~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~

Indicates New Matter

AMENDED

April 20, 2010

**H. 3755**

Introduced by Rep. Crawford

S. Printed 4/20/10--H.

Read the first time March 25, 2009.

**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

See Below

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

See Below

**EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:**

The Department of Motor Vehicles indicates that this bill will have a one-time fiscal impact to the agency. The cost will be for the production of four special license plates. The IT cost for each plate is $5,900 for a total of $23,600 for the four plates. As required by Section 56-3-8100, the department must charge each group of applicants for special plates a fee of $4,000 per plate. For this bill, the department will collect $16,000 for the two plates and the balance of $7,600 will be the impact to the agency.

*Approved By:*

Harry Bell

Office of State Budget

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING ARTICLE 79 TO CHAPTER 3, TITLE 56 SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF “SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATOR” SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES.

Amend Title To Conform

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 77

I Support Libraries Special License Plates

Section 56‑3‑7890. (A) The Department of Motor Vehicles may issue special motor vehicle license plates to owners of private passenger carrying motor vehicles, as defined in Section 56‑3‑630, or motorcycles registered in their names which must have imprinted on the plate ‘I Support Libraries’. 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 fees collected pursuant to this section above the cost of producing the license plates must be equally distributed between the South Carolina Association of School Librarians and the South Carolina Library Association.

(C) The guidelines for the production of a special license plate under this section must meet the requirements of Section 56‑3‑8100.”

SECTION 2. Chapter 3, Title 56 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Article 79

South Carolina Educator Special License Plates

Section 56‑3‑7930. The Department of Motor Vehicles may issue special motor vehicle license plates to owners of private passenger carrying motor vehicles, as defined in Section 56‑3‑630, or motorcycles registered in their names which must have imprinted on the plate ‘South Carolina Educator’. This application for this special license plate must include proof that the applicant is a public or private kindergarten through twelfth grade school teacher. 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 guidelines for the production of a special license plate under this section must meet the requirements of Section 56‑3‑8100.”

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

“Article 108

Raccoon Hunters License Plates

Section 56‑3‑10810. (A) The Department of Motor Vehicles may issue special motor vehicle license plates to owners of private passenger carrying motor vehicles, as defined in Section 56‑3‑630, or motorcycles registered in their names which must have imprinted on the plate ‘Raccoon Hunters’.

(B) The fees collected pursuant to this section above the cost of producing the license plates must be distributed to the South Carolina State Coon Hunters Association Youth Fund.

(C) The guidelines for the production of a special license plate under this section must meet the requirements of Section 56‑3‑8100.”

SECTION 4. Chapter 3, Title 56 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Article 108

Beach Music Special License Plates

Section 56‑3‑10810. (A) The Department of Motor Vehicles may issue ‘Beach Music’ special motor vehicle license plates to owners of private passenger motor vehicles as defined in Section 56‑3‑630 and motorcycles registered in their names which may have imprinted on the plate an emblem, a seal, or other symbol chosen by the department in consultation with the South Carolina Arts Commission reflecting the status of beach music as the official state popular music pursuant to Section 1‑1‑689. License plate number ‘one’ for the beach music license plate is reserved for the president of the Beach Music Association International or its successor organization if that individual is otherwise eligible to register a qualifying motor vehicle in this State. License plate number ‘two’ for the beach music license plate is reserved for the Chairman of the board of trustees of Coastal Carolina University if that individual is otherwise eligible to register a motor vehicle in this State. The special license plate must be issued or revalidated for a biennial period which expires twenty‑four months from the month it is issued. The fee for this special license plate is the regular motor vehicle registration fee contained in Article 5, Chapter 3 of this title and a special motor vehicle license fee of twenty dollars.

(B) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, from the fees collected pursuant to this section, the Comptroller General shall place sufficient funds into a special restricted account to be used by the Department of Motor Vehicles to defray the expenses of the department in producing and administering the special license plates. The remaining funds collected from the special motor vehicle license fee must be placed in the state’s general fund.

(C) The guidelines for the production of a special license plate under this section must meet the requirements of Section 56‑3‑8100.”

SECTION 5. Section 56‑3‑1240 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 347 of 2008, is further amended to read:

Section 56‑3‑1240 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 347 of 2008, is further amended to read:

“Section 56‑3‑1240. License plates issued for motor vehicles must be attached to the outside rear of the vehicle, open to view. However, on truck tractors and road tractors the plates must be attached to the outside front of the vehicle provided that single unit commercial motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating in excess of twenty‑six thousand pounds may have the license plate on either the outside front or rear of the vehicle. Every license plate, at all times, must be fastened securely in a horizontal and upright position to the vehicle for which it was issued so as to prevent the plate from swinging. However, if a motorcycle is equipped with vertically mounted license plate brackets, its license plate must be mounted vertically with its top fastened along the right vertical edge. The bottom of the plate must be at a height of not less than twelve inches from the ground in a place and position clearly visible as provided in Section 56‑5‑4530, and it must be maintained free from foreign materials and in a clearly legible condition. No other license plate, lighting equipment, except as permitted in Section 56‑5‑4530, tag, sign, monogram, tinted cover, or inscription of metal or other material may be displayed above, ~~around,~~ or upon the plate other than that which is authorized and issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles for the purpose of validating the plate. It is not unlawful to place a decal or a frame on the license plate if it does not obscure any letters or numbers. A motor vehicle owner may attach a trailer hitch to a motor vehicle provided the hitch does not obscure more than two inches of the license plate issued to the motor vehicle. It is unlawful to operate or drive a motor vehicle with the license plate missing and a person who is convicted for violating this section must be punished as provided by Section 56‑3‑2520.”

SECTION 6. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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