

## LEGISLATIVE BILL 216

Approved by the Governor March 7, 2012

Introduced by Coash, 27; Fulton, 29.

FOR AN ACT relating to the Motor Vehicle Registration Act; to amend section 60-3,104, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 60-301 and 60-3,100, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011; to provide for special interest motor vehicle license plates; to provide for a fee; to provide a penalty; to define special interest motor vehicle; to harmonize provisions; to provide an operative date; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 60-301, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

60-301 Sections 60-301 to 60-3,222 and section 4 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Motor Vehicle Registration Act.

Sec. 2. Section 60-3,100, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

60-3,100 (1) The department shall issue to every person whose motor vehicle or trailer is registered fully reflectorized license plates upon which shall be displayed (a) the registration number consisting of letters and numerals assigned to such motor vehicle or trailer in figures not less than two and one-half inches nor more than three inches in height and (b) also the word Nebraska suitably lettered so as to be attractive. Two license plates shall be issued for every motor vehicle, except that one plate shall be issued for dealers, motorcycles, minitrucks, truck-tractors, trailers, buses, and apportionable vehicles, and special interest motor vehicles that use the special interest motor vehicle license plate authorized by and issued under section 4 of this act. The license plates shall be of a color designated by the director. The color of the plates shall be changed each time the license plates are changed. Each time the license plates are changed, the director shall secure competitive bids for materials pursuant to sections 81-145 to 81-162. Motorcycle, minitruck, low-speed vehicle, and trailer license plate letters and numerals may be one-half the size of those required in this section.

(2) When two license plates are issued, one shall be prominently displayed at all times on the front and one on the rear of the registered motor vehicle or trailer. When only one plate is issued, it shall be prominently displayed on the rear of the registered motor vehicle or trailer. When only one plate is issued for motor vehicles registered pursuant to section 60-3,198 and truck-tractors, it shall be prominently displayed on the front of the apportionable vehicle.

Sec. 3. Section 60-3,104, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

60-3,104 The department shall issue the following types of license plates:

- (1) Amateur radio station license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,126;
- (2) Apportionable vehicle license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,203;
- (3) Boat dealer license plates issued pursuant to section 60-379;
- (4) Bus license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,144;
- (5) Commercial motor vehicle license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,147;
- (6) Dealer or manufacturer license plates issued pursuant to sections 60-3,114 and 60-3,115;
- (7) Disabled veteran license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,124;
- (8) Farm trailer license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,151;
- (9) Farm truck license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,146;
- (10) Farm trucks with a gross weight of over sixteen tons license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,146;
- (11) Fertilizer trailer license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,151;
- (12) Film vehicle license plates issued pursuant to section 60-383;
- (13) Gold Star Family license plates issued pursuant to sections 60-3,122.01 and 60-3,122.02;
- (14) Handicapped or disabled person license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,113;

- (15) Historical vehicle license plates issued pursuant to sections 60-3,130 to 60-3,134;
- (16) Local truck license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,145;
- (17) Minitruck license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,100;
- (18) Motor vehicle license plates for motor vehicles owned or operated by the state, counties, municipalities, or school districts issued pursuant to section 60-3,105;
- (19) Motor vehicles exempt pursuant to section 60-3,107;
- (20) Motorcycle license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,100;
- (21) Nebraska Cornhusker Spirit Plates issued pursuant to sections 60-3,127 to 60-3,129;
- (22) Nonresident owner thirty-day license plates issued pursuant to section 60-382;
- (23) Passenger car having a seating capacity of ten persons or less and not used for hire issued pursuant to section 60-3,143;
- (24) Passenger car having a seating capacity of ten persons or less and used for hire issued pursuant to section 60-3,143;
- (25) Pearl Harbor license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,122;
- (26) Personal-use dealer license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,116;
- (27) Personalized message license plates for motor vehicles and cabin trailers, except commercial motor vehicles registered for over ten tons gross weight, issued pursuant to sections 60-3,118 to 60-3,121;
- (28) Prisoner-of-war license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,123;
- (29) Purple Heart license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,125;
- (30) Recreational vehicle license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,151;
- (31) Repossession license plates issued pursuant to section 60-375;
- (32) Special interest motor vehicle license plates issued pursuant to section 4 of this act;
- ~~(32)~~ (33) Specialty license plates issued pursuant to sections 60-3,104.01 and 60-3,104.02;
- ~~(33)~~ (34) Trailer license plates issued for trailers owned or operated by the state, counties, municipalities, or school districts issued pursuant to section 60-3,106;
- ~~(34)~~ (35) Trailer license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,100;
- ~~(35)~~ (36) Trailers exempt pursuant to section 60-3,108;
- ~~(36)~~ (37) Transporter license plates issued pursuant to section 60-378;
- ~~(37)~~ (38) Trucks or combinations of trucks, truck-tractors, or trailers which are not for hire and engaged in soil and water conservation work and used for the purpose of transporting pipe and equipment exclusively used by such contractors for soil and water conservation construction license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,149;
- ~~(38)~~ (39) Utility trailer license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,151; and
- ~~(39)~~ (40) Well-boring apparatus and well-servicing equipment license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,109.

Sec. 4. (1) The department shall either modify an existing plate design or design license plates to identify special interest motor vehicles, to be known as special interest motor vehicle license plates. The department, in designing such special interest motor vehicle license plates, shall include the words special interest and limit the manufacturing cost of each plate to an amount less than or equal to the amount charged for license plates pursuant to section 60-3,102. The department shall choose the design of the plate. The department shall make applications available for this type of plate when it is designed.

(2) One type of special interest motor vehicle license plate shall be alphanumeric plates. The department shall:

- (a) Assign a designation up to seven characters; and  
(b) Not use a county designation.

(3) One type of special interest motor vehicle license plate shall be personalized message plates. Such plates shall be issued subject to the same conditions specified for personalized message license plates in section 60-3,118.

(4) A person may apply to the department for a special interest motor vehicle license plate in lieu of regular license plates on an application prescribed and provided by the department for any special interest

motor vehicle, except for a motor vehicle registered under section 60-3,198, motorcycle, or trailer. The department shall make forms available for such applications through the county treasurers.

(5) The form shall contain a description of the special interest motor vehicle owned and sought to be registered, including the make, body type, model, serial number, and year of manufacture.

(6) (a) In addition to all other fees required to register a motor vehicle, each application for initial issuance or renewal of a special interest motor vehicle license plate shall be accompanied by a special interest motor vehicle license plate fee of fifty dollars. Twenty-five dollars of the special interest motor vehicle license plate fee shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund, and twenty-five dollars of the special interest motor vehicle license plate fee shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Highway Trust Fund.

(b) If a special interest motor vehicle license plate is lost, stolen, or mutilated, the owner shall be issued a replacement license plate pursuant to section 60-3,157.

(7) When the department receives an application for a special interest motor vehicle license plate, the department shall deliver the plate to the county treasurer of the county in which the special interest motor vehicle is registered. The county treasurer shall issue the special interest motor vehicle license plate in lieu of regular license plates when the applicant complies with the other provisions of the Motor Vehicle Registration Act for registration of the special interest motor vehicle.

(8) If the cost of manufacturing special interest motor vehicle license plates at any time exceeds the amount charged for license plates pursuant to section 60-3,102, any money to be credited to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund under this section shall instead be credited first to the Highway Trust Fund in an amount equal to the difference between the manufacturing costs of special interest motor vehicle license plates and the amount charged pursuant to section 60-3,102 with respect to such license plates and the remainder shall be credited to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund.

(9) The special interest motor vehicle license plate shall be affixed to the rear of the special interest motor vehicle.

(10) A special interest motor vehicle shall not be used for the same purposes and under the same conditions as other motor vehicles of the same type and shall not be used for business or occupation or regularly for transportation to and from work. A special interest motor vehicle may be driven on the public streets and roads only for occasional transportation, public displays, parades, and related pleasure or hobby activities.

(11) It shall be unlawful to own or operate a motor vehicle with special interest motor vehicle license plates in violation of this section. Upon conviction of a violation of any provision of this section, a person shall be guilty of a Class V misdemeanor.

(12) For purposes of this section, special interest motor vehicle means a motor vehicle of any age which is being collected, preserved, restored, or maintained by the owner as a leisure pursuit and not used for general transportation of persons or cargo.

Sec. 5. This act becomes operative on January 1, 2013.

Sec. 6. Original section 60-3,104, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 60-301 and 60-3,100, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, are repealed.