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SENATE BILL 273

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

INTRODUCED BY

George K. Munoz

AN ACT

RELATING TO LICENSE PLATES; CREATING A STANDARDIZED
REGISTRATION PLATE TO ACCOMMODATE SPECIAL REGISTRATION DECALS
DESIGNED BY NEW MEXICO'S INDIAN NATIONS, TRIBES AND PUEBLOS;
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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--TRIBALLY
DESIGNED 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 tribally designed special registration decal
approved by the department. The fee collected for each

1 registration plate shall be retained by the department and is
2 appropriated to the department for the manufacture and issuance
3 of the registration plate and for tribally designed special
4 registration decals. No two owners shall be issued identically
5 lettered or numbered registration plates.

6 B. Tribally designed special registration plates,
7 on the standardized areas, shall:

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

10 (2) display the phrases "New Mexico USA" and
11 "Land of Enchantment";

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

16 (a) four and one-eighth inches in
17 height; and

18 (b) three and one-eighth inches in
19 width; and

20 (4) provide a vehicle registration number, to
21 be assigned by the department, that consists of five
22 alphanumeric characters displayed to the right of the special
23 decal area.

24 C. Tribally designed special registration decals,
25 except for the standard dimensions specified in Paragraph (3)

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1 of Subsection B of this section, shall be left to the design
2 discretion of each federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or
3 pueblo located wholly or partially in New Mexico, in
4 consultation with and as approved by the department.

5 D. Each federally recognized Indian nation, tribe
6 or pueblo located wholly or partially in New Mexico that
7 designs a special registration decal shall provide a sample of
8 the decal design in a format specified by the department.

9 E. The department may promulgate rules for the
10 implementation of the provisions of this section."

11 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
12 provisions of this act is July 1, 2019.