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S.B. 45

1st Sub. (Green)

Senator Daniel McCay proposes the following substitute bill:

# LICENSE PLATE REVISIONS 

2024 GENERAL SESSION
STATE OF UTAH
Chief Sponsor: Daniel McCay
House Sponsor: Steve Eliason

## LONG TITLE

## General Description:

This bill amends provisions related to license plates, including requirements for display, fees, distribution, design, and funding.

## Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- removes the requirement for the Motor Vehicle Division to issue two license plates in most circumstances;
- removes the requirement for an owner of a vehicle to display a license plate on the front of a vehicle;
- removes the requirement for two registration decals for both the month and year, and consolidates the registration information into one decal;
- requires a license plate design or redesign to be approved by the License Plate Design Review Board;
- requires an additional fee for personalized license plates;
- allows the Motor Vehicle Division to use funds in the License Plate Restricted Account for certain additional purposes;
- allows an institution of higher education to design the collegiate special group license plate for the institution, subject to approval by the license plate design
review board;
- requires a person applying to create a new sponsored special group license plate to pay an additional fee to cover the costs of designing and administering the new license plate;
- requires the Motor Vehicle Division to transition to central distribution of license plates;
- amends certain design characteristics of license plates regarding embossing;
- prohibits a license plate cover and prohibits a license plate frame that obscures the license plate number or decals;
- requires $\$ 1$ from certain license plate fees to be deposited into the Motor Vehicle Safety Impact Restricted Account;
- allows law enforcement to use license plate reading technology to access information in the Utah Criminal Justice Information System for certain purposes;
- grants rulemaking authority to the State Tax Commission related to license plate administration; and
- makes technical changes.


## Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

## Other Special Clauses:

This bill provides a special effective date.

## Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:
13-48-103, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2011, Chapter 357
41-1a-108, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 1992, Chapter 1
41-1a-122, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 33
41-1a-221, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 20
41-1a-232, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 135
41-1a-301, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 20
41-1 a-401, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 22, 33 and 440
41-1a-402, as repealed and reenacted by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 33
41-1a-403, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 440

41-1a-404, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 440
41-1a-407, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 20
41-1a-410, as last amended by Laws of Utah 1993, Chapter 222
41-1a-411, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 259
41-1a-412, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 1992, Chapter 1
41-1a-413, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 454
41-1a-416, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 33, 219
41-1a-419, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 33
41-1a-701, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 454
41-1a-703, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 454
41-1a-704, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 412
41-1a-1105, as last amended by Laws of Utah 1998, Chapter 281
41-1a-1211, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 33
41-1a-1603, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 33
41-1a-1604, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 33
41-1a-1605, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 33
41-3-105, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 259
41-3-209, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 387
41-6a-403, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 382
41-6a-2002, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 524
41-6a-2003, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 524
41-12a-303, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2001, Chapter 85
41-12a-602, as enacted by Laws of Utah 1985, Chapter 242
53-8-214, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 33, 212

## Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section 13-48-103 is amended to read:
13-48-103. Motor vehicle rental company -- Fee disclosure and collection

## requirements.

(1) A motor vehicle rental company may include separately stated surcharges, fees, or charges in a rental agreement, including:
(a) motor vehicle license cost recovery fees;
(b) airport access fees;
(c) airport concession fees; and
(d) all applicable taxes.
(2) If a motor vehicle rental company includes a motor vehicle license cost recovery fee as a separately stated charge in a rental transaction, the amount of the fee shall represent the motor vehicle rental company's good-faith estimate of the motor vehicle rental company's daily charge as calculated by the motor vehicle rental company to recover its actual total annual motor vehicle titling, registration, obtaining [tieense plates] a license plate, and motor vehicle inspection and emission costs.
(3) If the total amount of the motor vehicle license cost recovery fees collected by a motor vehicle rental company under this section in any calendar year exceeds the motor vehicle rental company's actual costs to license, title, register, and obtain [tieense plates] a license plate for the motor vehicles and have the motor vehicles pass inspections and emissions for that calendar year, the motor vehicle rental company shall retain the excess amount and adjust the estimated average per motor vehicle license cost recovery fee for the following calendar year by the corresponding amount.

Section 2. Section 41-1a-108 is amended to read:
41-1a-108. Division inspection of applications for registration, certificate of title, or license plate.
(1) The division shall examine and determine the genuineness, regularity, and legality of each application for:
(a) registration of a vehicle;
(b) a certificate of title for a vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor;
(c) [tieense plates] a license plate; and
(d) any other request lawfully made to the division.
(2) The division may investigate or require additional information on any application or request necessary to implement this chapter.
(3) When the division is satisfied as to the genuineness, regularity, and legality of an application and that the applicant is entitled to register the vehicle and to the issuance of a certificate of title, the division shall register the vehicle, issue a certificate of title and issue
[ficense plates] a license plate.
Section 3. Section 41-1a-122 is amended to read:

## 41-1a-122. License Plate Restricted Account.

(1) As used in this section, "account" means the License Plate Restricted Account created by this section.
(2) There is created within the General Fund a restricted account known as the License Plate Restricted Account.
(3) (a) The account shall be funded from the fees described in:
(i) Subsection 41-1a-1201(3)[-];
(ii) Subsection 41-1a-1604(2)(c); and
(iii) other fees as provided in this chapter.
(b) The fees described in Subsection (3)(a) shall be paid to the division, which shall deposit them in the account.
(4) The Legislature shall appropriate the funds in the account to the commission to cover the costs of:
(a) issuing license plates and decals[-];
(b) processing applications for personalized license plates;
(c) centrally distributing license plates; and
(d) contracting with a vendor to design license plates.
(5) (a) For fiscal year 2024-25, the commission may expend up to $\$ 100,000$ for design and redesign of license plates.
(b) Beginning with the 2025-26 fiscal year, and each fiscal year thereafter, the commission may expend up to $\$ 50,000$ for the design and redesign of license plates.
[(5)] (6) In accordance with Section 63J-1-602.1, appropriations made to the division from the account are nonlapsing.

Section 4. Section 41-1a-221 is amended to read:
41-1a-221. Registration of vehicles of political subdivisions or state -- Expiration of registration -- Certification of information -- Failure to comply.
(1) (a) An entity referred to in Subsection 41-1a-407(1) shall register each vehicle that it owns, operates, or leases.
(b) This section does not apply to unmarked vehicles referred to in Section 41-1a-407.
(2) A registration card and license plate issued to an entity under this section or Subsection 41-1a-407(1) are in full force and effect until the vehicle is no longer owned or operated by that entity.
(3) (a) If the owner of a vehicle subject to the provisions of this section transfers or assigns title or interest in the vehicle, the registration of that vehicle expires.
(b) The transferor shall remove the license plate or plates and within 20 days from the date of transfer:
(i) destroy the license plate or plates; or
(ii) forward the license plate or plates to the division to be destroyed.
(4) A violation of this section is an infraction.

Section 5. Section 41-1a-232 is amended to read:

## 41-1a-232. Special fleet registration decals and license plates.

(1) As used in this section:
(a) "Rental agreement" has the same meaning as defined in Section 31A-22-311.
(b) "Rental company" has the same meaning as defined in Section 31A-22-311.
(c) "Rental fleet" means more than 25 motor vehicles that are:
(i) owned by a rental company;
(ii) offered for rental without a hired driver through a rental agreement; and
(iii) designated by the registered owner of the motor vehicle as a rental fleet vehicle at the time of registration.
(2) (a) An owner that registers a motor vehicle under Section 41-1a-215 or 41-1 a-215.5 may obtain an alternative special registration card and registration [tecats] decal for the license [plates] plate if the motor vehicle is:
(i) (A) owned by a rental company; and
(B) maintained in the rental company's rental fleet; or
(ii) owned or leased as part of a commercial fleet and is not owned or leased by a rental company.
(b) The registration card and registration [deeals] decal for the license [plates] plate issued under Subsection (2)(a) are valid for the life of the motor vehicle while the motor vehicle is maintained in the rental fleet or is part of a commercial fleet.
(3) (a) An owner that receives the alternative special registration card and registration
[deeals] decal for the license [plates] plate issued under this section shall:
(i) renew the registration in accordance with Section 41-1a-216; and
(ii) comply with all the prerequisites for registration or registration renewal under Section 41-1a-203.
(b) Notwithstanding the registration renewals requirement under Subsection 41-1a-216(2)(b), the alternative special registration card and registration [teeats] decal issued under this section do not expire and are valid for the life of the motor vehicle while the motor vehicle is maintained in the rental fleet or is part of a commercial fleet.
(4) If the registration renewal requirements under Subsection (3)(a) are not complied with, the registration is suspended or revoked.

Section 6. Section 41-1a-301 is amended to read:

## 41-1a-301. Apportioned registration and licensing of interstate vehicles.

(1) For purposes of this section, "registrant" means an owner or operator of one or more commercial vehicles operating in two or more jurisdictions applying for apportioned registration and licensing of a commercial vehicle.
(2) (a) An owner or operator of a fleet of commercial vehicles based in this state and operating in two or more jurisdictions may register commercial vehicles for operation under the International Registration Plan or the Uniform Vehicle Registration Proration and Reciprocity Agreement by filing an application with the division.
(b) The application shall include information that identifies the vehicle owner, the vehicle, the miles traveled in each jurisdiction, and other information pertinent to the registration of apportioned vehicles.
(c) The division may not grant apportioned registration for vehicles operated exclusively in this state.
(3) (a) If no operations were conducted during the preceding year, in computing fees due:
(i) the application shall contain a statement of the proposed operations; and
(ii) the division shall determine fees based on average per vehicle distance requirements under the International Registration Plan.
(b) At renewal, the registrant shall use the actual mileage from the preceding year in computing fees due each jurisdiction.
(4) The division shall determine the registration fee for apportioned vehicles as follows:
(a) divide the in-jurisdiction miles by the total miles generated during the preceding year;
(b) total the fees for each vehicle based on the fees prescribed in Section 41-1a-1206; and
(c) multiply the sum obtained under Subsection (4)(b) by the quotient obtained under Subsection (4)(a).
(5) The registrant may list trailers or semitrailers of apportioned fleets separately as "trailer fleets" on the application, with the fees paid according to the total distance those trailers were towed in all jurisdictions during the preceding year mileage reporting period.
(6) (a) (i) When the registrant has paid the proper fees and cleared the property tax or in lieu fee under Section 41-1a-206 or 41-1a-207, the division shall issue a registration card and license plate for each unit listed on the application.
(ii) The owner or operator shall carry an original registration in each vehicle at all times.
(b) The owner or operator may carry original registration cards for trailers or semitrailers in the power unit.
(c) (i) In lieu of a permanent registration card or license plate, the division may issue one temporary permit authorizing operation of new or unlicensed vehicles until the permanent registration is completed.
(ii) Once a temporary permit is issued:
(A) neither the registrant nor the division may cancel the registration process; and
(B) the division shall complete registration and the registrant shall pay the fees and any property tax or in lieu fee due for the vehicle for which the permit was issued.
(iii) The division may not issue temporary permits for renewals.
(d) (i) The division shall issue one distinctive license plate for apportioned vehicles.
(ii) The owner or operator shall display the plate on the front of an apportioned truck tractor or power unit or on the rear of any other apportioned vehicle.
(iii) (A) The division shall issue distinctive decals or a distinctive license plate displaying the word "apportioned" or the abbreviation "APP" for each apportioned vehicle.
(B) A registrant of an apportioned vehicle is not required to display [month or year teeats] a registration decal.
(iv) At the request of a registrant of an apportioned vehicle, the division may issue a second license plate, for a total of two, to display on both the front and rear of the apportioned vehicle.
(e) The division shall charge a nonrefundable administrative fee, determined by the commission pursuant to Section 63J-1-504, for each temporary permit, registration, or both.
(7) Vehicles that are apportionally registered are fully registered for intrastate and interstate movements, providing the registrant has secured proper interstate and intrastate authority.
(8) (a) The division shall register vehicles added to an apportioned fleet after the beginning of the registration year by applying the quotient under Subsection (4)(a) for the original application to the fees due for the remainder of the registration year.
(b) (i) The owner shall maintain and submit complete annual mileage for each vehicle in each jurisdiction, showing all miles operated by the lessor and lessee.
(ii) The fiscal mileage reporting period begins July 1, and continues through June 30 of the year immediately preceding the calendar year in which the registration year begins.
(c) (i) An owner-operator, who is a lessor, may register the vehicle in the name of the owner-operator.
(ii) The identification plates and registration card shall be the property of the lessor and may reflect both the owner-operator's name and that of the carrier as lessee.
(iii) The division shall allocate the fees according to the operational records of the owner-operator.
(d) (i) At the option of the lessor, the lessee may register a leased vehicle.
(ii) If a lessee is the registrant of a leased vehicle, both the lessor's and lessee's name shall appear on the registration.
(iii) The division shall allocate the fees according to the records of the carrier.
(9) (a) When the division has accepted an application for apportioned registration, the registrant shall preserve the records on which the application is based for a period of three years after the close of the registration year.
(b) Upon request for audit as to accuracy of computations, payments, and assessments
for deficiencies, or allowances for credits, the registrant shall provide the records to the division.
(c) The division may not make an assessment for deficiency or claim for credit for any period for which records are no longer required.
(d) The division may assess interest in the amount prescribed by Section 59-1-402 from the date due until paid on deficiencies found due after audit.
(e) Registrants with deficiencies are subject to the penalties under Section 59-1-401.
(f) The division may enter into agreements with other International Registration Plan jurisdictions for joint audits.
(10) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (10)(b), the division shall deposit all state fees collected under this section in the Transportation Fund.
(b) The commission may use the following fees as a dedicated credit to cover the costs of electronic credentialing as provided in Section 41-1a-303:
(i) $\$ 5$ of each temporary registration permit fee paid under Subsection (13)(a)(i) for a single unit; and
(ii) $\$ 10$ of each temporary registration permit fee paid under Subsection (13)(a)(ii) for multiple units.
(11) If registration is for less than a full year, the division shall assess fees for apportioned registration according to Section 41-1a-1207.
(a) (i) If the registrant is replacing a vehicle for one withdrawn from the fleet and the new vehicle is of the same weight category as the replaced vehicle, the registrant shall file a supplemental application.
(ii) If the registrant is replacing a vehicle for one withdrawn from the fleet and the new vehicle is heavier than the replaced vehicle, the division shall assess additional registration fees.
(iii) If the registrant is replacing a vehicle for one withdrawn from the fleet, the division shall issue a new registration card.
(b) If a vehicle is withdrawn from an apportioned fleet during the period for which it is registered, the registrant shall notify the division and surrender the registration card and license plate of the withdrawn vehicle.
(12) (a) An out-of-state carrier with an apportionally registered vehicle who has not
presented a certificate of property tax or in lieu fee as required by Section 41-1a-206 or 41-1 a-207, shall pay, at the time of registration, a proportional part of an equalized highway use tax computed as follows:
(i) Multiply the number of vehicles or combination vehicles registered in each weight class by the equivalent tax figure from the following tables:

Vehicle or Combination

Registered Weight
12,000 pounds or less
12,000 pounds or less
12,000 pounds or less
12,000 pounds or less
12,000 pounds or less

Age of Vehicle
12 or more years
9 or more years but less than 12 years
6 or more years but less than 9 years $\$ 80$
3 or more years but less than 6 years
Less than 3 years

| Vehicle or Combination Registered | Equivalent |
| :--- | :---: |
| Weight | Tax |
| $12,001-18,000$ pounds | $\$ 150$ |
| $18,001-34,000$ pounds | 200 |
| $34,001-48,000$ pounds | 300 |
| $48,001-64,000$ pounds | 450 |
| 64,001 pounds and over | 600 |

(ii) Multiply the equivalent tax value for the total fleet determined under Subsection (12)(a)(i) by the fraction computed under Subsection (4) for the apportioned fleet for the registration year.
(b) For registration described in Subsection (12)(a), the division shall assess fees as provided in Section 41-1a-1207.
(13) (a) Commercial vehicles meeting the registration requirements of another jurisdiction may, as an alternative to full or apportioned registration, secure a temporary registration permit for a period not to exceed 96 hours or until they leave the state, whichever is less, for a fee of:
(i) $\$ 25$ for a single unit; and
(ii) $\$ 50$ for multiple units.
(b) A state temporary permit or registration fee is not required from nonresident owners or operators of vehicles or combination of vehicles having a gross laden weight of 26,000 pounds or less for each single unit or combination.
(14) The division may not register a park model recreational vehicle under this section.
(15) A violation of this section is an infraction.

Section 7. Section 41-1a-401 is amended to read:

## 41-1a-401. License plates -- Number of plates -- Reflectorization -- Indicia of

 registration in lieu of or used with plates.(1) (a) Except as provided in [Subsection(1)(c)] Subsections (1)(c), (d), and (e), the division upon registering a vehicle shall issue to the owner:
(i) one license plate for a motorcycle, trailer, or semitrailer;
(ii) one registration decal for a park model recreational vehicle, in lieu of a license plate, which shall be attached in plain sight to the rear of the park model recreational vehicle;
(iii) one registration decal for a camper, in lieu of a license plate, which shall be attached in plain sight to the rear of the camper; and
(iv) [two identical lieense plates] one license plate for every other vehicle.
(b) The license plate or registration decal issued under Subsection (1)(a) is for the particular vehicle registered and may not be removed during the term for which the license plate or registration decal is issued or used upon any other vehicle than the registered vehicle.
(c) (i) Notwithstanding Subsections (1)(a) and (b) and except as provided in Subsection (1)(c)(ii), the division, upon registering a motor vehicle that has been sold, traded, or the ownership of which has been otherwise released, shall transfer the license plate issued to the person applying to register the vehicle if:
(A) the previous registered owner has included the license plate as part of the sale, trade, or ownership release; and
(B) the person applying to register the vehicle applies to transfer the license plate to the new registered owner of the vehicle.
(ii) The division may not transfer a personalized or special group license plate to a new registered owner under this Subsection (1)(c) if the new registered owner does not meet the
qualification or eligibility requirements for that personalized or special group license plate under this part or Part 16, Special Group License Plates.
(d) (i) For a vehicle described in Section 41-1a-301, the division upon registering a vehicle shall issue a license plate or set of license plates as provided in that section.
(ii) For any $\hat{H} \rightarrow$ [vehiele that meets the definition of an intrastate commerciat vehicte as

## defined in Seetion-72-9-102] commercial vehicle that operates intrastate $\leftarrow \hat{H}$, at the request of the

 registrant, the division upon registering a vehicle may issue two license plates, for display on both the front and rear of the intrastate commercial vehicle.(e) The division upon registering a vehicle may, until inventory of license plate sets is exhausted, but no later than December 31, 2025, issue a set of two plates.
(f) The division shall ensure that license plates are distributed from a central location as soon as practicable, but no later than July 1, 2025.
(2) The division may receive applications for registration renewal, renew registration, and issue a new license [plates] plate or registration [deals] decal at any time prior to the expiration of registration.
(3) (a) (i) Except as provided in Subsection (3)(a)(ii), all license plates to be manufactured and issued by the division shall be treated with a fully reflective material on the plate face that provides effective and dependable reflective brightness during the service period of the license plate.
(ii) Notwithstanding Subsection (3)(a)(i), a historical support special group license plate may be treated with a place face that is partially reflective and provides effective and dependable reflective brightness during the service period of the license plate.
(b) The division shall prescribe all license plate material specifications and establish and implement procedures for conforming to the specifications.
(c) The specifications for the materials used such as the aluminum plate substrate, the reflective sheeting, and glue shall be drawn in a manner so that at least two manufacturers may qualify as suppliers.
(d) The granting of contracts for the materials shall be by public bid.
(4) (a) The commission may issue, adopt, and require the use of indicia of registration it considers advisable in lieu of or in conjunction with license plates as provided in this part.
(b) All provisions of this part relative to license plates apply to these indicia of
registration, so far as the provisions are applicable.
(5) A violation of this section is an infraction.

Section 8. Section 41-1a-402 is amended to read:

## 41-1a-402. Standard license plates -- Required colors, numerals, and letters --

## Expiration.

(1) (a) Upon registering a vehicle, the division shall issue to the owner a standard license plate described in Subsection (1)(b) unless the division issues to the owner:
(i) a special group license plate in accordance with Section 41-1a-418; or
(ii) an apportioned vehicle license plate in accordance with Section 41-1a-301.
(b) The division may offer up to four standard license plate options at one time, each with a different design as follows:
(i) two designs that incorporate one or more elements that represent the state's economy or geography;
(ii) one design that represents the state's values or culture; and
(iii) one design that commemorates a current event relevant to the state or a significant anniversary of a historic event relevant to the state.
(c) The division shall offer:
(i) each design described in Subsection (1)(b)(i) or (ii) for at least a 10-year period; and
(ii) each design described in Subsection (1)(b)(iii) for no more than a five-year period.
(d) The division may not offer more than four standard license plate designs at any one time.
(2) Before the division may offer a design described in Subsection (1)(b), the division shall:
(a) consult with the Utah Department of Cultural and Community Engagement regarding the proposed design;
(b) identify which current standard license plate design will be replaced by the proposed design; and
(c) submit the proposed design to the [governor for approvat; and] commission.
[(d) if the governor approves the design pursuant to Subsection (2)(e), submit to the Fransportation Interim Committee a request for the Legistature to approve the proposed design by coneurrent resolution.]
[(3) The division may isste a new standard lieense plate design only if:]
[(a) the Legislature has by coneurrent resolution approved the standard lieense plate design, and]
[(b) sufficient funds are appropriated for the initial costs of production.]
(3) (a) If the commission receives a submission for a proposed design of a standard license plate as described in Subsection (2)(c), or a sponsored special group license plate as described in Section 41-1a-419 and Part 16, Sponsored Special Group License Plates, the commission shall notify:
(i) the governor;
(ii) the speaker of the House of Representatives; and
(iii) the president of the Senate.
(b) After receiving a notification described in Subsection (3)(a):
(i) the governor shall appoint an individual to the license plate design review board described in Subsection (3)(c);
(ii) the speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint a member of the House of Representatives to the license plate design review board described in Subsection (3)(c); and
(iii) the president of the Senate shall appoint a member of the Senate to the license plate design review board described in Subsection (3)(c).
(c) (i) The license plate design review board, comprised of the members appointed as described in Subsection (3)(b), shall review proposed license plate designs.
(ii) The member of the license plate design review board appointed by the governor shall serve as chair and convene the license plate design review board.
(iii) The license plate design review board shall:
(A) review each proposed license plate design; and
(B) vote whether to approve or reject the proposed license plate design.
(iv) If all three members of the license plate design review board are not present, the license plate design review board may not consider or vote on a proposed license plate design.
(v) The license plate design review board shall notify the commission and the division regarding the results of the vote to approve each proposed license plate design.
(d) The license plate design review board is not subject to Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.
(e) If the license plate design review board approves a proposed license plate design, $\underline{\text { the division may begin the processes necessary for production and distribution of the license }}$ plate.
(4) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (4)(b), the division may not order or produce a standard license plate that is discontinued under this section.
(b) The division may issue a discontinued standard license plate until the division exhausts the discontinued standard license plate's remaining stock.
(5) (a) Each license plate shall have displayed on it:
[(a)] (i) the registration number assigned to the vehicle for which the license plate is issued;
$[(b)]$ (ii) the name of the state; and
[(e)] (iii) unless exempted by Section 41-1a-301 or 41-1a-407, a registration decal showing the date of expiration displayed in accordance with Subsection (8).
(b) No later than July 1, 2025, each license plate:
(i) shall have an embossed edge around the perimeter of the plate; and
(ii) may not have embossed registration numbers or characters.
(6) If registration is extended by affixing a registration decal to the license plate, the expiration date of the registration decal governs the expiration date of the license plate.
(7) (a) (i) Except as provided under Subsection (7)(b), Subsection 41-1a-215(2), and Section 41-1a-216, [tieense plates] a license plate shall be renewed annually.
[(b) (i)] (ii) (A) The division shall issue the vehicle owner a month registration decal and a year registration decal upon the vehicle's first registration with the division.
[(iii)] (B) The division shall issue the vehicle owner only a year registration decal upon subsequent renewals of registration to validate registration renewal.
(b) Beginning on January 1, 2025, the division shall issue one registration decal displaying both the month and year.
(8) (a) Except as otherwise provided in Subsection (8)(b) and by rule:
$[(\mathrm{a})]$ (i) the month registration decal issued in accordance with Subsection (7) shall be displayed on the license plate in the left position; and
$[(b)]$ (ii) the year registration decal issued in accordance with Subsection (7) shall be displayed on the license plate in the right position.
(b) Beginning on January 1, 2025, the registration decal shall be displayed on the upper right position.
(9) The current year registration decal issued in accordance with Subsection (7) shall be placed over or in place of the previous year registration decal.
(10) If a license plate[, month registration deeal, or year] or registration decal is lost or destroyed, a replacement shall be issued upon application and payment of the fees required under Section 41-1a-1211 or 41-1a-1212.
(11) (a) A violation of this section is an infraction.
(b) A court shall waive a fine for a violation under this section if:
(i) the registration for the vehicle was current at the time of the citation; and
(ii) the person to whom the citation was issued provides, within 21 business days, evidence that the license plate and registration [deeats] decal are properly displayed in compliance with this section.
(12) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the division may make rules regarding the placement and positioning of registration [deats] decal on [fieense plates] a license plate issued by the division.

Section 9. Section 41-1a-403 is amended to read:

## 41-1a-403. Plates to be legible from 100 feet.

(1) License plates and the required letters and numerals on them, except the [deeats] registration decal and the slogan, shall be of sufficient size to be plainly readable from a distance of 100 feet during daylight.
[(2) An individual may not attach a tintechor translueent lieense plate cover that obseures the readability of the lieense plate as required in Subsection (1).]
(2) An individual may not attach to or over a license plate:
(a) a license plate cover; or
(b) a license plate frame that obscures or blocks the readability of the license plate number or registration decal on a license plate.
(3) A violation of this section is an infraction.

Section 10. Section 41-1a-404 is amended to read:
41-1a-404. Location and position of plates -- Visibility of plates -- Exceptions.
[(1) Lieense plates issued for a vehicle other than a motoreyele, traiter, vintage vehiele,
or semitrailer shall be attached to the vehiele, one in the front and the other in the rear.]
[(2) (a) The lieense plate issued for a motoreycle, traiter, or semitraiter shall be attached to the rear of the motoreyele, trailer, or semitrailer.]
[(b) (i) An owner of a vintage vehiele shall ensure that a lieense plate is attached to the rear of the vintage vehiele.]
[(ii) An owner of a vintage vehiele is not required to display a lieense plate on the front of the vintage vehiele.]
(1) Except as provided in Section 41-1a-301 relating to a vehicle with apportioned registration, the owner or operator of a vehicle shall ensure that the license plate is attached to the rear of the vehicle as described in this section.
$[(3)]$ (2) Except as provided in Subsection [(5)] (3), a license plate shall at all times be:
(a) securely fastened:
(i) in a horizontal position to the vehicle for which it is issued to prevent the plate from swinging;
(ii) at a height of not less than 12 inches from the ground, measuring from the bottom of the plate; and
(iii) in a place and position to be clearly visible; and
(b) maintained:
(i) free from foreign materials or a tinted or translucent license plate cover; and
(ii) in a condition to be clearly legible.
[(4) Enforeement by a state or local law enforeement offieer of the requirement under Subsection (1) to attach a lieense plate to the front of a vehicle shall be only as a secondary aetion when the vehiele has been detained for a suspected violation by any person in the vehiele of Title 41, Motor Vehieles, other than the requirement under Subsection (1) to attach a fieense plate to the front of the vehiele, or for another offense.]
$[(5)]$ (3) The provisions of Subsections [(3)(a)(iii) and (3)(b)] (2)(a)(iii) and (2)(b) do not apply:
(a) to a license plate that is obscured exclusively by one or more of the following devices or by the cargo the device is carrying, if the device is installed according to manufacturer specifications or generally accepted installation practices:
(i) a trailer hitch;
(ii) a wheelchair lift or wheelchair carrier;
(iii) a trailer being towed by the vehicle;
(iv) a bicycle rack, ski rack, or luggage rack; or
(v) a similar cargo carrying device; or
(b) to a military vehicle if the license plate is in the military vehicle and ready for inspection by law enforcement upon request.
[(6)] (4) A violation of this section is an infraction.
Section 11. Section 41-1a-407 is amended to read:

## 41-1a-407. Plates issued to political subdivisions or state -- Use of "EX" letters --

## Confidential information.

(1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), each municipality, board of education, school district, state institution of learning, county, other governmental division, subdivision, or district, and the state shall:
(a) place a license plate displaying the letters, "EX" on every vehicle owned and operated by it or leased for its exclusive use; and
(b) display an identification mark designating the vehicle as the property of the entity in a conspicuous place on both sides of the vehicle.
(2) The entity need not display the "EX" license plate or the identification mark required by Subsection (1) if:
(a) the vehicle is in the direct service of the governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, state auditor, or state treasurer of Utah;
(b) the vehicle is used in official investigative work where secrecy is essential;
(c) the vehicle is used in an organized Utah Highway Patrol operation that is:
(i) conducted within a county of the first or second class as defined under Section 17-50-501, unless no more than one unmarked vehicle is used for the operation;
(ii) approved by the Commissioner of Public Safety;
(iii) of a duration of 14 consecutive days or less; and
(iv) targeted toward careless driving, aggressive driving, and accidents involving:
(A) violations of Title 41, Chapter 6a, Part 5, Driving Under the Influence and Reckless Driving;
(B) speeding violations for exceeding the posted speed limit by 21 or more miles per
hour;
(C) speeding violations in a reduced speed school zone under Section 41-6a-604;
(D) violations of Section 41-6a-1002 related to pedestrian crosswalks; or
(E) violations of Section 41-6a-702 related to lane restrictions;
(d) the vehicle is provided to an official of the entity as part of a compensation package allowing unlimited personal use of that vehicle;
(e) the personal security of the occupants of the vehicle would be jeopardized if the "EX" license plate were in place; or
(f) the vehicle is used in routine enforcement on a state highway with four or more lanes involving:
(i) violations of Section 41-6a-701 related to operating a vehicle on the right side of a roadway;
(ii) violations of Section 41-6a-702 related to left lane restrictions;
(iii) violations of Section 41-6a-704 related to overtaking and passing vehicles proceeding in the same direction;
(iv) violations of Section 41-6a-711 related to following a vehicle at a safe distance; and
(v) violations of Section 41-6a-804 related to turning and changing lanes.
(3) Plates issued to Utah Highway Patrol vehicles may bear the capital letters "UHP," a beehive logo, and the call number of the trooper to whom the vehicle is issued.
(4) (a) The commission shall issue "EX" and "UHP" plates.
(b) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the commission shall make rules establishing the procedure for application for and distribution of the plates.
(5) For a vehicle that qualifies for an "EX" or "UHP" license [plates] plate, the entity is not required to display the month or year registration [deeats] decal described in Section 41-1a-402.
(6) (a) Information shall be confidential for vehicles that are not required to display the "EX" license plate or the identification mark under Subsections (2)(a), (b), (d), and (e).
(b) (i) If a law enforcement officer's identity must be kept secret, the law enforcement officer's agency head may request in writing that the division remove the license plate
information of the officer's personal vehicles from all public access files and place it in a confidential file until the assignment is completed.
(ii) The agency head shall notify the division when the assignment is completed.
(7) A peace officer engaged in an organized operation under Subsection (2)(c) shall be in a uniform clearly identifying the law enforcement agency the peace officer is representing during the operation.

Section 12. Section 41-1a-410 is amended to read:

## 41-1a-410. Eligibility for personalized plates.

(1) A person who is the registered owner of a vehicle not subject to registration under Section 41-1a-301, registered with the division, or who applies for an original registration of a vehicle not subject to registration under Section 41-1a-301, may upon payment of the fee prescribed in Section 41-1a-1211 apply to the division for [personalized lieense plates] a personalized license plate.
(2) Application shall be made in accordance with Section 41-1a-411.
(3) The personalized [plates] license plate shall be affixed to the vehicle for which registration is sought in lieu of the regular license [plates] plate.
(4) [Personalized lieense plates] A personalized license plate shall be issued only to the registered owner of the vehicle on which they are to be displayed.

Section 13. Section 41-1a-411 is amended to read:

## 41-1a-411. Application for personalized plates -- Refusal authorized.

(1) An applicant for [personalized lieense plates] a personalized license plate or renewal of the [plates] plate shall file an application for the [plates] plate in the form and by the date the division requires, indicating the combination of letters, numbers, or both requested as a registration number.
(2) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (3), the division may refuse to issue any combination of letters, numbers, or both that:
(i) may carry connotations offensive to good taste and decency or that would be misleading; or
(ii) disparages a group based on:
(A) race;
(B) color;
(C) national origin;
(D) religion;
(E) age;
(F) sex;
(G) gender identity;
(H) sexual orientation;
(I) citizenship status; or
(J) physical or mental disability.
(b) The division may refuse to issue a combination of letters, numbers, or both as a registration number if that same combination is already in use as a registration number on an existing license plate.
(3) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2) or (3)(b), the division may not refuse a combination of letters, numbers, or both as a registration number if:
(i) the license plate is an honor special group license plate as described in Section 41-1 a-421, and the combination of letters, numbers, or both refers to:
(A) a year related to military service;
(B) a military branch; or
(C) an official achievement, badge, or honor received for military service; or
(ii) the combination of letters, numbers, or both as a registration number refers to an official state symbol described in Section 63G-1-601.
(b) If an applicant requests a combination containing only numbers, the division may refuse the combination if the combination includes less than four numerical digits.

Section 14. Section 41-1a-412 is amended to read:

## 41-1a-412. Design of personalized plates.

The personalized license [plates] plate shall be the same color and design as a regular license [plates] plate designed for the type of vehicle being licensed and shall consist of numbers, letters, or any combination as fixed by the division, provided that there are no conflicts with existing or anticipated license plate series.

Section 15. Section 41-1a-413 is amended to read:
41-1a-413. Personalized plates -- Sale of vehicle -- Transfer of plates -- Release of priority.

Except as provided in Subsection 41-1a-401(1)(c), if a person who has been issued a personalized license [plates] plate sells, trades, or otherwise releases ownership of the vehicle for which the personalized license [plates have] plate has been issued, that person shall immediately:
(1) apply to display the license [plates] plate on a different vehicle owned by the person; or
(2) surrender the license [plates] plate to the division and release his priority to the letters and numbers displayed on the personalized license [plates] plate.

Section 16. Section 41-1a-416 is amended to read:
41-1a-416. Original issue license plates -- Alternative stickers -- Rulemaking.
(1) The owner of a motor vehicle that is a model year 1973 or older may apply to the division for permission to display an original issue license plate.
(2) An owner described in Subsection (1) shall:
(a) complete an application on a form provided by the division;
(b) supply and submit to the division for approval the original issue license plate that the owner intends to display on the motor vehicle; and
(c) pay the fees prescribed in Sections 41-1a-1206 and 41-1a-1211.
(3) Before approving an application described in this section, the division shall determine that the original issue license plate:
(a) is of a format and type issued by the state for use on a motor vehicle;
(b) has numbers and characters that are unique and do not conflict with existing license plate series in this state;
(c) is legible, durable, and otherwise in a condition that serves the purposes of this chapter; and
(d) is from the same year of issue as the model year of the motor vehicle on which the original issue license plate is to be displayed.
(4) (a) Except as provided in this section, the owner of a motor vehicle displaying an original issue license [plates] plate approved under this section is not exempt from any requirement described in this chapter.
(b) An original issue license plate approved under this section is exempt from:
(i) the provisions of Section 41-1a-401 regarding reflectorization; and
(ii) Section 41-1a-403.
(c) Notwithstanding Subsection (4)(a), if a motor vehicle displaying an original issue license plate is also a vintage vehicle as defined in Section 41-21-1, the motor vehicle qualifies for the same exemptions as a vintage vehicle.
(5) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the division may make rules for the implementation of this section.

Section 17. Section 41-1a-419 is amended to read:
41-1a-419. Plate design and review -- Personalized special group license plates -Rulemaking.
(1) (a) In accordance with Subsection [(1)(b);] (1)(c), and except as provided in

Subsection (1)(b), the division shall determine the design and number of numerals or characters on a special group license plate.
(b) (i) When the division has technology and processes in place to centrally distribute license plates, but no later than July 1, 2025, subject to Subsection (1)(c)(iii), an institution may design a collegiate special group license plate for the institution in accordance with Subsection (1)(c).
(ii) If an institution chooses to design a collegiate special group license plate for the institution, the institution is responsible for any design costs.
$[(\mathrm{b})]$ (c) (i) Except as provided in Subsection [(1)(b))(ii)] (1)(c)(ii), each special group license plate shall display:
(A) the word Utah;
(B) the name or identifying slogan of the special group; and
[(C) a symbol deeal not exceeding two positions in size representing the special group; and]
$[(\mathrm{P})](\mathrm{C})$ the combination of letters, numbers, or both uniquely identifying the registered vehicle.
(ii) The division, in consultation with the Utah State Historical Society, shall design the historical support special group license plate, which shall:
(A) have a black background;
(B) have white characters; and
(C) display the word Utah.
(iii) The design of a special group license plate is subject to approval by the license plate design review board as described in Subsection 41-1a-402(3).
(2) (a) The division shall, after consultation with a representative designated by the sponsoring organization as defined in Section 41-1a-1601, specify the word or words comprising the special group name and the symbol decal to be displayed upon the special group license plate.
(b) A special group license plate symbol decal may not be redesigned:
(i) unless the division receives a redesign fee established by the division under Section 63J-1-504; and
(ii) more frequently than every five years.
(c) A special group license plate symbol decal may not be reordered unless the division receives a symbol decal reorder fee established by the division in accordance with Section 63J-1-504.
(3) The license plates issued for horseless carriages prior to July 1, 1992, are valid without renewal as long as the vehicle is owned by the registered owner and the license plates may not be recalled by the division.
(4) Subject to Subsection 41-1a-411(4)(a), a person who meets the requirements described in this part or Part 16, Sponsored Special Group License Plates, for a special group license plate may, apply for a personalized special group license plate in accordance with Sections 41-1a-410 and 41-1a-411.
(5) Subject to this chapter, the commission shall make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to:
(a) establish qualifying criteria for persons to receive, renew, or surrender special group license plates; and
(b) establish the number of numerals or characters for special group license plates.

Section 18. Section 41-1a-701 is amended to read:
41-1a-701. Transfer by owner -- Removal of plates.
(1) (a) If the owner of a registered vehicle transfers the title or interest to the vehicle the registration of the vehicle expires.
(b) Unless an owner has included the transfer of a license plate as part of a sale, trade, or ownership release of a vehicle, the owner shall remove the license plate or plates from the
transferred vehicle.
(2) (a) If an owner does not transfer a license plate to a person as part of a sale, trade, or ownership release of a vehicle, within 20 days from the date of transfer the owner shall forward the plates to the division to be destroyed or may have the plates assigned to another vehicle, subject to the rules of the division.
(b) If an owner transfers a license plate as part of a sale, trade, or ownership release of a vehicle, the new registered owner of the transferred vehicle shall apply to the division to have the plates assigned to the new registered owner.
(3) A violation of this section is an infraction.

Section 19. Section 41-1a-703 is amended to read:
41-1a-703. New owner to secure new registration and new certificate of title.
(1) The transferee, before operating or permitting the operation of a transferred vehicle on a highway, shall:
(a) present to the division the certificate of registration and the certificate of title, properly endorsed;
(b) apply for a new certificate of title and obtain a new registration for the transferred vehicle, as upon an original registration, except as permitted under Sections 41-1a-223, 41-1a-520, and 41-1a-704; and
(c) apply to the division to have the license plate or plates assigned to the new registered owner of the transferred vehicle if the license plate or plates were included as part of the sale, trade, or ownership release of the transferred vehicle.
(2) A violation of this section is an infraction.

Section 20. Section 41-1a-704 is amended to read:

## 41-1a-704. Transfer by operation of law.

(1) Except as provided under Subsection (2), if the title or interest of an owner in or to a registered vehicle passes to another person other than by voluntary transfer:
(a) the registration of the vehicle expires; and
(b) the vehicle may not be operated upon a highway until the person entitled to possession of the vehicle applies for and obtains a valid registration or temporary permit.
(2) (a) A vehicle under Subsection (1) may be operated on the highways by the person entitled to its possession or his legal representative, for a distance not exceeding 75 miles, upon
displaying on the vehicle the license plate or plates issued to the former owner.
(b) If title is vested in a person holding a lien or encumbrance on the vehicle, the new title holder may apply to the Motor Vehicle Enforcement Division for special plates issued under Section 41-3-505 to transporters and may operate the repossessed vehicle under the special plate for the purposes of:
(i) transporting the vehicle to a garage or warehouse; or
(ii) demonstrating the vehicle for sale.
(3) A violation of this section is an infraction.

Section 21. Section 41-1a-1105 is amended to read:
41-1a-1105. Records to be kept by public garage, impound lot, or impound yard.
(1) (a) Each person engaged in the business of operating a public garage, impound lot, or impound yard shall keep a record of every vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor stored in it for compensation for a period longer than 12 hours.
(b) The record shall include:
(i) the name and address of the person storing the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor;
(ii) a brief description of the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor, including the name or make, identification number, and license number shown by the license plate or plates; and
(iii) the mileage shown on the vehicle's odometer both upon arrival at and upon its release from the public garage, impound lot, or impound yard, if the vehicle is equipped with an odometer.
(2) Every record kept under Subsection (1) shall be open to inspection by any peace officer.

Section 22. Section 41-1a-1211 is amended to read:
41-1a-1211. License plate fees -- Application fees for issuance and renewal of personalized and special group license plates -- Replacement fee for license plates -Postage fees.
(1) (a) Except as provided in Subsections (11), (12), and (13), [and (14),] a license plate fee established in accordance with Section 63J-1-504 shall be paid to the division for the issuance of any new license plate under Part 4, License Plates and Registration Indicia.
(b) The license plate fee shall be deposited as follows:
(i) beginning on January 1, 2025, \$1 from the license plate fees, other than a license
plate fee for a motorcycle or trailer, into the Motor Vehicle Safety Impact Restricted Account created in Section 53-8-214;
[(i)] (ii) $\$ 1$ [im] into the Transportation Fund; and
[(iii)] (iii) the remainder of the fee charged under Subsection (1)(a) into the License Plate Restricted Account, as provided in Section 41-1a-1201.
(2) (a) An applicant for original issuance of a personalized license [plates] plate issued under Section 41-1 a-410 shall pay a $\$ 50$ per set license plate application fee in addition to the fee required in Subsection (1).
(b) In addition to the fee described in Subsection (2)(a), an applicant for original issuance of a personalized license plate issued under Section 41-1a-410 shall pay a $\$ 25$ processing fee.
(c) The fee described in Subsection (2)(b) shall be deposited into the License Plate Restricted Account created in Section 41-1 a-122.
(3) Beginning July 1, 2003, a person who applies for a special group license plate shall pay a $\$ 5$ fee for the original [se lieense plates] license plate in addition to the fee required under Subsection (1).
(4) An applicant for original issuance of a personalized special group license [plates] plate shall pay the license plate application fees required in Subsection (2) in addition to the license plate fees and license plate application fees established under Subsections (1) and (3).
(5) An applicant for renewal of a personalized license [plates] plate issued under Section 41-1a-410 shall pay a $\$ 10$ per set application fee.
(6) (a) The division may charge a fee established under Section 63J-1-504 to recover the costs for the replacement of any license plate issued under Part 4, License Plates and Registration Indicia.
(b) The license plate fee for the replacement of any license plate as described in Subsection (6)(a) shall be deposited as follows:
(i) beginning on January 1, 2025, $\$ 1$ from the license plate fees, other than a license plate fee for a motorcycle or trailer, into the Motor Vehicle Safety Impact Restricted Account created in Section 53-8-214;
[(i)] (ii) $\$ 1$ [im] into the Transportation Fund; and
[(ii)] (iii) the remainder of the fee charged under Subsection (6)(a) into the License

Plate Restricted Account, as provided in Section 41-1a-1201.
(7) (a) The division may charge a fee established under Section 63J-1-504 to recover the division's costs for the replacement of a symbol decal issued under Section 41-1a-418.
(b) The fee described in Subsection (7)(a) shall be deposited into the License Plate Restricted Account as described in Section 41-1a-1201.
(8) The division may charge a fee established under Section 63J-1-504 to recover the cost of issuing stickers under Section 41-1a-416.
(9) In addition to any other fees required by this section, the division shall assess a fee established under Section 63J-1-504 to cover postage expenses if a new or replacement license [plates are] plate is mailed to the applicant.
(10) The fees required under this section are separate from and in addition to registration fees required under Section 41-1a-1206.
(11) (a) An applicant for a license plate issued under Section 41-1a-407 is not subject to the license plate fee under Subsection (1).
(b) An applicant for a Purple Heart special group license plate issued on or before December 31, 2023, or issued in accordance with Part 16, Sponsored Special Group License Plates, is exempt from the fees under Subsections (1), (3), and (7).
(12) A person is exempt from the fee under Subsection (1) or (6) if the person:
(a) was issued a clean fuel special group license plate in accordance with Section 41-1a-418 prior to the effective date of rules made by the Department of Transportation under Subsection 41-6a-702(5)(b);
(b) beginning on the effective date of rules made by the Department of Transportation authorized under Subsection 41-6a-702(5)(b), is no longer eligible for a clean fuel special group license plate under the rules made by the Department of Transportation; and
(c) upon renewal or reissuance, is required to replace the clean fuel special group license plate with a new license plate.
(13) An individual is exempt from the license plate fee under Subsection (1) if the individual presents official documentation that the individual is a recipient of the Purple Heart Award in one of the following forms:
(a) official documentation issued by a recognized association representing peace officers who:
(i) receive a salary from a federal, state, county, or municipal government or any other subdivision of the state; and
(ii) work in the state;
(b) a membership card in the Military Order of the Purple Heart; or
(c) an original or certificate in lieu of the applicant's military discharge form, DD-214, issued by the National Personnel Records Center.

Section 23. Section 41-1a-1603 is amended to read:
41-1a-1603. Application requirements -- Fees -- Contributions -- Rulemaking.
(1) An applicant for a sponsored special group license plate shall submit to the division:
(a) in a form and manner that the division prescribes, a complete application;
(b) payment of the fee for the issuance of the sponsored special group license plate established under Subsection (4)(a)(i);
(c) the required contribution for the sponsored special group license plate, unless the applicant previously paid the required contribution as part of a preorder application described in Subsection (4); and
(d) if the sponsoring organization elects to require verification as described in Section 41-1a-1604, a verification form obtained from the sponsoring organization.
(2) An applicant who owns a vehicle with the sponsoring organization's sponsored special group license plate shall submit to the division the required contribution to renew the sponsored special group license plate.
(3) (a) An applicant who wishes to obtain a new type of sponsored special group license plate may preorder the new type of sponsored special group license plate by:
(i) submitting to the sponsoring organization associated with the new type of sponsored special group license plate a complete preorder form created by the division; and
(ii) making the required contribution to the sponsoring organization.
(b) After the division approves the sponsoring organization's request for the new type of sponsored special group license plate under Section 41-1a-1604, an applicant who submitted a preorder in accordance with Subsection (3)(a) may apply for the sponsored special group license plate in accordance with Subsection (1).
(4) (a) The division shall, in accordance with Section 63J-1-504, establish:
(i) the fee to charge an applicant for the division's costs of issuing or renewing a sponsored special group license plate or symbol decal; and
(ii) the fee to charge a sponsoring organization for the division's costs of designing and administering a new type of sponsored special group license plate, in accordance with Subsection 41-1a-1604(2)(c); and
(iii) subject to Subsection (4)(b), in an amount equal to at least $\$ 25$, the minimum annual contribution amount an applicant is required to make to obtain or renew the sponsoring organization's sponsored special group license plate.
(b) A fee paid in accordance with Subsection (4)(a)(i) [or (ii)] shall be deposited into the License Plate Restricted Account created in Subsection 41-1a-122.
(c) A sponsoring organization may establish a required contribution amount for the sponsoring organization's sponsored special group license plate that is greater than the amount established by the division under Subsection [(4)(a)(iii)] (4)(a)(ii).
(5) An applicant's contribution is a voluntary contribution for funding the sponsoring organization's activities and not a motor vehicle registration fee.
(6) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the commission may make rules to establish and administer the sponsored special group license plate program.

Section 24. Section 41-1a-1604 is amended to read:
41-1a-1604. New sponsored special group license plates -- Eligibility criteria.
(1) If a sponsoring organization satisfies the requirements of this part, the division shall approve an application for a new type of sponsored special group license plate and issue the sponsored special group license plate in accordance with this part.
(2) Subject to the other provisions of this part, a sponsoring organization requesting a new type of sponsored special group license plate shall submit to the division, in a form and manner the division prescribes:
(a) a complete application requesting the new type of sponsored special group license plate that includes:
(i) information about the sponsoring organization the division needs to process the request;
(ii) contact information for an individual representing the sponsoring organization;
(iii) if the sponsoring organization establishes a required contribution amount under Subsection 41-1a-1603(4)(b) that is greater than the minimum required contribution amount established under Subsection 41-1a-1603(4)(a)(iii), the amount of the required contribution;
(iv) account information to allow the division to disburse funds from required contributions the division collects through the sponsored special group license plate program to the sponsoring organization;
(v) a link to a functional website described in Subsection (7); and
(vi) if the sponsoring organization requires an applicant to submit a verification form described in Subsection (8)(b)(i), a statement indicating that a verification form is required;
(b) at least 500 complete preorder applications for the new type of sponsored special group license plate, including verification that each preorder application included the required contribution;
(c) (i) the fee for the cost of [designing and administering] initiating the new type of sponsored special group license plate established under Subsection 41-1a-1603(4)(a)(ii)[,and], which shall be deposited into the License Plate Restricted Account created in Section 41-1a-122; and
(ii) an additional fee for the cost of implementation, design, and system programming for the new type of sponsored special group license plate, which shall be deposited into the

## License Plate Restricted Account created in Section 41-1a-122; and

(d) if the new type of sponsored special group license plate is a private nonprofit special group license plate:
(i) a copy of the Internal Revenue Service letter approving the sponsoring organization's Section 501(c)(3) status;
(ii) an affidavit signed under penalty of perjury declaring that the sponsoring organization has a charitable purpose; and
(iii) an indication of the private nonprofit organization's charitable purpose.
(3) If an application under Subsection (2) is for a special group license plate that was discontinued in accordance with this part, each registered vehicle with the discontinued special group license plate is considered a complete preorder application for the purposes of Subsection (2)(b).
(4) The division:
(a) may share data collected under Subsection (2)(d)(iii) with the Legislature and the state auditor;
(b) may not use the information in Subsection (2)(d)(iii) in deciding whether to approve the sponsoring organization's application; and
(c) is not required to evaluate the accuracy or veracity of information the private nonprofit organization provides under Subsection (2)(d).
(5) Except as otherwise provided in this part, the division may not begin design work on or issue a new type of sponsored special group license plate unless the sponsoring organization satisfies the requirements of Subsection (2).
(6) A sponsoring organization that is a state agency may request a state agency recognition special group license plate without meeting the minimum preorder requirements of Subsection (2)(b) if:
(a) the governor certifies that there is a legitimate government operations purpose for issuing the state agency recognition special group license plate; and
(b) through appropriation or any other source, funds are available to cover the start-up and administrative costs of the state agency recognition special group license plate.
(7) A sponsoring organization of a sponsored special group license plate issued in accordance with this part shall maintain a functional website that:
(a) explains how the sponsoring organization will use the required contributions in accordance with this part;
(b) if applicable, makes available the sponsoring organization's most recent Internal Revenue Service Form 990; and
(c) provides instructions for how to obtain a verification form if the sponsoring organization elects to require verification in accordance with Subsection (8).
(8) (a) A sponsoring organization may establish eligibility requirements for the sponsoring organization's sponsored special group license plate.
(b) If a sponsoring organization establishes eligibility requirements under this subsection, the sponsoring organization shall:
(i) inform the division that a verification form is required as part of an application for the sponsoring organization's sponsored special group license plate;
(ii) establish a process for providing a verification form to an applicant; and
(iii) provide a verification form prescribed by the division to an applicant who satisfies the sponsoring organization's eligibility requirements.
(9) (a) A sponsored special group license plate design is subject to approval by the license plate design review board as described in Subsection 41-1a-402(3).
(b) [fte] Subject to approval by the license plate design review board as described in Subsection 41-1a-402(3), the division shall begin issuing the new type of sponsored special group license plate no later than six months after the day on which the division receives the items described in Subsection (2).
(10) The division may:
(a) consider a request for a sponsored special group license plate for two or more military branches as a request for a single type of sponsored special group license plate for the purposes of meeting the eligibility criteria described in this section; and
(b) charge an appropriate fee for ordering multiple symbol decals for each military branch.
(11) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the commission may make rules to establish fees and the process for administering applications for new sponsored special group license plates described in Subsection (2)(c).

Section 25. Section 41-1a-1605 is amended to read:
41-1a-1605. Collegiate special group license plates.
(1) A sponsoring organization that is an institution [shatlonty] may use funds received through the sponsored special group license plate program only for the institution's academic scholarships.
(2) The state auditor may audit each institution to verify that the money an institution collects from contributors is used only for academic scholarships.
(3) A sponsoring organization that is an institution may establish the contribution amount required to obtain the institution's collegiate special group license plate.

Section 26. Section 41-3-105 is amended to read:
41-3-105. Administrator's powers and duties -- Administrator and investigators to be law enforcement officers.
(1) The administrator may make rules to carry out the purposes of this chapter and Sections 41-1a-1001 through 41-1 a-1006 according to the procedures and requirements of Title

63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.
(2) (a) The administrator may employ clerks, deputies, and assistants necessary to discharge the duties under this chapter and may designate the duties of those clerks, deputies, and assistants.
(b) The administrator, assistant administrator, and all investigators shall be law enforcement officers certified by peace officer standards and training as required by Section 53-13-103.
(3) (a) The administrator may investigate any suspected or alleged violation of:
(i) this chapter;
(ii) Title 41, Chapter 1a, Motor Vehicle Act;
(iii) any law concerning motor vehicle fraud; or
(iv) any rule made by the administrator.
(b) The administrator may bring an action in the name of the state against any person to enjoin a violation found under Subsection (3)(a).
(4) (a) The administrator may prescribe forms to be used for applications for licenses.
(b) The administrator may require information from the applicant concerning the applicant's fitness to be licensed.
(c) Each application for a license shall contain:
(i) if the applicant is an individual, the name and residence address of the applicant and the trade name, if any, under which the applicant intends to conduct business;
(ii) if the applicant is a partnership, the name and residence address of each partner, whether limited or general, and the name under which the partnership business will be conducted;
(iii) if the applicant is a corporation, the name of the corporation, and the name and residence address of each of its principal officers and directors;
(iv) a complete description of the principal place of business, including:
(A) the municipality, with the street and number, if any;
(B) if located outside of any municipality, a general description so that the location can be determined; and
(C) any other places of business operated and maintained by the applicant in conjunction with the principal place of business;
(v) if the application is for a new motor vehicle dealer's license, the name of each motor vehicle the applicant has been enfranchised to sell or exchange, the name and address of the manufacturer or distributor who has enfranchised the applicant, and the name and address of each individual who will act as a salesperson under authority of the license;
(vi) at least five years of business history;
(vii) the federal tax identification number issued to the dealer;
(viii) the sales and use tax license number issued to the dealer under Title 59, Chapter 12, Sales and Use Tax Act; and
(ix) if the application is for a direct-sale manufacturer's license:
(A) the name of each line-make the applicant will sell, display for sale, or offer for sale or exchange;
(B) the name and address of each individual who will act as a direct-sale manufacturer salesperson under authority of the license;
(C) a complete description of the direct-sale manufacturer's authorized service center, including the address and any other place of business the applicant operates and maintains in conjunction with the authorized service center;
(D) a sworn statement that the applicant complies with each qualification for a direct-sale manufacturer under this chapter;
(E) a sworn statement that if at any time the applicant fails to comply with a qualification for a direct-sale manufacturer under this chapter, the applicant will inform the division in writing within 10 business days after the day on which the noncompliance occurs; and
(F) an acknowledgment that if the applicant fails to comply with a qualification for a direct-sale manufacturer under this chapter, the administrator will deny, suspend, or revoke the applicant's direct-sale manufacturer license in accordance with Section 41-3-209.
(5) The administrator may adopt a seal with the words "Motor Vehicle Enforcement Administrator, State of Utah," to authenticate the acts of the administrator's office.
(6) (a) The administrator may require that a licensee erect or post signs or devices on the licensee's principal place of business and any other sites, equipment, or locations operated and maintained by the licensee in conjunction with the licensee's business.
(b) The signs or devices shall state the licensee's name, principal place of business,
type and number of licenses, and any other information that the administrator considers necessary to identify the licensee.
(c) The administrator may make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, determining allowable size and shape of signs or devices, lettering and other details of signs or devices, and location of signs or devices.
(7) (a) The administrator shall provide for quarterly meetings of the advisory board and may call special meetings.
(b) Notices of all meetings shall be sent to each member not fewer than five days before the meeting.
(8) The administrator, the officers and inspectors of the division designated by the commission, and peace officers shall:
(a) make arrests upon view and without warrant for any violation committed in their presence of any of the provisions of this chapter, or Title 41, Chapter 1a, Motor Vehicle Act;
(b) when on duty, upon reasonable belief that a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer is being operated in violation of any provision of Title 41, Chapter 1a, Motor Vehicle Act, require the driver of the vehicle to stop, exhibit the person's driver license and the registration card issued for the vehicle, and submit to an inspection of the vehicle, the license [plates] plate, and registration card;
(c) serve all warrants relating to the enforcement of the laws regulating the operation of motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers;
(d) investigate traffic accidents and secure testimony of any witnesses or persons involved; and
(e) investigate reported thefts of motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers.
(9) The administrator shall provide security for an area within the commission designated as a secure area under Section 76-8-311.1.
(10) The Office of the Attorney General shall provide prosecution of this chapter.

Section 27. Section 41-3-209 is amended to read:
41-3-209. Administrator's findings -- Suspension and revocation of license.
(1) If the administrator finds that an applicant is not qualified to receive a license, a license may not be granted.
(2) (a) If the administrator finds that there is reasonable cause to deny, suspend, or
revoke a license issued under this chapter, the administrator shall deny, suspend, or revoke the license.
(b) Reasonable cause for denial, suspension, or revocation of a license includes, in relation to the applicant or license holder or any of the applicant or license holder's partners, officers, or directors:
(i) lack of a principal place of business or authorized service center as required by this chapter;
(ii) lack of a sales tax license required under Title 59, Chapter 12, Sales and Use Tax Act;
(iii) lack of a bond in effect as required by this chapter;
(iv) current revocation or suspension of a dealer, dismantler, auction, or salesperson license issued in another state;
(v) nonpayment of required fees;
(vi) making a false statement on any application for a license under this chapter or for $\underline{a}$ special license [plates] plate;
(vii) a violation of any state or federal law involving motor vehicles;
(viii) a violation of any state or federal law involving controlled substances;
(ix) charges filed with any county attorney, district attorney, or U.S. attorney in any court of competent jurisdiction for a violation of any state or federal law involving motor vehicles;
(x) a violation of any state or federal law involving fraud;
(xi) a violation of any state or federal law involving a registerable sex offense under Section 77-41-106;
(xii) having had a license issued under this chapter revoked within five years from the date of application; or
(xiii) failure to comply with any applicable qualification or requirement imposed under this chapter.
(c) Any action taken by the administrator under Subsection (2)(b)(ix) shall remain in effect until a final resolution is reached by the court involved or the charges are dropped.
(3) If the administrator finds that an applicant is not qualified to receive a license under this section, the administrator shall provide the applicant written notice of the reason for the
denial.
(4) If the administrator finds that the license holder has been convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction of violating any of the provisions of this chapter or any rules made by the administrator, or finds other reasonable cause, the administrator may, by complying with the emergency procedures of Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act:
(a) suspend the license on terms and for a period of time the administrator finds reasonable; or
(b) revoke the license.
(5) (a) After suspending or revoking a license, the administrator may take reasonable action to:
(i) notify the public that the licensee is no longer in business; and
(ii) prevent the former licensee from violating the law by conducting business without a license.
(b) Action under Subsection (5)(a) may include signs, banners, barriers, locks, bulletins, and notices.
(c) Any business being conducted incidental to the business for which the former licensee was licensed may continue to operate subject to the preventive action taken under this subsection.

Section 28. Section 41-6a-403 is amended to read:
41-6a-403. Vehicle accidents -- Investigation and report of operator security -Agency action if no security -- Surrender of plates -- Penalties.
(1) (a) Upon request of a peace officer investigating an accident involving a motor vehicle, the operator of the motor vehicle shall provide evidence of the owner's or operator's security required under Section 41-12a-301.
(b) The evidence of owner's or operator's security includes information specified under Section 41-12a-303.2.
(2) The peace officer shall record on a form approved by the department:
(a) the information provided by the operator;
(b) whether the operator provided insufficient or no information;
(c) whether the officer finds reasonable cause to believe that any information given is not correct; and
(d) whether other information available to the peace officer indicates that owner's or operator's security is in effect.
(3) The peace officer shall deposit all completed forms with the peace officer's law enforcement agency, which shall forward the forms to the department no later than 10 days after receipt.
(4) (a) The department shall within 10 days of receipt of the forms from the law enforcement agency take action as follows:
(i) if the operator provided no information under Subsection (1) and other information available to the peace officer does not indicate that owner's or operator's security is in effect, the department shall take direct action under Subsection 53-3-221(13); or
(ii) if the peace officer noted or the department determines that there is reasonable cause to believe that the information given under Subsection (1) is not correct, the department shall contact directly the insurance company or other provider of security as described in Section 41-12a-303.2 and request verification of the accuracy of the information submitted as of the date of the accident.
(b) The department may require the verification under Subsection (4)(a)(ii) to be in a form specified by the department.
(c) The insurance company or other provider of security shall return the verification to the department within 30 days of receipt of the request.
(d) If the department does not receive verification within 35 days after sending the request, or within the 35 days receives notice that the information was not correct, the department shall take action under Subsection 53-3-221(13).
(5) (a) The owner of a vehicle with an unexpired license [plates] plate for which security is not provided as required under this chapter shall return the plates for the vehicle to the Motor Vehicle Division unless specifically permitted by statute to retain them.
(b) If the owner fails to return the plates as required, the plates shall be confiscated under Section 53-3-226.
(6) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the department may make rules for the enforcement of this section.
(7) A person is guilty of a class B misdemeanor, and shall be fined not less than $\$ 100$, who:
(a) when requested to provide security information under Subsection (1), or Section 41-12a-303.2, provides false information;
(b) falsely represents to the department that security required under this chapter is in effect; or
(c) sells a vehicle to avoid the penalties of this section as applicable either to himself or a third party.

Section 29. Section 41-6a-2002 is amended to read:

## 41-6a-2002. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:
(1) "Active criminal investigation" means an officer has documented reasonable suspicion that a crime is being or has been committed, and believes the suspected criminal activity may be connected to a vehicle, a registered owner of a vehicle, or an occupant of a vehicle.
$[(1)](2)$ "Automatic license plate reader system" means a system of one or more mobile or fixed automated high-speed cameras used in combination with computer algorithms to convert an image of a license plate into computer-readable data.
$[(2)](3)$ "Captured plate data" means the global positioning system coordinates, date and time, photograph, license plate number, and any other data captured by or derived from an automatic license plate reader system.
[(3)] (4) (a) "Governmental entity" means:
(i) executive department agencies of the state;
(ii) the offices of the governor, the lieutenant governor, the state auditor, the attorney general, and the state treasurer;
(iii) the Board of Pardons and Parole;
(iv) the Board of Examiners;
(v) the National Guard;
(vi) the Career Service Review Office;
(vii) the State Board of Education;
(viii) the Utah Board of Higher Education;
(ix) the State Archives;
(x) the Office of the Legislative Auditor General;
(xi) the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst;
(xii) the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel;
(xiii) the Legislature;
(xiv) legislative committees, except any political party, group, caucus, or rules or sifting committee of the Legislature;
(xv) courts, the Judicial Council, the Administrative Office of the Courts, and similar administrative units in the judicial branch;
(xvi) any state-funded institution of higher education or public education;
(xvii) any political subdivision of the state; or
(xviii) a law enforcement agency.
(b) "Governmental entity" includes:
(i) every office, agency, board, bureau, committee, department, advisory board, or commission of an entity listed in Subsections $[(3)(a)(i)]$ (4)(a)(i) through (xviii) that is funded or established by the government to carry out the public's business; or
(ii) a person acting as an agent of a governmental entity or acting on behalf of a governmental entity.
[(4)] (5) "Nongovernmental entity" means a person that is not a governmental entity.
$[(5)](6)$ "Secured area" means an area, enclosed by clear boundaries, to which access is limited and not open to the public and entry is only obtainable through specific access-control points.

Section 30. Section 41-6a-2003 is amended to read:

## 41-6a-2003. Automatic license plate reader systems -- Restrictions.

(1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), a governmental entity may not use an automatic license plate reader system.
(2) Subject to Subsection (3), an automatic license plate reader system may be used:
(a) by a law enforcement agency to access captured license plate data:
(i) as part of an active criminal investigation;
(ii) to apprehend an individual with an outstanding warrant;
(iii) to locate a missing or endangered person; or
(iv) to locate a stolen vehicle;
(b) by a law enforcement agency to access the Utah Criminal Justice Information

System to:
(i) verify valid vehicle registration information;
(ii) confirm vehicle identification;
(iii) verify insurance information; or
(iv) identify a stolen vehicle;
[(b)] (c) by a governmental parking enforcement entity for the purpose of enforcing state and local parking laws;
$[(\mathrm{c})]$ (d) by a parking enforcement entity for regulating the use of a parking facility;
[(d)] (e) for the purpose of controlling access to a secured area;
$[(\mathrm{e})]$ (f) for the purpose of collecting an electronic toll;
$[(f)](\mathrm{g})$ for the purpose of enforcing motor carrier laws;
$[(\mathrm{g})](\mathrm{h})$ by a public transit district for the purpose of assessing parking needs and conducting a travel pattern analysis;
[(h)] (i) by an institution of higher education within the state system of higher education as described in Section 53B-1-102:
(i) for a purpose described in Subsections (2)(a) through [(d)] (e); or
(ii) if the data collected is anonymized, for research and educational purposes;
[(i)] (i) by the Utah Inland Port Authority, created in Section 11-58-201, or by a contractor of the Utah Inland Port Authority with the approval of the board of the Utah Inland Port Authority, if:
(i) the automatic license plate reader system is used only within a project area, as defined in Section 11-58-102, of the Utah Inland Port Authority;
(ii) the purpose of using the automatic license plate reader system is to improve supply chain efficiency or the efficiency of the movement of goods by analyzing and researching data related to commercial vehicle traffic; and
(iii) specific license plate information is anonymized; or
$[(\mathrm{j})]$ (k) by an international airport owned by a governmental entity for the purpose of promoting efficient regulation and implementation of traffic control and direction, parking, security, and other similar operational objectives on the airport campus.
(3) A law enforcement agency may not use an automatic license plate reader system unless:
(a) the law enforcement agency has a written policy regarding the use, management, and auditing of the automatic license plate reader system;
(b) for any stationary device installed with the purpose of capturing license plate data of vehicles traveling on a state highway, the law enforcement agency obtains a special use permit as described in Section 72-1-212 from the Department of Transportation before installing the device; and
(c) the policy under Subsection (3)(a) and any special use permits granted in accordance with Subsection (3)(b) are:
(i) posted and publicly available on the appropriate city, county, or state website; or
(ii) posted on the Utah Public Notice Website created in Section 63A-16-601 if the law enforcement agency does not have access to a website under Subsection (3)(c)(i).

Section 31. Section 41-12a-303 is amended to read:
41-12a-303. Condition to obtaining registration, license plates, or safety

## inspection.

The owner of a motor vehicle required to maintain owner's security under Section 41-12a-301 may be required to swear or affirm, in a manner specified by the State Tax Commission, or present other reasonable evidence that he has owner's security in effect at the time of registering, obtaining a license [plates] plate for, or a safety inspection of the motor vehicle.

Section 32. Section 41-12a-602 is amended to read:

## 41-12a-602. Filing of false report.

Any person who gives information required in a report provided for under Section 41-12a-502, knowing or having reason to believe that the information is false, or who shall forge or, without authority, sign any evidence of proof of owner's or operator's security, or who files or offers for filing any such evidence of proof, knowing or having reason to believe that it is forged or signed without authority, or who falsely swears or affirms when obtaining a license [plates] plate, a safety inspection, or a registration under Section 41-12a-303, is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

Section 33. Section 53-8-214 is amended to read:
53-8-214. Creation of the Motor Vehicle Safety Impact Restricted Account.
(1) There is created a restricted account within the General Fund known as the Motor

Vehicle Safety Impact Restricted Account.
(2) The account includes:
(a) deposits made to the restricted account from registration fees as described in Subsection 41-1a-1201(7);
(b) deposits into the account as described in Section 41-1a-1211;
$[(b)]$ (c) donations or deposits made to the account; and
$[(\mathrm{e})](\mathrm{d})$ any interest earned on the account.
(3) Upon appropriation, the division may use funds in the account to improve motor vehicle safety, mitigate impacts, and enforce safety provisions, including the following:
(a) hiring new Highway Patrol troopers;
(b) payment of overtime for Highway Patrol troopers; and
(c) acquisition of equipment to improve motor vehicle safety impacts and enforcement.
(4) The division shall annually report to the Executive Offices and Criminal Justice Appropriations Subcommittee to justify expenditures and use of funds in the account.

Section 34. Effective date.
(1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), this bill takes effect on January 1, 2025.
(2) The actions affecting Sections 41-1a-402 and 41-1a-1211 take effect on July 1, 2024.

