150
31 plus the fee required for that vehicle under **(b), (c), (h), or (i)** [(b)(1) OR (2)] of this

1 section; the fee required by this paragraph shall be collected biennially in the same
 2 manner as the fee required under (b), (c), (h), or (i) [(b)(1) OR (2)] of this section; the
 3 commissioner of administration shall separately account for the fees received under
 4 this paragraph that the department deposits in the general fund; notwithstanding (g) of
 5 this section, the annual estimated balance in the account that is in excess of the cost of
 6 issuing special request plates may be appropriated by the legislature for the support of
 7 programs benefiting the arts;

8 (16) special request plates commemorating Alaska veterans \$100
 9 plus a fee of \$35 and the fee required for that vehicle under (b), (c), (h), or (i) [(b)(1)
 10 OR (2)] of this section; the \$100 fee required by this paragraph shall be collected only
 11 on the first issuance of and the replacement of the commemorative veterans' plates; the
 12 \$35 fee required by this paragraph shall be collected biennially in the same manner as
 13 the fee required under (b), (c), (h), or (i) [(b)(1) OR (2)] of this section; the
 14 commissioner of administration shall separately account for the fees received under
 15 this paragraph that the department deposits in the general fund; notwithstanding (g) of
 16 this section, the annual estimated balance in the account that is in excess of the cost of
 17 issuing special request plates may be appropriated by the legislature for the support of
 18 programs benefiting Alaska veterans.

19 * **Sec. 14.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2005.