

By Senator Garcia

40-00626-09

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to license plates; amending ss.  
 3           320.08056 and 320.08058, F.S.; creating the Catch Me,  
 4           Release Me license plate; establishing an annual use  
 5           fee for the plate; providing for the distribution of  
 6           use fees received from the sale of the plate;  
 7           providing an effective date.

8  
 9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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

13           320.08056 Specialty license plates.—

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

16           (qqq) Catch Me, Release Me license plate, \$25.

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

19           320.08058 Specialty license plates.—

20           (69) CATCH ME, RELEASE ME LICENSE PLATES.—

21           (a) The department shall develop a Catch Me, Release Me  
 22 license plate as provided in this section. The plates must bear  
 23 the colors and design approved by the department. The word  
 24 "Florida" must appear at the top of the plate, and the words  
 25 "Catch Me, Release Me" must appear at the bottom of the plate.

26           (b) The annual use fees shall be distributed to the Guy  
 27 Harvey Ocean Foundation, Inc., which shall administer the fees  
 28 as follows:

29           1. The foundation shall retain the first \$60,000 of the

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30 annual use fees as direct reimbursement for administrative  
31 costs, startup costs, and costs incurred in the development and  
32 approval of the plates. Thereafter, up to 15 percent of the  
33 annual use fees may be used for administrative costs directly  
34 associated with the operation of the foundation and up to 10  
35 percent may be used for promotion and marketing of the plate.

36 2. Any remaining funds shall be used by the foundation to  
37 fund scientific research related to marine issues, including  
38 research of free-ranging pelagic marine species that inhabit,  
39 use, or migrate through the waters of this state, and to fund  
40 conservation initiatives and education and public outreach  
41 programs for school-aged children.

42 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.