

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 769

Introduced by DeKay, 40; Ballard, 21; Conrad, 46; Dorn, 30; Dungan, 26;
Fredrickson, 20; Guereca, 7; Raybould, 28; Storer, 43.

Read first time January 07, 2026

Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to license plates; to amend section
- 2 60-3,163.02, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025; to provide for
- 3 University of Nebraska State Museum License Plates; to provide
- 4 duties to the Department of Motor Vehicles and the University of
- 5 Nebraska; to create a fund; to eliminate obsolete provisions; and to
- 6 repeal the original section.
- 7 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 **Section 1.** Section 60-3,163.02, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025,
2 is amended to read:

3 60-3,163.02 The department shall issue the following types of
4 alternate license plates pursuant to this section and sections 60-3,104,
5 60-3,163, and 60-3,163.01:

6 (1) Arbor Day Plates. The department shall design such license
7 plates in consultation with the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum and a
8 nonprofit organization holding a certificate of exemption under section
9 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code with a mission to inspire people
10 to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees. The design of such plates shall
11 represent the history and importance of Arbor Day in Nebraska. The
12 designated recipient for alternate license plate fees for Arbor Day
13 Plates is the Home of Arbor Day Plate Cash Fund ~~. A person may apply for~~
14 ~~Arbor Day Plates beginning on January 1, 2026;~~

15 (2) Breast Cancer Awareness Plates. The department shall design such
16 license plates to include a pink ribbon and the words "early detection
17 saves lives" along the bottom of the license plate. The designated
18 recipient for alternate license plate fees for Breast Cancer Awareness
19 Plates is the University of Nebraska Medical Center for the breast cancer
20 navigator program;

21 (3) Choose Life License Plates. The department shall design such
22 license plates to reflect support for the protection of Nebraska's
23 children. The designated recipient for alternate license plate fees for
24 Choose Life License Plates is the Health and Human Services Cash Fund to
25 supplement federal funds available to the Department of Health and Human
26 Services for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, 42
27 U.S.C. 601 et seq.;

28 (4) Czech Heritage Plates. The department, in consultation with the
29 Czech Honorary Consul of Nebraska, shall design such license plates to
30 reflect Czech heritage in Nebraska. The designated recipient for
31 alternate license plate fees for Czech Heritage Plates is the Department

1 of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund;

2 (5) Donate Life Plates. The department shall design such license
3 plates to reflect support for organ and tissue donation, registration as
4 a donor on the Donor Registry of Nebraska, and the federally designated
5 organ procurement organization for Nebraska. The designated recipient for
6 alternate license plate fees for Donate Life Plates is the Organ and
7 Tissue Donor Awareness and Education Fund;

8 (6) Down Syndrome Awareness Plates. The department shall design such
9 license plates to include the words "Down syndrome awareness" inside a
10 heart-shaped yellow and blue ribbon. The designated recipient for
11 alternate license plate fees for Down Syndrome Awareness Plates is the
12 University of Nebraska Medical Center for the Down Syndrome Clinic;

13 (7) Josh the Otter-Be Safe Around Water Plates. The department shall
14 design such license plates to include a blue background with the head of
15 an otter surfacing above water surrounded by the words "Josh the Otter-Be
16 Safe Around Water". The designated recipient for alternate license plate
17 fees for Josh the Otter-Be Safe Around Water Plates is the Josh the
18 Otter-Be Safe Around Water Cash Fund;

19 (8) Mountain Lion Conservation Plates. The department shall design
20 such license plates to reflect support for the conservation of the
21 mountain lion population. The designated recipient for alternate license
22 plate fees for Mountain Lion Conservation Plates is the Game and Parks
23 Commission Educational Fund;

24 (9) Native American Cultural Awareness and History Plates. The
25 department, in consultation with the Commission on Indian Affairs, shall
26 design license plates that reflect the unique culture and history of
27 Native American tribes historically and currently located in Nebraska.
28 The designated recipient for alternate license plate fees for Native
29 American Cultural Awareness and History Plates is the Native American
30 Scholarship and Leadership Fund;

31 (10)(a) Nebraska Cornhusker Spirit Plates. The department shall

1 design such license plates to (i) include the word "Cornhuskers" or
2 "Huskers" prominently in the design, (ii) use scarlet and cream colors in
3 the design or such other similar colors as the department determines to
4 best represent the official team colors of the University of Nebraska
5 Cornhuskers athletic programs and to provide suitable reflection and
6 contrast, (iii) use cream or a similar color for the background of the
7 design and scarlet or a similar color for the printing, and (iv) create a
8 design reflecting support for the University of Nebraska Cornhuskers
9 athletic programs in consultation with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln
10 Athletic Department.

11 (b) Alphanumeric Nebraska Cornhusker Spirit Plates shall (i) be
12 consecutively numbered beginning with the number one and use numbers that
13 are a size that maximizes legibility, and (ii) not use a county
14 designation or any characters other than numbers on the spirit plates.

15 (c) Personalized message Nebraska Cornhusker Spirit Plates shall be
16 issued subject to the same conditions specified for personalized message
17 license plates in subsection (2) of section 60-3,118. The characters used
18 shall consist only of letters, numerals, or a combination of letters and
19 numerals of the same size and design specified in section 60-3,100. A
20 maximum of seven characters may be used.

21 (d) Each application for initial issuance or renewal of Nebraska
22 Cornhusker Spirit Plates shall be accompanied by a fee of seventy
23 dollars. Fees collected pursuant to this subdivision shall be remitted to
24 the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall credit sixty percent of
25 the fee to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund and forty percent
26 of the fee to the designated recipient for alternate license plate fees.

27 (e) The designated recipient for alternate license plate fees for
28 Nebraska Cornhusker Spirit Plates is the Highway Trust Fund;

29 (11) Nebraska History Plates. The department shall design such
30 license plates in consultation with the Nebraska State Historical Society
31 to reflect the importance of historical preservation in Nebraska and the

1 value of our shared Nebraska history. The designated recipient for
2 alternate license plate fees for Nebraska History Plates is the Support
3 Nebraska History Cash Fund;

4 (12) Pets for Vets Plates. The department shall design such license
5 plates to support veterans and companion or therapy pet animals. The
6 designated recipient for alternate license plate fees for Pets for Vets
7 Plates is the Pets for Vets Cash Fund;

8 (13) Prostate Cancer Awareness Plates. The department shall design
9 such license plates to include a light blue ribbon and the words "early
10 detection saves lives" along the bottom of the license plate. The
11 designated recipient for alternate license plate fees for Prostate Cancer
12 Awareness Plates is the University of Nebraska Medical Center for the
13 Nebraska Prostate Cancer Research Program;

14 (14) Sammy's Superheroes license plates for childhood cancer
15 awareness. The department shall design such license plates to include a
16 blue handprint over a yellow ribbon and the words "childhood cancer
17 awareness". The designated recipient for alternate license plate fees for
18 Sammy's Superheroes license plates for childhood cancer awareness is the
19 University of Nebraska Medical Center for pediatric cancer research;

20 (15) Support the Arts Plates. The department shall design such
21 license plates in consultation with the Nebraska Arts Council to reflect
22 support for the arts in Nebraska. The designated recipient for alternate
23 license plate fees for Support the Arts Plates is the Support the Arts
24 Cash Fund;

25 (16)(a) Support Our Troops Plates. The department shall design such
26 license plates to reflect support for troops from all branches of the
27 armed forces. The designated recipient for alternate license plate fees
28 for Support Our Troops Plates is the Veterans Employment Program Fund.

29 (b)(i) Each application for initial issuance or renewal of
30 alphanumeric Support Our Troops Plates shall be accompanied by a fee of
31 five dollars. The State Treasurer shall credit five dollars of the fee to

1 the designated recipient for alternate license plate fees for Support Our
2 Troops Plates.

3 (ii) Each application for initial issuance or renewal of
4 personalized message Support Our Troops Plates shall be accompanied by a
5 fee of seventy dollars. Twenty-five percent of such fee shall be credited
6 to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund and seventy-five percent of
7 such fee shall be credited to the designated recipient for alternate
8 license plate fees for Support Our Troops Plates;

9 (17) The Good Life Is Outside Plates. The department shall design
10 such license plates to reflect the importance of safe walking and biking
11 in Nebraska and the value of our recreational trails. The designated
12 recipient for alternate license plate fees for The Good Life Is Outside
13 Plates is the Game and Parks State Park Improvement and Maintenance Fund
14 for the purpose of trail improvement and maintenance; and

15 (18) University of Nebraska State Museum License Plates. The
16 department shall create no more than three designs for such license
17 plates in consultation with the University of Nebraska and a nonprofit
18 organization holding a certificate of exemption under section 501(c)(3)
19 of the Internal Revenue Code with a mission to support the University of
20 Nebraska in education and research. Such designs shall reflect support
21 for museums managed by the University of Nebraska, including Ashfall
22 Fossil Beds, Morrill Hall, and Trailside Museum. The designated recipient
23 for alternate license plate fees for University of Nebraska State Museum
24 License Plates is the University of Nebraska State Museum License Plate
25 Cash Fund. A person may apply for University of Nebraska State Museum
26 License Plates beginning on January 1, 2027; and

27 (19) ~~(18)~~ Wildlife Conservation Plates. The department shall create
28 no more than three designs for such license plates to reflect support for
29 the conservation of Nebraska wildlife, including sandhill cranes, bighorn
30 sheep, and ornate box turtles. The designated recipient for alternate
31 license plate fees for Wildlife Conservation Plates is the Wildlife

1 Conservation Fund.

2 **Sec. 2.** (1) The University of Nebraska State Museum License Plate
3 Cash Fund is created and shall be administered by the Board of Regents of
4 the University of Nebraska. The fund shall include money credited
5 pursuant to section 60-3,163.02, gifts, grants, bequests, private
6 contributions, and money from any public or private source. Any money in
7 the fund available for investment shall be invested by the state
8 investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the
9 Nebraska State Funds Investment Act.

10 (2) Money in the fund shall be used for promoting understanding,
11 appreciation, and stewardship of science and natural history through
12 research, public education, and outreach at museums managed by the
13 University of Nebraska.

14 **Sec. 3.** Original section 60-3,163.02, Revised Statutes Supplement,
15 2025, is repealed.