COMMITTEE REPORT

April 24, 2013

**H. 3961**

Introduced by Reps. Wood, Allison, Owens, Horne, Crosby, Daning, Gagnon, Govan, Hardee, Jefferson, Kennedy, Munnerlyn, J.R. Smith, Spires, Taylor, Wells, R.L. Brown and Whipper

S. Printed 4/24/13--H.

Read the first time April 16, 2013.

**THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND PUBLIC WORKS**

To whom was referred a Bill (H. 3961) to amend the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, by adding Article 132 to Chapter 3, Title 56 so as to provide that the Department of Motor Vehicles may, etc., respectfully

**REPORT:**

That they have duly and carefully considered the same and recommend that the same do pass with amendment:

Amend the bill, as and if amended, by striking all after the enacting words and inserting:

/ SECTION 1. Chapter 3, Title 56 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Article 132

Autism Awareness Special License Plates

Section 56‑3‑13210. This article may be cited as the ‘Savannah Lee Monroe Autism Awareness Special License Plates Act’.

Section 56‑3‑13220. (A) The Department of Motor Vehicles may issue ‘Autism Awareness’ special motor vehicle license plates to owners of private passenger motor vehicles, as defined in Section 56‑3‑630, or motorcycles, as defined in Section 56‑3‑20, registered in their names. This special license plate must be of the same size and general design of regular motor vehicle license plates. This special license plate must be issued or revalidated for a biennial period which expires twenty‑four months from the month it is issued.

(B) The requirements for production, collection, and distribution of fees for this license plate are those set forth in Section 56‑3‑8100. The fees collected pursuant to this section above the cost of producing the license plates must be distributed to the South Carolina Autism Society.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor. /

Renumber sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

PHILLIP D. OWENS for Committee.

**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

**EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:**

Department of Motor Vehicles

The department indicates that this bill will have no fiscal impact on the General Fund of the State, or on federal and/or other funds.

*Approved By:*

Brenda Hart

Office of State Budget

**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**

**REVENUE IMPACT 1/**

This bill would have no impact on general fund revenue. This bill is expected to raise earmarked funds of the Department of Motor Vehicles by $7,800 in FY2013-14 and $1,122 in FY2015-16.

**Explanation**

This bill authorizes the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue an “Autism Awareness” special license plate. The requirements for production, collection and distribution of fees for this license plate are those set forth in Section 56-3-8100. As this bill does not state an additional fee above the regular registration fee, the Department of Motor Vehicles may collect an additional fee of $10 per plate. Special fee proceeds that are net of production costs retained by the Department of Motor Vehicles must be distributed to the South Carolina Autism Society.

Based on information received from the Department of Motor Vehicles on similar start-up specialty plates, we expect no more than 100 “Autism Awareness” specialty plates to be issued in the initial year. The South Carolina Autism Society must submit $6,800 upfront to the Department of Motor Vehicles. Additionally, according to Section 56-3-8100, the Department of Motor Vehicles will recoup the entire $10 per plate for production costs, or $1,000. Therefore, we expect earmarked funds of the Department of Motor Vehicles to increase by a total of $7,800 in FY2013-14. There would be no remaining funds to be distributed to the South Carolina Autism Society in FY2013-14. However, in FY2015-16, the South Carolina Autism Society would receive a portion of the renewal fee per plate. Of the $10 additional fee, the Department of Motor Vehicles recoups $4.39 per plate for administrative costs for renewals. Assuming a total of 200 “Autism Awareness” plates in FY2015-16, the difference of $5.61 per plate, or $1,122 would be distributed to the South Carolina Autism Society in FY2015-16.

This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

*Approved By:*

Frank A. Rainwater

Board of Economic Advisors

1/ This statement meets the requirement of Section 2-7-71 for a state revenue impact by the BEA, or Section 2-7-76 for a local revenue impact or Section 6-1-85(B) for an estimate of the shift in local property tax incidence by the Office of Economic Research.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING ARTICLE 132 TO CHAPTER 3, TITLE 56 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES MAY ISSUE “AUTISM AWARENESS” SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Chapter 3, Title 56 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Article 132

Autism Awareness Special License Plates

Section 56‑3‑13210. (A) The Department of Motor Vehicles may issue ‘Autism Awareness’ special motor vehicle license plates to owners of private passenger motor vehicles, as defined in Section 56‑3‑630, or motorcycles, as defined in Section 56‑3‑20, registered in their names. This special license plate must be of the same size and general design of regular motor vehicle license plates. This special license plate must be issued or revalidated for a biennial period which expires twenty‑four months from the month it is issued.

(B) The requirements for production, collection, and distribution of fees for this license plate are those set forth in Section 56‑3‑8100. The fees collected pursuant to this section above the cost of producing the license plates must be distributed to the South Carolina Autism Society.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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