**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 56-3-8400 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO LIONS CLUB SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES, TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES MAY ISSUE LIONS CLUB SPECIAL MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE PLATES TO OWNERS OF PRIVATE PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLES AS DEFINED IN SECTION 56-3-630 REGISTERED IN THEIR NAMES.

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

SECTION 1. Section 56-3-8400 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 56-3-8400. (A) The Department of Motor Vehicles may issue ‘Lions Club’ special ~~motor vehicle~~ license plates ~~to members of the Lions Club for private motor vehicles registered in their names~~ to owners of private passenger motor vehicles, as defined in Section 56-3-630, and motorcycles, as defined in Section 56-3-20. The fee for this special license plate ~~must be~~ is the regular motor vehicle license fee contained in Article 5, Chapter 3 of this title which must be deposited in the state general fund and the special fee required by Section 56‑3‑2020 which must be placed by the Comptroller General into the State Highway Fund as established by Section 57‑11‑20, to be distributed as provided in Section 11‑43‑167. The license plates issued pursuant to this section must conform to a design agreed to by the department and the chief executive officer of the organization.

(B) Before the Department of Motor Vehicles produces and distributes a special license plate pursuant to this section, it must receive:

(1) four hundred prepaid applications for the special license plate or a deposit of four thousand dollars from the individual or organization seeking issuance of the license plate. If a deposit of four thousand dollars is made by an individual or organization pursuant to this section, the department must refund the four thousand dollars once an equivalent amount of license plate fees is collected for that organization's license plate. If the equivalent amount is not collected within four years of the first issuance of the license plate, then the department must retain the deposit; and

(2) a plan to market the sale of the special license plate which must be approved by the department.

(C) If the department receives less than three hundred biennial applications and renewals for a particular special license plate, it shall not produce additional special license plates in that series. The department shall continue to issue special license plates of that series until the existing inventory is exhausted.”

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

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