

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 178(STA) am

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Amended: 4/8/05

Offered: 3/18/05

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES OLSON, Chenault, Neuman

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 **except that**
 10 **such plates shall not be displayed on any vehicle which is visually identifiable as a**
 11 **commercial vehicle.** The department shall number or design the plates so that
 12 registration by an elected state official is indicated upon the plates. The registration
 13 plates issued under this subsection **may** remain **on** [WITH THE OWNER OF] the
 14 vehicle only during the official's term of office.

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

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

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

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

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

31 (p) Vehicles owned by veterans. The department, upon receipt of written

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

31 (u) Special request plates commemorating the arts. Upon application by the

1 owner of a **motor** [PASSENGER] vehicle [, VAN OR PICK-UP TRUCK, OR
2 MOTOR HOME], the department may issue registration plates commemorating the
3 arts. The commissioner, after consulting with the Alaska State Council on the Arts,
4 shall determine the design and color of plates commemorating the arts. The
5 department may disapprove the issuance of registration plates under this subsection
6 when the requested plates are a duplication of an existing registration.

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

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

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

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

18 (1) a historic vehicle registered under

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

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

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

30 (2) special request plates for

31 (A) Alaska National Guard personnel \$30;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

17 (8) an amateur mobile radio station vehicle,

18 (A) with a transceiver capable of less than 5-band operation
 19the fee required for that vehicle under (b) or (c) of this section;

20 (B) in recognition of service to the public a mobile amateur
 21 radio station owned by an amateur with general class or higher license,
 22 provided the station must be satisfactorily proved capable of operating on at
 23 least five bands from 160 through 10 meters, must have an antenna, and must
 24 have a power supply and wiring as a permanent part of the vehicle; the
 25 transmitting unit may be removed from the car for service or dry storage
 26none
 27 for a mobile amateur radio station vehicle included in (b) (1) or (2) of this
 28 section;

29 (9) dealer registration plates

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

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

1 (10) a vehicle owned by a municipality or charitable organization
2 meeting the requirements of AS 28.10.181(e) \$10;

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

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

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

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

31 (15) special request plates commemorating the arts \$150

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

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

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