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SENATE BILL

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025

INTRODUCED BY
Leo Jaramillo

AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; ENACTING A NEW SECTION OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE CODE TO CREATE AN AMERICA'S LOWRIDER CAPITAL SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATE; ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR A CESSATION OF ISSUANCE; 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] SPECIAL AMERICA'S LOWRIDER CAPITAL REGISTRATION PLATE.--

A. The division shall issue a standardized America's lowrider capital special registration plate recognizing the importance of New Mexico to the lowrider history and culture of the United States. The plate shall have a logo designed pursuant to Section 66-3-424 NMSA 1978 that is .229345.2

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1 developed by the division in collaboration with the Espanola
2 lowrider association.

3 B. For an initial fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00),
4 which shall be in addition to the regular motor vehicle
5 registration fees, the owner of a vehicle may apply for
6 issuance of an America's lowrider capital special registration
7 plate. The vehicle owner shall pay a renewal fee of twenty
8 dollars (\$20.00) each year to retain and renew the America's
9 lowrider capital special registration plate.

10 C. The revenue from the additional fee for an
11 America's lowrider capital special registration plate shall be
12 distributed as follows:

13 (1) twelve dollars (\$12.00) of the initial fee
14 collected shall be retained by and is appropriated to the
15 department to defray the cost of making and issuing the
16 America's lowrider capital special registration plate; and

17 (2) thirty-eight dollars (\$38.00) of the
18 initial registration fee and the entire twenty dollars (\$20.00)
19 of subsequent renewal fees shall be distributed and are
20 appropriated to the cultural affairs department to create and
21 distribute materials or for the development of museum exhibits
22 explaining the importance of lowrider history and culture to
23 the United States and New Mexico.

24 D. Beginning on July 1, 2028, and on July 1 of each
25 subsequent year, the department shall compare the number of

.229345.2

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1 America's lowrider capital special registration plates issued
2 or registration renewals for those plates in the previous
3 fiscal year with the average of the number of those plates
4 issued in fiscal years 2026 and 2027.

5 E. Beginning in fiscal year 2029, by September 1 of
6 a fiscal year in which the department determines that the
7 number of America's lowrider capital special registration
8 plates issued or registration renewals for those plates in the
9 previous fiscal year is less than fifty percent of the average
10 number of those plates issued in fiscal years 2026 and 2027,
11 the department shall stop issuing America's lowrider capital
12 special registration plates."

13 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
14 provisions of this act is July 1, 2025.