

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 95(STA)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/14/24

Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): SENATORS MERRICK, Kiehl, Kaufman, Bjorkman, Claman, Dunbar, Gray-Jackson, Kawasaki, Wielechowski, Shower

REPRESENTATIVES Josephson, Mina

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to special request specialty organization registration plates; relating to
2 special registration plates commemorating peace officers killed in the line of duty;
3 relating to special registration plates for vehicles owned by women veterans; relating to
4 special request registration plates for United States Space Force personnel; and
5 providing for an effective date."

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

7 * **Section 1.** AS 28.10.181 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

8 (ll) Special request specialty organization plates. The department shall adopt
9 regulations to allow for the issuance of special request specialty organization
10 registration plates sponsored by an organization that is based in this state and is tax
11 exempt under 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(2) - (11), 12(B) - (J), (13), (17) - (22), (24), or (26) -
12 (29), is an Alaska chapter of a national organization that is tax exempt under 26 U.S.C.
13 501(c)(2) - (11), 12(B) - (J), (13), (17) - (22), (24), or (26) - (29), is a department of

1 the state, or is a municipality of the state. The department shall determine a common
2 design and color for the plates and provide for the placement of the logo of the
3 organization and a short piece of descriptive text on the plate. If the department denies
4 an application to create a specialty organization registration plate under this section,
5 the department shall notify the commissioner of the denial. The commissioner may
6 reverse the decision of the department and require issuance of the requested plate. The
7 department may disapprove the issuance of registration plates under this subsection
8 when the requested plates duplicate an existing registration. Regulations adopted
9 under this subsection must

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

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

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

15 (C) pay the entire cost of developing and issuing the specialty
16 plate;

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

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

20 (2) provide for notice to the entity sponsoring the plate not later than
21 six months before a proposed cancellation of the specialty organization plate;

22 (3) establish procedures for owners of vehicles to purchase specialty
23 organization registration plates under this subsection.

24 (mm) Special request plates commemorating peace officers killed in the line
25 of duty. Upon application by the owner of a motor vehicle, the department may issue
26 registration plates commemorating peace officers killed in the line of duty. The
27 commissioner, after consulting with representatives of peace officers killed in the line
28 of duty, shall determine the design and color of the plates. The department may
29 disapprove the issuance of registration plates under this subsection when the requested
30 plates are a duplication of an existing registration. In this subsection, "peace officer"
31 means

- 1 (1) an officer of the state troopers;
- 2 (2) a member of the police force of a municipality;
- 3 (3) a correctional officer;
- 4 (4) a village public safety officer;
- 5 (5) an officer assigned to a court to serve warrants and court orders,
- 6 provide court security and judicial protection, and transport prisoners; and
- 7 (6) any other public servant vested by law with a duty to maintain
- 8 public order or to make arrests, whether the duty extends to all offenses or is limited to
- 9 a specific class of offenses or offenders.

10 (nn) Vehicles owned by women veterans. The department, upon receipt of
 11 written proof that the woman veteran is a sole or joint owner of a motor vehicle, shall
 12 issue special registration plates for the motor vehicle to a requesting person who is a
 13 woman veteran or retired woman veteran of the armed forces of the United States. The
 14 design and color of the women veteran or retired women veteran plates shall be
 15 designed by a committee of women veterans and retired women veterans.

16 (oo) Special request plates for United States Space Force personnel. Upon
 17 application by the owner of a motor vehicle who presents satisfactory proof of current
 18 membership in the Unites States Space Force, the department may design and issue
 19 registration plates that identify the vehicle as registered to a member of the United
 20 States Space Force. The department may disapprove the issuance of registration plates
 21 under this subsection when the requested plates are a duplication of an existing
 22 registration.

23 * **Sec. 2.** AS 28.10.421(d)(2) is amended to read:

- 24 (2) special request plates for
 - 25 (A) Alaska National Guard **or United States Space Force**
 - 26 personnel \$30;
 - 27 (B) veterans, retired veterans, **women veterans, retired**
 - 28 **women veterans,** or Lao veterans \$30;
 - 29 (C) recipients of the Purple Heart none;
 - 30 (D) recipients of the Bronze Star awarded for valor, Silver Star,
 - 31 Navy Cross, Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross, Coast Guard Cross,

1 or other award reflecting valor \$30;

2 (E) owners of custom collector vehicles \$50;

3 (F) Iditarod race finishers \$50;

4 (G) other special request plates \$30;

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

8 * **Sec. 3.** AS 28.10.421(d) is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

9 (26) special request specialty organization plates under
10 AS 28.10.181(II)..... \$100

11 plus the fee required for that vehicle under (b), (c), (h), or (i) of this section; the \$100
12 fee required by this paragraph shall be collected only on the first issuance of and the
13 replacement of the plates; in addition, an entity sponsoring a special request specialty
14 organization plate may charge a fee on first issuance and renewal of the plates;

15 (27) special request plates commemorating peace officers killed in the
16 line of duty \$30

17 plus the fee required for that vehicle under (b), (c), (h), or (i) of this section; the fee
18 required by this paragraph shall be collected biennially in the same manner as the fee
19 required under (b), (c), (h), or (i) of this section.

20 * **Sec. 4.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
21 read:

22 DESIGN COMMITTEE FOR WOMEN VETERAN SPECIAL REGISTRATION
23 PLATES. A committee for the design of women veteran or retired women veteran special
24 registration plates under AS 28.10.181(nn) is established. The committee consists of women
25 veterans and retired women veterans, with a legislator who is a retired woman veteran serving
26 as chair. The committee shall determine the design and color of the women veteran or retired
27 women veteran plates.

28 * **Sec. 5.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).