

THE FLORIDA SENATE
2024 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED
Committee on Transportation

CS/CS/HB 403 — Specialty License Plates

by Infrastructure Strategies Committee; Transportation & Modals Subcommittee; and Rep. Chaney and others (CS/CS/SB 434 by Fiscal Policy Committee; Transportation Committee; and Senator Harrell)

The bill authorizes the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) to create the following new specialty license plates:

- Margaritaville;
- General Aviation;
- Clearwater Marine Aquarium;
- United Service Organizations (USO);
- Recycle Florida;
- Boating Capital of the World;
- Cure Diabetes;
- Project Addiction: Reversing the Stigma;
- The Villages: May All Your Dreams Come True

The bill exempts a collegiate license plate from being discontinued based on having the fewest number of plates in circulation and to exempt such plates from presale voucher requirements. The bill also allows a previously discontinued collegiate plate to be reauthorized by DHSMV if the university resubmits the collegiate license plate for authorization.

The bill revises the distribution of proceeds for the Live The Dream specialty license plate from the inactive Live the Dream Foundation, Inc., to the Operating Trust Fund within the Department of State and stipulates these funds must be used to support the Historic Cemeteries Program. Specifically, the funds must be used to research, identify, and record abandoned African-American cemeteries and provide grants to eligible entities.

The bill expands eligibility for issuance of the Divine Nine specialty license plates. The bill extends eligibility for such plates to an organization member's immediate relative and to motor vehicle lessees (currently limited to vehicle owners).

The bill renames the existing "Give Kids The World" specialty license plate as the "Universal Orlando Resort" specialty license plate.

The bill also replaces "In God We Trust" on the bottom of the existing American Eagle specialty license plate with "Protect the Eagle."

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect October 1, 2024.

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 108-6