**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE 1976 CODE BY ADDING ARTICLE 108 TO CHAPTER 3, TITLE 56, TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES MAY ISSUE SOUTH CAROLINA HIGHWAY PATROL‑RETIRED 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 108

‘South Carolina Highway Patrol‑Retired’

Special License Plates

Section 56‑3‑10810. (A) The department may issue a ‘South Carolina Highway Patrol‑Retired’ special motor vehicle license plate for use on a private passenger motor vehicle or motorcycle registered in a person’s name in this State who is a retired member of the South Carolina Highway Patrol. An application for this special motor vehicle license plate must include official documentation showing the applicant is a retired South Carolina Highway Patrol Trooper. Only two plates may be issued to a person.

(B) The requirements for production and distribution of the plate are those set forth in Section 56‑3‑8100. The biennial fee for this plate is the regular registration fee set forth in Article 5, Chapter 3 of this title. The Department of Motor Vehicles shall imprint on the special license plates ‘SCHP‑Retired’ the South Carolina Highway Patrol emblem, and the letters ‘HP’ along with numbers the department may determine.

(C) A license plate issued pursuant to this article may be transferred to another vehicle of the same weight class owned by the same person upon application being made and being approved by the Department of Motor Vehicles. It is unlawful for a person to whom the plate has been issued to knowingly permit it to be displayed on any vehicle except the one authorized by the department.

(D) The provisions of this article do not affect the registration and licensing of motor vehicles as required by other provisions of this chapter but are cumulative to those other provisions. A person violating the provisions of this article or a person who (1) fraudulently gives false or fictitious information in any application for a special license plate, as authorized in this article, (2) conceals a material fact, or (3) otherwise commits fraud in the application or in the use of a special license plate issued is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars or by imprisonment for not more than thirty days, or both.”

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

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