



Ninety-Ninth Legislature - Second Session - 2006
Committee Statement
LB 1151

Hearing Date: February 6, 2006

Committee On: Transportation and Telecommunications

Introducer(s): (Cornett, Pahls)

Title: Provide for Firefighter Plates and funds for training emergency personnel

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

- Advanced to General File
 - X Advanced to General File with Amendments
 - Indefinitely Postponed
-

Vote Results:

6	Yes	Senators Smith, Dw. Pedersen, Baker, Foley, Stuthman and Aguilar
	No	
	Present, not voting	
2	Absent	Senators Brown and Hudkins

Proponents:

Senator Abbie Cornett
John L. Stacey
Dale Tedder
Joseph Bockman
Mia Martin
Jerry Stilmock

Representing:

Introducer, District #45
Bellevue Fire Department
Bellevue Volunteer Fire Department
Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Assn.
Bellevue Volunteer Fire Department
Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Assn.

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

The bill would create Firefighter plates.

Section 1 amends §60-301 by adding an internal reference.

Section 2 requires the department to design Firefighter plates in consultation with the State Fire Marshal. The design shall be selected on the basis of enhancing the plate's marketability and

limiting the manufacturing cost. Subsection (2) provides that one type of plates shall be consecutively numbered and one type shall be personalized plates.

Section 3 allows issuance of firefighter plates only to a qualified applicant. A qualified applicant is a state resident serving as a volunteer or full-time firefighter in this state. The applicant shall apply as prescribed by the department. The application shall include a statement signed by the fire chief of the Nebraska fire department in which the firefighter is serving. Under subsection (2)(a), the application fee or renewal fee for the Firefighter plates shall be \$15. One-third of the fee collected shall be remitted to the DMV Cash Fund and two-thirds of the fees shall go to the Firefighter Response Cash Fund. Under subsection (2)(b), the application fee or renewal fee for the personalized message Firefighter plates is \$40. Seventy-five percent of the fees shall go to the DMV Cash Fund and twenty-five percent shall go to the Firefighter Response Cash Fund. Subsection (3) provides for issuance of the plates. Subsection (4)(a) allows for transfer of the plates to another vehicle of the owner. Subsection (4)(b) allows for the credit of the unused fee portion to the other vehicle. Subsection (4)(c) establishes an application fee of \$3 for a transfer. Under subsection (5), if the cost of making the plates exceeds the amount charged, the Highway Trust Fund shall be credited before the Firefighter Response Cash Fund.

Section 4 amends §60-393 by adding an internal reference.

Section 5 amends §60-395 by adding an internal reference.

Section 6 amends §60-396 by adding an internal reference.

Section 7 amends §60-3,104 by adding an internal reference.

Section 8 amends §60-3,118 by preventing personalized message plates from denoting a governmental agency or denoting the listed prohibitions.

Section 9 amends §81-5,151 by making technical changes and requires the State Fire Marshal to provide training for fire department personnel and other emergency response personnel for updating, upgrading, and establishing response capabilities. The requirements of training are listed. The training shall be funded through the Firefighter Response Cash Fund.

Section 10 amends §81-5,157 by striking language regarding the Fire Service and Safety Training Program and creates the Firefighter Response Fund, which would be funded as provided in section 3. Under subsection (2), the State Fire Marshal shall administer the fund. Under subsection (3), the money in the fund shall be invested as provided.

Section 11 provides an operative date of January 1, 2007.

Section 12 contains the repealer clause.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

The committee amendment AM2235 allows a maximum of six characters to be used on the license plate and clarifies that the statement signed by the fire chief is only required with the initial application.

Senator Tom Baker, Chairperson