

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to motor vehicle license plates; amending
 3 s. 320.06, F.S.; prohibiting text and symbols from being
 4 added to the word "Florida" imprinted on license plates;
 5 amending s. 320.0805, F.S.; conforming provisions;
 6 directing the Department of Highway Safety and Motor
 7 Vehicles to print the graphic symbol of a license plate to
 8 the side of the imprinted letters or numerals on a
 9 personalized plate upon request and payment of a specified
 10 fee; providing an effective date.

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 12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 14 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section
 15 320.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

16 320.06 Registration certificates, license plates, and
 17 validation stickers generally.—

18 (3) (a) Registration license plates must be made of metal
 19 specially treated with a retroreflection material, as specified
 20 by the department. The registration license plate is designed to
 21 increase nighttime visibility and legibility and must be at
 22 least 6 inches wide and not less than 12 inches in length,
 23 unless a plate with reduced dimensions is deemed necessary by
 24 the department to accommodate motorcycles, mopeds, or similar
 25 smaller vehicles. Validation stickers must also be treated with
 26 a retroreflection material, must be of such size as specified by
 27 the department, and must adhere to the license plate. The
 28 registration license plate must be imprinted with a combination

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29 | of bold letters and numerals or numerals, not to exceed seven
30 | digits, to identify the registration license plate number. The
31 | license plate must be imprinted with the word "Florida" at the
32 | top and the name of the county in which it is sold, the state
33 | motto, or the words "Sunshine State" at the bottom. Apportioned
34 | license plates must have the word "Apportioned" at the bottom
35 | and license plates issued for vehicles taxed under s.
36 | 320.08(3)(d), (4)(m) or (n), (5)(b) or (c), or (14) must have
37 | the word "Restricted" at the bottom. License plates issued for
38 | vehicles taxed under s. 320.08(12) must be imprinted with the
39 | word "Florida" at the top and the word "Dealer" at the bottom.
40 | Manufacturer license plates issued for vehicles taxed under s.
41 | 320.08(12) must be imprinted with the word "Florida" at the top
42 | and the word "Manufacturer" at the bottom. License plates issued
43 | for vehicles taxed under s. 320.08(5)(d) or (e) must be
44 | imprinted with the word "Wrecker" at the bottom. Any county may,
45 | upon majority vote of the county commission, elect to have the
46 | county name removed from the license plates sold in that county.
47 | The state motto or the words "Sunshine State" shall be printed
48 | in lieu thereof. A license plate issued for a vehicle taxed
49 | under s. 320.08(6) may not be assigned a registration license
50 | number, or be issued with any other distinctive character or
51 | designation, that distinguishes the motor vehicle as a for-hire
52 | motor vehicle. The word "Florida" must be imprinted alone,
53 | without any text or symbol added thereto, at the top or bottom
54 | of the license plate, as required by law.

55 | Section 2. Subsection (8) of section 320.0805, Florida
56 | Statutes, is amended to read:

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CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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57 | 320.0805 Personalized prestige license plates.-

58 | (8) (a) Personalized prestige license plates shall consist
59 | of three types of plates as follows:

60 | 1. A plate imprinted with numerals only. Such plates shall
61 | consist of numerals from 1 to 999, inclusive.

62 | 2. A plate imprinted with capital letters only. Such
63 | plates shall consist of capital letters "A" through "Z" and
64 | shall be limited to a total of seven of the same or different
65 | capital letters. A hyphen may be added in addition to the seven
66 | letters.

67 | 3. A plate imprinted with both capital letters and
68 | numerals. Such plates shall consist of no more than a total of
69 | seven characters, including both numerals and capital letters,
70 | in any combination, except that a hyphen may be added in
71 | addition to the seven characters if desired or needed. However,
72 | on those plates issued to, and bearing the names of,
73 | organizations, the letters and numerals shall be of such size,
74 | if necessary, as to accommodate a maximum of 18 digits for
75 | automobiles, trucks, and recreational vehicles and 7 digits for
76 | motorcycles. Plates consisting of the four capital letters
77 | "PRES" preceded or followed by a hyphen and numerals of 1 to 999
78 | shall be reserved for issuance only to applicants who qualify as
79 | members of the press and who are associated with, or are
80 | employees of, the reporting media.

81 | (b) Personalized prestige plates must be of the same
82 | material, size, and distinctive color as any license plates
83 | authorized by this chapter and issued by the state for any
84 | registration period; however, the imprinting of personalized

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85 prestige license plates shall be limited solely to the
86 following:

87 1. The letters or numerals or combination of both
88 requested by the applicant must be imprinted ~~stamped~~ in large
89 bold letters and numerals, limited to the number of characters
90 based on the specific design of the plate requested by the
91 applicant.

92 2. The word "Florida" must be imprinted ~~stamped~~ across the
93 bottom of the plate in small letters, unless the word "Florida"
94 is required to be imprinted ~~stamped~~ across the top of the plate
95 according to the specific design of the plate. The word
96 "Florida" must be imprinted alone, without any text or symbol
97 added thereto, at the top or bottom of the license plate, as
98 required by law.

99 (c) Upon request and receipt of an additional \$5 from the
100 applicant for a personalized prestige plate, the graphic symbol
101 required under s. 320.06 shall be removed from the center of the
102 plate, reduced in size, and placed to the side of the imprinted
103 letters or numerals.

104 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.