

Senator Luz Escamilla proposes the following substitute bill:

LICENSE PLATE REQUIREMENTS

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Norman K Thurston

Senate Sponsor: Wayne A. Harper

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill repeals the personalized license plate program.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ eliminates the personalized license plate program and prohibits the Motor Vehicle Division from accepting applications for new personalized license plates;
- ▶ allows for an existing personalized license plate to remain valid; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

41-1a-419, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 33

41-1a-1201, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 33, 212, 219, 335, and 372

41-1a-1211, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 33



26 REPEALS AND REENACTS:

27 **41-1a-410**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 1993, Chapter 222

28 REPEALS:

29 **41-1a-411**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 259

30 **41-1a-412**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 1992, Chapter 1

31

32 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

33 Section 1. Section **41-1a-410** is repealed and reenacted to read:

34 **41-1a-410. Eligibility for personalized plates.**

35 (1) In accordance with Section 41-1a-413, an individual that received a personalized
36 license plate on or before May 1, 2024, may continue to use and renew the personalized license
37 plate.

38 (2) Beginning on May 1, 2024, the division may not accept an application for a new
39 personalized license plate.

40 Section 2. Section **41-1a-419** is amended to read:

41 **41-1a-419. Plate design -- Vintage vehicle certification and registration --**
42 **Rulemaking.**

43 (1) (a) In accordance with Subsection (1)(b), the division shall determine the design
44 and number of numerals or characters on a special group license plate.

45 (b) (i) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b)(ii), each special group license plate
46 shall display:

47 (A) the word Utah;

48 (B) the name or identifying slogan of the special group;

49 (C) a symbol decal not exceeding two positions in size representing the special group;

50 and

51 (D) the combination of letters, numbers, or both uniquely identifying the registered
52 vehicle.

53 (ii) The division, in consultation with the Utah State Historical Society, shall design
54 the historical support special group license plate, which shall:

55 (A) have a black background;

56 (B) have white characters; and

57 (C) display the word Utah.

58 (2) (a) The division shall, after consultation with a representative designated by the
59 sponsoring organization as defined in Section 41-1a-1601, specify the word or words
60 comprising the special group name and the symbol decal to be displayed upon the special group
61 license plate.

62 (b) A special group license plate symbol decal may not be redesigned:

63 (i) unless the division receives a redesign fee established by the division under Section
64 63J-1-504; and

65 (ii) more frequently than every five years.

66 (c) A special group license plate symbol decal may not be reordered unless the division
67 receives a symbol decal reorder fee established by the division in accordance with Section
68 63J-1-504.

69 (3) The license plates issued for horseless carriages prior to July 1, 1992, are valid
70 without renewal as long as the vehicle is owned by the registered owner and the license plates
71 may not be recalled by the division.

72 [~~(4) Subject to Subsection 41-1a-411(4)(a), a person who meets the requirements~~
73 ~~described in this part or Part 16, Sponsored Special Group License Plates, for a special group~~
74 ~~license plate may, apply for a personalized special group license plate in accordance with~~
75 ~~Sections 41-1a-410 and 41-1a-411.]~~

76 [(5)] (4) Subject to this chapter, the commission shall make rules in accordance with
77 Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to:

78 (a) establish qualifying criteria for persons to receive, renew, or surrender special group
79 license plates; and

80 (b) establish the number of numerals or characters for special group license plates.

81 Section 3. Section 41-1a-1201 is amended to read:

82 **41-1a-1201. Disposition of fees.**

83 (1) All fees received and collected under this part shall be transmitted daily to the state
84 treasurer.

85 (2) Except as provided in Subsections (3), (5), (6), (7), (8), and (9) and Sections
86 41-1a-1205, 41-1a-1220, 41-1a-1221, 41-1a-1222, 41-1a-1223, and 41-1a-1603, all fees
87 collected under this part shall be deposited into the Transportation Fund.

88 (3) Funds generated under Subsections [41-1a-1211\(1\)\(b\)\(ii\)](#), [~~[\(6\)\(b\)\(ii\)](#), [\(7\)](#), and [\(9\)](#)~~
89 ~~[\(4\)\(b\)\(ii\)](#), [\(5\)](#), and [\(7\)](#)~~, and Section [41-1a-1212](#) shall be deposited into the License Plate
90 Restricted Account created in Section [41-1a-122](#).

91 (4) (a) Except as provided in Subsections (3) and (4)(b) and Section [41-1a-1205](#), the
92 expenses of the commission in enforcing and administering this part shall be provided for by
93 legislative appropriation from the revenues of the Transportation Fund.

94 (b) Three dollars of the registration fees imposed under Subsections [41-1a-1206\(2\)\(a\)](#)
95 and (b) for each vehicle registered for a six-month registration period under Section
96 [41-1a-215.5](#) may be used by the commission to cover the costs incurred in enforcing and
97 administering this part.

98 (c) Fifty cents of the registration fee imposed under Subsection [41-1a-1206\(1\)\(i\)](#) for
99 each vintage vehicle that has a model year of 1981 or newer may be used by the commission to
100 cover the costs incurred in enforcing and administering this part.

101 (5) (a) The following portions of the registration fees imposed under Section
102 [41-1a-1206](#) for each vehicle shall be deposited into the Transportation Investment Fund of
103 2005 created in Section [72-2-124](#):

104 (i) \$30 of the registration fees imposed under Subsections [41-1a-1206\(1\)\(a\)](#), [\(1\)\(b\)](#),
105 [\(1\)\(f\)](#), [\(4\)](#), and [\(7\)](#);

106 (ii) \$21 of the registration fees imposed under Subsections [41-1a-1206\(1\)\(c\)\(i\)](#) and
107 [\(1\)\(c\)\(ii\)](#);

108 (iii) \$2.50 of the registration fee imposed under Subsection [41-1a-1206\(1\)\(e\)\(ii\)](#);

109 (iv) \$23 of the registration fee imposed under Subsection [41-1a-1206\(1\)\(d\)\(i\)](#);

110 (v) \$24.50 of the registration fee imposed under Subsection [41-1a-1206\(1\)\(e\)\(i\)](#); and

111 (vi) \$1 of the registration fee imposed under Subsection [41-1a-1206\(1\)\(d\)\(ii\)](#).

112 (b) The following portions of the registration fees collected for each vehicle registered
113 for a six-month registration period under Section [41-1a-215.5](#) shall be deposited into the
114 Transportation Investment Fund of 2005 created in Section [72-2-124](#):

115 (i) \$23.25 of each registration fee collected under Subsection [41-1a-1206\(2\)\(a\)\(i\)](#); and

116 (ii) \$23 of each registration fee collected under Subsection [41-1a-1206\(2\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#).

117 (6) (a) Ninety-four cents of each registration fee imposed under Subsections
118 [41-1a-1206\(1\)\(a\)](#) and (b) for each vehicle shall be deposited into the Public Safety Restricted

119 Account created in Section 53-3-106.

120 (b) Seventy-one cents of each registration fee imposed under Subsections
121 41-1a-1206(2)(a) and (b) for each vehicle registered for a six-month registration period under
122 Section 41-1a-215.5 shall be deposited into the Public Safety Restricted Account created in
123 Section 53-3-106.

124 (7) (a) One dollar of each registration fee imposed under Subsections 41-1a-1206(1)(a)
125 and (b) for each vehicle shall be deposited into the Motor Vehicle Safety Impact Restricted
126 Account created in Section 53-8-214.

127 (b) One dollar of each registration fee imposed under Subsections 41-1a-1206(2)(a)
128 and (b) for each vehicle registered for a six-month registration period under Section
129 41-1a-215.5 shall be deposited into the Motor Vehicle Safety Impact Restricted Account
130 created in Section 53-8-214.

131 (8) Fifty cents of each registration fee imposed under Subsection 41-1a-1206(1)(a) for
132 each motorcycle shall be deposited into the Neuro-Rehabilitation Fund created in Section
133 26B-1-319.

134 (9) (a) Beginning on January 1, 2024, subject to Subsection (9)(b), \$2 of each
135 registration fee imposed under Section 41-1a-1206 shall be deposited into the Rural
136 Transportation Infrastructure Fund created in Section 72-2-133.

137 (b) Beginning on January 1, 2025, and each January 1 thereafter, the amount described
138 in Subsection (9)(a) shall be annually adjusted by taking the amount deposited the previous
139 year and adding an amount equal to the greater of:

140 (i) an amount calculated by multiplying the amount deposited by the previous year by
141 the actual percentage change during the previous fiscal year in the Consumer Price Index; and

142 (ii) 0.

143 (c) The amounts calculated as described in Subsection (9)(b) shall be rounded up to the
144 nearest 1 cent.

145 Section 4. Section 41-1a-1211 is amended to read:

146 **41-1a-1211. License plate fees -- Application fees for issuance and renewal of**
147 **personalized and special group license plates -- Replacement fee for license plates --**
148 **Postage fees.**

149 (1) (a) Except as provided in Subsections [~~(11), (12), (13), and (14);~~] (9), (10), and

150 (11), a license plate fee established in accordance with Section 63J-1-504 shall be paid to the
151 division for the issuance of any new license plate under Part 4, License Plates and Registration
152 Indicia.

153 (b) The license plate fee shall be deposited as follows:

154 (i) \$1 in the Transportation Fund; and

155 (ii) the remainder of the fee charged under Subsection (1)(a) into the License Plate
156 Restricted Account, as provided in Section 41-1a-1201.

157 ~~[(2) An applicant for original issuance of personalized license plates issued under~~
158 ~~Section 41-1a-410 shall pay a \$50 per set license plate application fee in addition to the fee~~
159 ~~required in Subsection (1).]~~

160 ~~[(3)]~~ (2) Beginning July 1, 2003, a person who applies for a special group license plate
161 shall pay a \$5 fee for the original set of license plates in addition to the fee required under
162 Subsection (1).

163 ~~[(4) An applicant for original issuance of personalized special group license plates~~
164 ~~shall pay the license plate application fees required in Subsection (2) in addition to the license~~
165 ~~plate fees and license plate application fees established under Subsections (1) and (3).]~~

166 ~~[(5)]~~ (3) An applicant for renewal of personalized license plates issued under Section
167 41-1a-410 shall pay a \$10 per set application fee.

168 ~~[(6)]~~ (4) (a) The division may charge a fee established under Section 63J-1-504 to
169 recover the costs for the replacement of any license plate issued under Part 4, License Plates
170 and Registration Indicia.

171 (b) The license plate fee shall be deposited as follows:

172 (i) \$1 in the Transportation Fund; and

173 (ii) the remainder of the fee charged under Subsection ~~[(6)(a)]~~ (4)(a) into the License
174 Plate Restricted Account, as provided in Section 41-1a-1201.

175 ~~[(7)]~~ (5) (a) The division may charge a fee established under Section 63J-1-504 to
176 recover the division's costs for the replacement of a symbol decal issued under Section
177 41-1a-418.

178 (b) The fee described in Subsection ~~[(7)(a)]~~ (5)(a) shall be deposited into the License
179 Plate Restricted Account as described in Section 41-1a-1201.

180 ~~[(8)]~~ (6) The division may charge a fee established under Section 63J-1-504 to recover

181 the cost of issuing stickers under Section 41-1a-416.

182 ~~[(9)]~~ (7) In addition to any other fees required by this section, the division shall assess a
183 fee established under Section 63J-1-504 to cover postage expenses if new or replacement
184 license plates are mailed to the applicant.

185 ~~[(10)]~~ (8) The fees required under this section are separate from and in addition to
186 registration fees required under Section 41-1a-1206.

187 ~~[(11)]~~ (9) (a) An applicant for a license plate issued under Section 41-1a-407 is not
188 subject to the license plate fee under Subsection (1).

189 (b) An applicant for a Purple Heart special group license plate issued on or before
190 December 31, 2023, or issued in accordance with Part 16, Sponsored Special Group License
191 Plates, is exempt from the fees under Subsections (1), ~~[(3), and (7)]~~ (2), and (5).

192 ~~[(12)]~~ (10) A person is exempt from the fee under Subsection (1) or ~~[(6)]~~ (4) if the
193 person:

194 (a) was issued a clean fuel special group license plate in accordance with Section
195 41-1a-418 prior to the effective date of rules made by the Department of Transportation under
196 Subsection 41-6a-702(5)(b);

197 (b) beginning on the effective date of rules made by the Department of Transportation
198 authorized under Subsection 41-6a-702(5)(b), is no longer eligible for a clean fuel special
199 group license plate under the rules made by the Department of Transportation; and

200 (c) upon renewal or reissuance, is required to replace the clean fuel special group
201 license plate with a new license plate.

202 ~~[(13)]~~ (11) An individual is exempt from the license plate fee under Subsection (1) if
203 the individual presents official documentation that the individual is a recipient of the Purple
204 Heart Award in one of the following forms:

205 (a) official documentation issued by a recognized association representing peace
206 officers who:

207 (i) receive a salary from a federal, state, county, or municipal government or any other
208 subdivision of the state; and

209 (ii) work in the state;

210 (b) a membership card in the Military Order of the Purple Heart; or

211 (c) an original or certificate in lieu of the applicant's military discharge form, DD-214,

212 issued by the National Personnel Records Center.

213 Section 5. **Repealer.**

214 This bill repeals:

215 Section **41-1a-411**, **Application for personalized plates -- Refusal authorized.**

216 Section **41-1a-412**, **Design of personalized plates.**

217 Section 6. **Effective date.**

218 This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.