

1 SENATE BILL 270

2 **55TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2021**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Cliff R. Pirtle

5
6
7
8
9
10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; CREATING A STANDARDIZED
12 REGISTRATION PLATE FOR WORTHY PUBLIC PURPOSES; PROVIDING FOR
13 SPECIALIZED REGISTRATION DECALS FOR SUPPORTERS OF WORTHY PUBLIC
14 PURPOSES; MAKING APPROPRIATIONS.

15
16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

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

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

21 A. For a fee of ten dollars (\$10.00), which shall
22 be in addition to the regular motor vehicle registration fee,
23 the department shall issue standardized registration plates
24 with space for a special registration decal as may be
25 authorized by statute for worthy public purposes. The fee

.219042.1

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

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

6 B. The authorizing statute for a special
7 registration decal shall provide for the collection of fees
8 that, at a minimum, shall cover the costs to the division of
9 development, manufacture and issuance of the decal.

10 C. Worthy public purpose registration plates, on
11 the standardized areas, shall:

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

14 (2) display the phrases "New Mexico USA" and
15 "Land of Enchantment";

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

20 (a) four and one-eighth inches in
21 height; and

22 (b) three and one-eighth inches in
23 width; and

24 (4) provide a vehicle registration number, to
25 be assigned by the division, that consists of five alphanumeric

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 characters displayed to the right of the special decal area.

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

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

13 (1) provide evidence acceptable to the
14 division that it will generate a minimum number of prepaid
15 applications as determined by the division for the special
16 registration decal;

17 (2) provide a prepayment to the division in an
18 amount sufficient to cover the initial order for the special
19 registration decal;

20 (3) provide a sample of the requested artwork
21 design in a format specified by the manufacturer for the
22 specialized registration decal; and

23 (4) in cases where the authorizing statute
24 includes revenue sharing with distribution directed to a
25 particular group or fund, show that the recipient is a

.219042.1

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 governmental entity or a fund authorized for the use of a
2 governmental entity.

3 F. The division may promulgate rules for
4 implementation of the provisions of this section."

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

7 "[NEW MATERIAL] SPECIAL REGISTRATION DECALS--ONE-TIME
8 FEE.--The department shall issue special registration decals
9 for use on standardized registration plates pursuant to Section
10 1 of this 2021 act for statutorily authorized purposes and
11 fees, which fees shall be in addition to the regular motor
12 vehicle registration fees; provided that the fees established
13 in this section shall be waived for each registration period in
14 which a validating sticker is issued under the provisions of
15 Section 66-3-17 NMSA 1978 in lieu of the issuance of a
16 registration plate with a special registration decal."

17 SECTION 3. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code is
18 enacted to read:

19 "[NEW MATERIAL] SPECIAL REGISTRATION DECALS--RECURRING
20 FEES.--A special registration decal may be authorized by
21 statute for use on the standardized registration plate pursuant
22 to Section 1 of this 2021 act with an annual renewal
23 requirement. The department shall issue special registration
24 decals for statutorily authorized purposes and fees pursuant to
25 this section, which fees shall be in addition to the regular

.219042.1

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 motor vehicle registration fees. The owner shall apply and pay
2 the specified fee each year to retain the special registration
3 decal."

4 SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
5 provisions of this act is July 1, 2021.