

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to programs for autism and related
 3 disabilities; amending ss. 320.08056 and 320.08058, F.S.;
 4 creating an Autism license plate; establishing an annual
 5 use fee for the plate; providing for the distribution of
 6 use fees received from the sale of such plates; requiring
 7 the retention of specified contribution proceeds to offset
 8 implementation costs; amending s. 320.02, F.S.; requiring
 9 the application form for motor vehicle registration and
 10 renewal of registration to include language permitting a
 11 voluntary contribution to the Autism License Plate Fund;
 12 amending s. 322.08, F.S.; requiring the application form
 13 for a driver's license or duplicate thereof to include
 14 language permitting a voluntary contribution to the Autism
 15 License Plate Fund; providing an effective date.

16
 17 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

18
 19 Section 1. Paragraph (qqq) is added to subsection (4) of
 20 section 320.08056, Florida Statutes, to read:

21 320.08056 Specialty license plates.--

22 (4) The following license plate annual use fees shall be
 23 collected for the appropriate specialty license plates:

24 (qqq) Autism license plate, \$25.

25 Section 2. Subsection (69) is added to section 320.08058,
 26 Florida Statutes, to read:

27 320.08058 Specialty license plates.--

28 (69) AUTISM LICENSE PLATES.--

29 (a) The department shall develop an Autism license plate
30 as provided in this section. Autism license plates must bear the
31 colors and design approved by the department. The word "Florida"
32 must appear at the top of the plate, and the words "Support
33 Autism Programs" must appear at the bottom of the plate.

34 (b) The proceeds from the license plate annual use fee
35 shall be distributed to Achievement and Rehabilitation Centers,
36 Inc., to fund service programs for autism and related
37 disabilities throughout the state and to operate and establish
38 programs to support individuals with autism and related
39 disabilities through direct services, evaluation, training, and
40 awareness. Achievement and Rehabilitation Centers, Inc., shall
41 establish an Autism Services Grant Council that shall provide
42 grants from available Autism license plate proceeds to nonprofit
43 organizations for direct services and programs for individuals
44 with autism and related disabilities and their families.
45 Consideration for participation in such services and programs
46 shall be given to applicants who are children or adults with
47 autism and related disabilities and their families and shall
48 include those who are on the Agency for Persons with
49 Disabilities waiting lists for services. Achievement and
50 Rehabilitation Centers, Inc., shall also establish an Autism
51 License Plate Fund. Moneys in the fund shall be used by the
52 grant council as provided in this paragraph. All funds received
53 under this subsection must be used in this state.

54 (c) Achievement and Rehabilitation Centers, Inc., may
55 retain all proceeds from the annual use fee up to \$85,000 until
56 all documented startup costs for developing and establishing the

57 plate have been recovered. Thereafter, the proceeds from the
58 annual use fee shall be used as follows:

59 1. Up to 10 percent of the proceeds from the annual use
60 fee may be used for the administration of the Autism License
61 Plate Fund, the Autism Services Grant Council, and related
62 matters.

63 2. Funds may be used as necessary for annual audit or
64 compliance affidavit costs.

65 3. Thirty-five percent of the proceeds from the annual use
66 fee shall be used to establish and operate programs to support
67 individuals with autism and related disabilities and their
68 families through direct services, evaluation, training, and
69 awareness in the state.

70 4. The Center for Autism and Related Disabilities at the
71 University of Miami shall receive 15 percent of the proceeds
72 from the annual use fee for distribution, as determined
73 appropriate by the director of that center, to the seven
74 regional autism centers created under s. 1004.55. The regional
75 centers shall use the proceeds to support the services they
76 provide.

77 5. The remaining proceeds from the annual use fee shall be
78 available to the Autism Services Grant Council for grants to
79 nonprofit organizations to operate direct services programs for
80 individuals with autism and related disabilities and their
81 families and for marketing the Autism license plate. All grant
82 recipients, including Achievement and Rehabilitation Centers,
83 Inc., and the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities, shall
84 be required to provide to the Autism Services Grant Council an

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85 annual program and financial report regarding the use of grant
86 funds. Such reports shall be made available to the public.

87 (d) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary,
88 the first \$10,000 in proceeds generated from voluntary
89 contributions to the Autism License Plate Fund authorized in ss.
90 320.02 and 322.08 shall be retained by the department to offset
91 the department's implementation costs.

92 Section 3. Paragraph (h) is added to subsection (15) of
93 section 320.02, Florida Statutes, to read:

94 320.02 Registration required; application for
95 registration; forms.--

96 (15)

97 (h) The application form for motor vehicle registration
98 and renewal of registration must include language permitting a
99 voluntary contribution of \$5 to the Autism License Plate Fund
100 administered by Achievement and Rehabilitation Centers, Inc.
101 Except as provided in s. 320.08058(69)(d), such contributions
102 must be transferred by the department each month to Achievement
103 and Rehabilitation Centers, Inc., for benefit of the Autism
104 License Plate Fund to be used as provided in s. 320.08058(69).

105
106 For the purpose of applying the service charge provided in s.
107 215.20, contributions received under this subsection are not
108 income of a revenue nature.

109 Section 4. Subsection (6) of section 322.08, Florida
110 Statutes, is amended to read:

111 322.08 Application for license.--

112 (6) The application form for a driver's license or
 113 duplicate thereof shall include language permitting the
 114 following:

115 (a) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, which
 116 contribution shall be deposited into the Health Care Trust Fund
 117 for organ and tissue donor education and for maintaining the
 118 organ and tissue donor registry.

119 (b) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, which
 120 contribution shall be distributed to the Florida Council of the
 121 Blind.

122 (c) A voluntary contribution of \$2 per applicant, which
 123 shall be distributed to the Hearing Research Institute,
 124 Incorporated.

125 (d) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, which
 126 shall be distributed to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation
 127 International.

128 (e) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, which
 129 shall be distributed to the Children's Hearing Help Fund.

130 (f) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, which
 131 shall be distributed to Family First, a nonprofit organization.

132 (g) A voluntary contribution of \$5 per applicant, which,
 133 except as provided in s. 320.08058(69)(d), shall be distributed
 134 to the Autism License Plate Fund administered by Achievement and
 135 Rehabilitation Centers, Inc., to be used as provided in s.
 136 320.08058(69).

137
 138 A statement providing an explanation of the purpose of the trust
 139 funds shall also be included. For the purpose of applying the

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140 service charge provided in s. 215.20, contributions received
141 under paragraphs (b), (c), (d), (e), ~~and (f)~~, and (g) and under
142 s. 322.18(9)(a) are not income of a revenue nature.

143 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.