

1 SENATE BILL 327

2 **57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Leo Jaramillo and Cynthia Borrego

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10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; ENACTING A NEW SECTION OF THE MOTOR
12 VEHICLE CODE TO CREATE A LOWRIDER CAPITAL OF THE WORLD SPECIAL
13 REGISTRATION PLATE FOR CARS, TRUCKS, MOTORCYCLES AND TOW
14 TRAILERS; ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR A CESSATION OF ISSUANCE;
15 MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

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

20 "[NEW MATERIAL] SPECIAL LOWRIDER CAPITAL OF THE WORLD
21 REGISTRATION PLATE.--

22 A. The division shall issue:

23 (1) a standardized lowrider capital of the
24 world special registration plate for motor vehicles or tow
25 trailers recognizing the importance of New Mexico to the

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1 lowrider history and culture of the United States. The plate
2 shall have a logo designed pursuant to Section 66-3-424 NMSA
3 1978 that is developed by the division in collaboration with
4 the Espanola lowrider association; and

5 (2) a standardized lowrider capital of the
6 world special registration plate for motorcycles with the same
7 design as the motor vehicle plates issued in accordance with
8 Paragraph (1) of this subsection.

9 B. For an initial fee of:

10 (1) fifty dollars (\$50.00), which shall be in
11 addition to the regular motor vehicle or tow trailer
12 registration fees, the owner of a vehicle or tow trailer may
13 apply for issuance of a lowrider capital of the world special
14 registration plate. The vehicle or tow trailer owner shall pay
15 a renewal fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00) each year to retain
16 and renew the lowrider capital of the world special
17 registration plate; and

18 (2) forty dollars (\$40.00), which shall be in
19 addition to the regular motorcycle registration fee, the owner
20 of a motorcycle may apply for issuance of a lowrider capital of
21 the world special registration plate. The motorcycle owner
22 shall pay a renewal fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00) each year to
23 retain and renew the lowrider capital of the world special
24 registration plate.

25 C. The revenue from the additional fee for a

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1 lowrider capital of the world special registration plate for
2 motor vehicles and tow trailers shall be distributed as
3 follows:

4 (1) twelve dollars (\$12.00) of the initial fee
5 collected shall be retained by and is appropriated to the
6 division to defray the cost of making and issuing the lowrider
7 capital of the world special registration plate; and

8 (2) thirty-eight dollars (\$38.00) of the
9 initial registration fee and the entire twenty dollars (\$20.00)
10 of subsequent renewal fees shall be distributed and are
11 appropriated to the cultural affairs department to create and
12 distribute materials or for the development of museum exhibits
13 explaining the importance of lowrider history and culture to
14 the world and New Mexico.

15 D. The revenue from the additional fee for a
16 lowrider capital of the world special registration plate for
17 motorcycles shall be distributed as follows:

18 (1) seven dollars (\$7.00) of the initial fee
19 collected shall be retained by and is appropriated to the
20 division to defray the cost of making and issuing the lowrider
21 capital of the world special registration plate; and

22 (2) thirty-three dollars (\$33.00) of the
23 initial registration fee and the entire twenty dollars (\$20.00)
24 of subsequent renewal fees shall be distributed and are
25 appropriated to the cultural affairs department to create and

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1 distribute materials or for the development of museum exhibits
2 explaining the importance of lowrider history and culture to
3 the world and New Mexico.

4 E. Beginning on July 1, 2028, and on July 1 of each
5 subsequent year, the division shall separately compare the
6 number of lowrider capital of the world special registration
7 plates and registration renewals that were issued for those
8 plates in the previous fiscal year for each category of motor
9 vehicle plates, tow trailer plates and motorcycle plates with
10 the average of the number of those plates issued in fiscal
11 years 2026 and 2027.

12 F. Beginning in fiscal year 2029, by September 1 of
13 a fiscal year in which the division determines that the number
14 of lowrider capital of the world special registration plates
15 and registration renewals issued for those plates for each
16 category of motor vehicle plates, tow trailer plates or
17 motorcycle plates in the previous fiscal year is less than
18 fifty percent of the average number of those plates issued in
19 fiscal years 2026 and 2027, the division shall stop issuing
20 that category of lowrider capital of the world special
21 registration plates."

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