

HOUSE BILL 306

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019

INTRODUCED BY

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AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; CREATING A STANDARDIZED
REGISTRATION PLATE FOR WORTHY PUBLIC PURPOSES; PROVIDING FOR A
SPECIAL REGISTRATION DECAL TO RECOGNIZE THE NATIONAL FFA
ORGANIZATION, FORMERLY KNOWN AS FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA;
MAKING APPROPRIATIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code is
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] STANDARDIZED REGISTRATION PLATES FOR
WORTHY PUBLIC PURPOSES--SPECIAL REGISTRATION DECALS.--

A. For a fee of ten dollars (\$10.00), which shall
be in addition to the regular motor registration fee, the
department shall issue standardized registration plates with
space for a special registration decal as may be authorized by

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1 statute for worthy public purposes; provided that the
2 department shall only issue a special registration decal if the
3 requesting person submits proof satisfactory to the department
4 that the person is eligible to receive the special registration
5 decal requested. The fee collected for each registration plate
6 shall be retained by the department and is appropriated to the
7 department for the manufacture and issuance of the registration
8 plate. No two owners shall be issued identically lettered or
9 numbered registration plates.

10 B. The authorizing statute for a special
11 registration decal shall provide for the collection of fees
12 that, at a minimum, shall cover the costs to the division of
13 development, manufacture and issuance of the decal.

14 C. Worthy public purpose registration plates, on
15 the standardized areas, shall:

16 (1) display the colors of the state flag, with
17 red lettering on a yellow background;

18 (2) display the phrases "New Mexico USA" and
19 "Land of Enchantment";

20 (3) provide a space for applying a special
21 registration decal, centered at the left edge of the plate
22 between the attachment holes, beginning one-fourth inch in from
23 the edge of the plate and having the following dimensions:

24 (a) four and one-eighth inches in
25 height; and

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1 (b) three and one-eighth inches in
2 width; and

3 (4) provide a vehicle registration number, to
4 be assigned by the division, that consists of five alphanumeric
5 characters displayed to the right of the special decal area.

6 D. Special registration decals, except for the
7 standard dimensions specified in Paragraph (3) of Subsection C
8 of this section, shall be left to the design discretion of the
9 division, in consultation with the worthy public purpose
10 interest group that requests the special registration decal.

11 E. Special registration decals, when authorized by
12 statute for a particular worthy public purpose interest group,
13 shall meet the requirements specified in this subsection prior
14 to issuance by the division. The worthy public purpose
15 interest group, no later than the effective date of the
16 authorizing statute, shall:

17 (1) provide evidence acceptable to the
18 division that it will generate a minimum number of prepaid
19 applications as determined by the division for the special
20 registration decal;

21 (2) provide a prepayment to the division in an
22 amount sufficient to cover the initial order for the special
23 registration decal;

24 (3) provide a sample of the requested artwork
25 design in a format specified by the manufacturer for the

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1 specialized registration decal; and

2 (4) in cases where the authorizing statute
3 includes revenue-sharing with distribution directed to a
4 particular group or fund, show that the recipient is a
5 governmental entity or a fund authorized for the use of a
6 governmental entity.

7 F. The division may promulgate rules for
8 implementation of the provisions of this section."

9 SECTION 2. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code is
10 enacted to read:

11 "[NEW MATERIAL] SPECIAL REGISTRATION DECALS--RECURRING
12 FEES.--

13 A. A special registration decal may be authorized
14 by statute for use on the standardized registration plate
15 pursuant to Section 1 of this 2019 act with an annual renewal
16 requirement. The department shall issue special registration
17 decals for any purposes and fees pursuant to this section,
18 which fees shall be in addition to the regular motor vehicle
19 registration fees. The owner shall apply and pay the specified
20 fee each year to retain the special registration decal.

21 B. For a fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), the
22 department shall issue a special registration decal indicating
23 support for the national FFA organization, formerly known as
24 future farmers of America. The fee collected pursuant to this
25 subsection shall be distributed to and is appropriated to the

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1 board of regents of New Mexico state university for the
2 agricultural experiment station to fund statewide programs for
3 active national FFA organization chapters."

4 SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
5 provisions of this act is July 1, 2019.