

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 1135 License Plates

SPONSOR(S): Grant, J.

TIED BILLS: CS/HB 387 **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** CS/SB 412

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
1) Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee	13 Y, 2 N	Johnson	Vickers
2) Transportation & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee	10 Y, 0 N	Hicks	Davis
3) State Affairs Committee	17 Y, 1 N	Johnson	Williamson

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

There are over 120 specialty license plates available to any motor vehicle owner or lessee who is willing to pay the annual use fee for such plate. The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) distributes the collected fees to statutorily designated organizations in support of a particular cause or charity. DHSMV must discontinue the issuance of an approved specialty license plate if it fails to meet certain statutory requirements.

The bill makes several changes related to specialty and special license plates. The bill:

- Establishes a cap of 125 specialty license plates and provides a process for the discontinuation of low performing specialty license plates and the addition of new specialty license plates.
- Authorizes DHSMV to issue specialty license plates for fleet and motor vehicle dealer vehicles.
- Creates 19 new specialty license plates and specifies the design of the plate and the distribution of the associated annual use fees.
- Revises provisions regarding existing specialty license plates and repeals specified discontinued specialty license plates.
- Creates two special use plates for recipients of the Purple Heart and Bronze Star.
- Repeals special license plates for former legislators and members of Congress.

The bill removes existing provisions from law that delineate the \$25 annual use fee for various specialty license plates. CS/HB 387 (2020), which is linked to this bill, establishes an annual use fee of \$25 for any specialty license plate unless the amount is otherwise specified in law.

According to DHSMV, the bill will have an indeterminate, negative fiscal impact on state government expenditures associated with the programming effort required for the specialty and special license plates provisions. See Fiscal Analysis section for details.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Specialty License Plates

Present Situation

The first Florida specialty license plates were enacted in 1986 and included the creation of the Challenger plate and 10 Florida collegiate plates. Today, there are over 120 specialty license plates available to any owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is willing to pay the additional use fee for the privilege, typically \$25 annually.¹ Currently, there is no limit on the number of specialty license plates the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) may issue nor the number of specialty license plates the Legislature may approve.

Requirements for Establishing Specialty License Plates

Section 320.08053, F.S., provides the statutory requirements to establish a specialty license plate. If a specialty license plate requested by an organization is approved by law, the organization submits its proposed art design to DHSMV as soon as practicable, but no later than 60 days after the act approving such plate becomes a law.²

Within 120 days following the specialty license plate becoming law, DHSMV must establish a method to issue a specialty license plate voucher allowing for the presale of such plate. The \$5 processing fee,³ the service charge and branch fee,⁴ and the annual use fee for the specialty license plate are charged for the voucher. All other applicable fees are charged at the time the license plate is issued.⁵

Within 24 months after establishing a presale specialty license plate voucher, the approved specialty license plate must record with DHSMV a minimum of 1,000 voucher sales before the license plate may be manufactured. If, at the conclusion of the 24-month presale period, the minimum sales requirement is not met, the specialty license plate is deauthorized and DHSMV discontinues the plate's development and the issuance of the presale vouchers. Upon deauthorization of the specialty license plate, a purchaser of the specialty license plate voucher may use the annual use fee collected as a credit towards any other specialty license plate or apply to DHSMV for a refund.⁶

Specialty License Plates, Generally

DHSMV is responsible for developing specialty license plates authorized in s. 320.08053, F.S.⁷ DHSMV must issue a specialty license plate to the owner or lessee of any motor vehicle, except a vehicle registered under the International Registration Plan, a commercial truck required to display two license plates, or a truck tractor, upon request and payment of the appropriate license tax and fees.⁸

Each request for a specialty license plate must annually be made to DHSMV or its authorized agent⁹ accompanied by the following tax and fees: the vehicle's required license tax,¹⁰ a processing fee of

¹ The annual use fees for specific specialty license plates are provided in s. 320.08056(4), F.S.

² Section 320.08053(1), F.S.

³ The processing fee is prescribed in s. 320.08056, F.S.

⁴ Service charges and branch fees are prescribed in s. 320.04, F.S.

⁵ Section 320.08053(2)(a), F.S.

⁶ Section 320.08053(2)(b), F.S.

⁷ Section 320.08056(1), F.S.

⁸ Section 320.08056(2), F.S.

⁹ DHSMV's authorized agents are the county tax collectors.

¹⁰ Motor vehicle license taxes are set forth in s. 320.08, F.S.

\$5,¹¹ a license plate fee,¹² and a license plate annual use fee as required for the specialty license plate.¹³

A request for a specialty license plate may be made any time during a vehicle's registration period. If a request is made for a specialty license plate to replace a current valid license plate, the specialty license plate must be issued with the appropriate decals attached with no license tax for the plate; however, all fees and service charges must be paid. If a request is made for a specialty license plate at the beginning of the registration period, the tax, together with all applicable fees and service charges, must be paid.

If a vehicle owner or lessee to whom DHSMV has issued a specialty license plate acquires a replacement vehicle within the owner's registration period, DHSMV authorizes a transfer of the specialty license plate to the replacement vehicle.¹⁴ The annual use fee or processing fee may not be refunded.¹⁵

Specialty license plates must bear the design required by law for the appropriate specialty license plate, and must conform to DHSMV's design specifications. All specialty license plates must be the same material and size as standard license plates issued for any registration period and may bear an appropriate slogan, emblem, or logo in a size and placement that conforms to DHSMV's design specifications.¹⁶

DHSMV must annually retain from the first proceeds derived from the annual use fees an amount sufficient to defray each specialty license plate's pro rata share of DHSMV's costs directly related to the specialty license plate program. Such costs include inventory costs, distribution costs, direct costs to DHSMV, costs associated with reviewing each organization's compliance with audit and attestation requirements,¹⁷ and any applicable increased costs of manufacturing the specialty license plate. The Department of Management Services must verify any cost increase to DHSMV related to the actual cost of the plate, including a reasonable vendor profit. The balance of the proceeds from the annual use fees collected for that specialty license plate are distributed as provided by law.¹⁸

DHSMV must discontinue the issuance of an approved specialty license plate if the number of valid specialty license plate registrations falls below 1,000 plates for at least 12 consecutive months. A warning letter is mailed to the sponsoring organization following the first month in which the total number of registrations falls below 1,000 plates. This does not apply to collegiate license plates.^{19, 20}

DHSMV may discontinue the issuance of a specialty license plate and distribution of associated annual use fee proceeds if the organization no longer exists, if the organization has stopped providing services authorized to be funded from the annual use fee proceeds, if the organization does not meet the presale requirements,²¹ or pursuant to an organizational recipient's request. Organizations must notify DHSMV immediately to stop all warrants for plate sales if any of these conditions exist and must meet certain audit and attestation requirements for any period of operation during a fiscal year.²²

¹¹ The \$5 processing fee is deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund.

¹² Section 320.06(1)(b), F.S., provides for a \$2.80 annual license plate replacement fee to defray the cost of replacing the license plate every 10 years.

¹³ Section 320.08056(3), F.S.

¹⁴ This is in accordance with s. 320.0609, F.S.

¹⁵ Section 320.08056(5), F.S.

¹⁶ Section 320.08056(6), F.S.

¹⁷ Specialty license plate audit and attestations requirements are in s. 320.08062, F.S.

¹⁸ Section 320.08056(7), F.S.

¹⁹ Collegiate license plates are established under s. 320.08058(3), F.S.

²⁰ Section 320.08056(8)(a), F.S.

²¹ Presale requirements are prescribed in s. 320.08053, F.S.

²² Section 320.08056(8)(b), F.S.

The organization that requested the specialty license plate may not redesign the specialty license plate unless the inventory of those plates has been depleted. However, the organization may purchase the remaining inventory of the specialty license plate from DHSMV at cost.²³

A specialty license plate annual use fee collected and distributed, or any interest earned from those fees, may not be used for commercial or for-profit activities or for general or administrative expenses (except as authorized by law), and may not be used to pay the cost of a required audit or report. The fees, and any interest earned, may be expended only for use in this state unless the annual use fee is derived from the sale of United States Armed Forces and veterans-related specialty license plates.²⁴

The term “administrative expenses” means those expenditures considered direct operating costs of the organization, and include, but are not limited to:

- Administrative salaries of employees and officers of the organization who do not or cannot prove, via detailed daily time sheets that they actively participate in program activities.
- Bookkeeping and support services of the organization.
- Office supplies and equipment not directly utilized for the specified program.
- Travel time, per diem, mileage reimbursement, and lodging expenses not directly associated with a specified program purpose.
- Paper, printing, envelopes, and postage not directly associated with a specified program purpose.
- Miscellaneous expenses such as food, beverage, entertainment, and conventions.²⁵

The annual use fee from the sale of specialty license plates, the interest earned from those fees, or any fees received by an agency as a result of the sale of specialty license plates may not be used for the purpose of marketing to or lobbying, entertaining, or rewarding an employee of a governmental agency responsible for the sale and distribution of specialty license plates, or an elected member or employee of the Legislature.²⁶

The application form for a specialty license plate must provide the applicant the option to instruct DHSMV to provide his or her name, address, and renewal date to the sponsoring organization.²⁷

Audits and Attestations

All organizations receiving annual use fee proceeds from DHSMV are responsible for ensuring that proceeds are used in accordance with state law.²⁸ Any organization not subject to audit pursuant to the Florida Single Audit Act²⁹ must annually attest, under penalties of perjury, that such proceeds were used in compliance with applicable state laws.³⁰

Any organization subject to audit pursuant to the Florida Single Audit Act must submit an audit report in accordance with the Auditor General’s rules. The annual attestation must be submitted to DHSMV for review within nine months after the end of the organization’s fiscal year.³¹

Within 120 days after receiving an organization’s audit or attestation, DHSMV must determine which recipients of revenues from specialty license plate annual use fees have not complied with the appropriate statutory provisions. In determining compliance, DHSMV may commission an independent actuarial consultant, or an independent certified public accountant, who has expertise in nonprofit and charitable organizations.³²

²³ Section 320.08056(9), F.S.

²⁴ Section 320.08056(10)(a), F.S.

²⁵ Section 320.08056(10)(b), F.S.

²⁶ Section 320.08056(11), F.S.

²⁷ Section 320.08056(12), F.S.

²⁸ Section 320.08062(1)(a), F.S.

²⁹ Section 215.97, F.S.

³⁰ Section 320.08062(1)(b), F.S.

³¹ Section 320.08062(1)(c), F.S.

³² Section 320.08062(2)(a), F.S.

DHSMV must discontinue the distribution of revenues to any organization failing to submit the required documentation, but may resume distribution of the revenues upon receipt of the required information.³³

If DHSMV or its designee determines that an organization has not complied with or has failed to use the revenues in accordance with applicable law, DHSMV must discontinue the distribution of the revenues to the organization. DHSMV must notify the organization of its findings and direct the organization to make the changes necessary in order to comply. If the officers of the organization sign an affidavit under penalties of perjury stating they acknowledge the findings of DHSMV and attest they have taken corrective action and that the organization will submit to a follow-up review by DHSMV, then DHSMV may resume the distribution of revenues.³⁴

If an organization fails to comply with DHSMV's recommendations and corrective actions, the revenue distributions must be discontinued until completion of the next regular session of the Legislature. DHSMV must notify the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by the first day of the next regular session of any organization whose revenues have been withheld. If the Legislature does not provide direction to the organization and DHSMV regarding the status of the undistributed revenues, DHSMV must deauthorize the plate and the undistributed revenues are immediately deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund.³⁵

DHSMV or its designee has the authority to examine all records pertaining to the use of funds from the sale of specialty license plates.³⁶

Fleet/Dealer Specialty License Plates

Section 320.06, F.S., provides requirements for the design of various license plates and requires dealer license plates to be imprinted with "Florida" at the top and "Dealer" at the bottom.

Current law provides for permanent registration for fleet license plates.³⁷ The term "fleet" means nonapportioned motor vehicles owned or leased by a company and used for business purposes.³⁸ According to DHSMV, in order to participate in the fleet vehicle program, a company must have a minimum of 200 vehicles or a minimum of 25 trailers or semitrailers used exclusively to haul agricultural products.³⁹

The owner or lessee of a fleet of motor vehicles must, upon application in the manner and at the time prescribed, and upon DHSMV approval and payment of the appropriate license tax, be issued permanent fleet license plates. All vehicles with a fleet license plate must have the company's name or logo and unit number displayed so that they are readily identifiable.⁴⁰

Fleet license plates must have the word "Fleet" appearing at the bottom and the word "Florida" appearing at the top. The plates must conform in all respects to ch. 320, F.S., except as specified.⁴¹

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill increases the required number of voucher sales needed before DHSMV will manufacture a specialty license plate, increasing the number from 1,000 to 3,000. The bill requires an out-of-state college or university license plate to meet a minimum sale of 4,000 vouchers.

³³ Section 320.08062(2)(b), F.S.

³⁴ Section 320.08062(2)(c), F.S.

³⁵ Section 320.08062(2)(d), F.S.

³⁶ Section 320.08062(3), F.S.

³⁷ Section 320.0657, F.S.

³⁸ Section 320.0657(1), F.S.

³⁹ Email from Kevin Jacobs, Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs, Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, RE: HB 1135-Specialty License Plates, Jan. 9, 2020. (Copy on file with Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee).

⁴⁰ Section 320.0657(2)(a), F.S.

⁴¹ Section 320.0657(2)(b), F.S.

The bill provides that new specialty license plates that have been approved by law but are awaiting issuance will be issued in the order they appear in s. 320.08056(4), F.S.,⁴² provided all requirements, including the presale requirement, have been met. If the next awaiting specialty license plate has not met the presale requirement, DHSMV must proceed in the order provided in law to identify the next qualified specialty license plate that has met the presale requirement. DHSMV must cycle through the list in statutory order.

If the Legislature has approved 125 or more specialty license plates, DHSMV may not make any new specialty license plates available for design or issuance until a sufficient number of plates are discontinued⁴³ so that the number of plates being issued is reduced to fewer than 125. The 125-license plate limit applies to all specialty license plates, including those above the minimum sales threshold and those exempt from the threshold.

The bill removes existing \$25 annual use fees for various specialty license plates because CS/HB 387 (2020), which is linked to this bill, establishes an annual use fee of \$25 for all specialty license plates, unless the amount is otherwise specified in law.

The bill allows a vehicle owner or lessee issued a specialty license plate that has been discontinued by DHSMV to keep the discontinued specialty license plate for the remainder of the 10-year license plate replacement period⁴⁴ and requires the owner or lessee to pay all other applicable registration fees. However, the owner or lessee is exempt from paying the applicable specialty license plate fee for the remainder of the 10-year license plate replacement period.

If DHSMV discontinues issuance of a specialty license plate, all annual use fees held or collected by the department must be distributed within 180 days after the date the specialty license plate is discontinued. Of those fees, DHSMV must retain an amount sufficient to defray the applicable administrative and inventory closeout costs associated with discontinuing the plate. The remaining funds are distributed to the appropriate organization or organizations.⁴⁵ If an organization no longer exists, DHSMV must deposit any undistributed funds into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund.

The bill requires DHSMV to discontinue the specialty license plate with the fewest number of plates in circulation, including license plates exempt from a statutory sales requirement on January 1 of each year. For the specialty license plates in the bottom 10 percent of sales, the bill requires DHSMV to mail a warning letter to the sponsoring organizations.

Effective July 1, 2023, the bill requires DHSMV to discontinue the issuance of approved specialty license plates if the number of valid registrations falls below 3,000 plates for 12 consecutive months. The threshold for out-of-state college or university license plates is 4,000. In addition to the existing exemption from the 3,000 plate sales requirement for in-state collegiate license plates, the bill provides exceptions from the discontinuance requirement for license plates:

- For institutions in and entities of the State University System;
- With statutory eligibility limitations for purchase;
- For which the annual use fees are distributed by a foundation for student and teacher leadership programs and teacher recruitment and retention; and
- Florida Professional Sports Team license plates.⁴⁶

The bill authorizes out-of-state college or university license plates and provides that the recipient organization must have established an endowment based in Florida for the purpose of providing scholarships to Florida residents meeting the statutory requirements, and provide documentation to DHSMV that the organization obtained the college's or university's consent to use an appropriate image on a license plate.

⁴² Section 320.08056(4), F.S., lists specific specialty license plates and their annual use fees.

⁴³ Specialty license plates will be discontinued pursuant to s. 320.08056(8), F.S.

⁴⁴ License plates are issued for a 10-year period pursuant to s. 320.06(1)(b)1., F.S.

⁴⁵ Distributions to recipient organizations are pursuant to s. 320.08058, F.S.

⁴⁶ Florida Professional Sports Team license plates are established in s. 320.08058(9), F.S.

The bill prohibits any entity from using specialty license plate revenue for lobbying. The current prohibition is limited to agencies.

The bill requires DHSMV to audit any specialty license plate revenue recipient every three years if the organization is not subject to the Florida Single Audit Act. The purpose of this audit is to ensure that specialty license plate proceeds have been used in compliance with Florida Statutes.

The bill authorizes “Dealer” and “Fleet” specialty license plates. It provides that a dealer specialty license plate is not required to say “dealer” at the bottom of the license plate. The bill provides that for the additional annual use fee, fleet companies may purchase specialty license plates in lieu of the standard fleet license plates. Fleet companies are responsible for all costs associated with the specialty license plates, including all annual use fees, processing fees, fees associated with switching license plate types, and other applicable fees. The bill establishes similar requirements for dealer specialty license plates. A dealer or fleet specialty license plate must include the letters “DLR” or “FLT” on the right side of the license plate. Dealer and fleet specialty license plates must be ordered directly through DHSMV.

The bill removes the American Red Cross plate, Donate Organs Pass It On plate, St. Johns River plate, and Hispanic Achievers plate from law as these plates have been discontinued.

Special Olympics Florida License Plate

Present Situation

Section 320.08058(7), F.S., creates the Special Olympics Florida license plate with an annual use fee of \$15. The license plate contains the official Special Olympics Florida logo with “Florida” centered at the bottom of the plate and “Everyone Wins” centered at the top of the plate.

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill redesigns the Special Olympics Florida license plate with “Florida” centered at the top of the plate and “Be a Fan” centered at the bottom of the plate.

Florida Golf License Plate

Present Situation

Section 320.08058(35), F.S., creates the Florida Golf license plate with an annual use fee of \$25. DHSMV distributes the license plate’s annual use fee to the Dade Amateur Golf Association annually as follows:

- Up to 15 percent of the proceeds may be used by the Dade Amateur Golf Association for the administration of the Florida Junior Golf Program.
- The Dade Amateur Golf Association must receive the first \$80,000 in proceeds for the operation of youth golf programs in Miami-Dade County. Thereafter, 15 percent of the proceeds must be provided to the Dade Amateur Golf Association for the operation of youth golf programs in Miami-Dade County.
- The remaining proceeds must be made available for grants to nonprofit organizations to operate youth golf programs and for marketing the Florida Golf license plate.

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill provides that 30 percent of the proceeds, instead of the current 15 percent, is allocated to the Dade Amateur Golf Association for operating youth golf programs in Miami-Dade County and authorizes the use of these proceeds for expenditures necessary to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Live the Dream License Plate

Present Situation

Section 320.08058(48), F.S., creates the Live the Dream license plate with an annual use fee of \$25. Proceeds from the Live the Dream specialty license plate are distributed to the Dream Foundation, Inc., which retained the first \$60,000 in proceeds from the annual use fees as reimbursement for administrative costs, startup costs, and costs incurred in the license plate approval process. After those costs are reimbursed, up to 25 percent of the proceeds must be used for continuing promotion and marketing of the license plate and concept. The remaining funds must be distributed as follows:

- 25 percent equally among the sickle cell organizations that are Florida members of the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, Inc., for programs providing research, care, and treatment for sickle cell disease.
- 25 percent to the Florida chapter of the March of Dimes for programs and services improving the health of babies through preventing birth defects and infant mortality.
- 10 percent to the Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions to decrease racial disparity in infant mortality and to increase healthy birth outcomes. Funding will be used by local Healthy Start Coalitions to provide services and increase screening rates for high-risk pregnant women, children under four years of age, and women of childbearing age.
- 10 percent to the Community Partnership for Homeless, Inc., for programs that provide relief from poverty, hunger, and homelessness.
- 5 percent to the Dream Foundation, Inc., for administrative costs directly associated with operations relating to the management and distribution of the proceeds.

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill revises the distribution of funds for the Live the Dream license plate. The bill provides that the proceeds from the annual use fees are distributed to the Dream Foundation, Inc., to be used as follows:

- Up to 5 percent may be used to administer, promote, and market the license plate.
- At least 60 percent must be distributed equally among the sickle cell organizations that are Florida members of the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, Inc.
- At least 30 percent must be distributed to Chapman Partnership, Inc.⁴⁷
- Up to 5 percent may be distributed by DHSMV on behalf of The Dream Foundation, Inc. to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, Inc., as a royalty for the use of the image of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

In God We Trust License Plate

Present Situation

Section 320.08058(66), F.S., creates the In God We Trust license plate with an annual use fee of \$25. The annual use fees are distributed to the In God We Trust Foundation, Inc., to fund educational scholarships for the children of Florida residents who are members of the United States Armed Forces, the National Guard, and the United States Armed Forces Reserve and for the children of public safety employees who have died in the line of duty who are not covered by existing state law. In addition, funds must be distributed to other non-profit organizations that may apply for grants and scholarships and to provide educational grants to public and private schools to promote the historical and religious significance of American and Florida history. The In God We Trust Foundation, Inc., must distribute the license plate annual use fees in the following manner:

- The In God We Trust Foundation, Inc., retains all revenues from the sale of the license plates until all startup costs for developing and establishing the license plate have been recovered.
- 10 percent of the funds received by the In God We Trust Foundation, Inc., must be spent on administrative costs, promotion, and marketing of the license plate directly associated with the operations of the In God We Trust Foundation, Inc.
- All remaining funds must be expended by the In God We Trust Foundation, Inc., for programs.

Effect of Proposed Changes

⁴⁷ In 2011, Community Partnership for the Homeless changed its name to Chapman Partnership.

The bill revises the distribution of the annual use fees to allow the foundation to use up to 10 percent of the proceeds to offset marketing, administration, and promotion, and the remainder of the proceeds to address the needs of the military community and the public safety community; provide educational grants and scholarships to foster self-reliance and stability in Florida's children; and provide education in public and private schools regarding the historical significance of religion in American and Florida history.

Fallen Law Enforcement Officer License Plate

Present Situation

Section 320.08058(80), F.S., creates the Fallen Law Enforcement Officers license plate with an annual use fee of \$25. The annual use fees are distributed to the Police and Kids Foundation, Inc., which may use a maximum of 10 percent of the proceeds to promote and market the plate. The remainder of the proceeds must be used by the Police and Kids Foundation, Inc., to invest and reinvest, and the interest earnings must be used for the operation of the Police and Kids Foundation, Inc.

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill maintains the 10 percent cap on the use of the proceeds for marketing the license plate, and requires that all remaining proceeds be used for the operations, activities, programs, and projects of the Police and Kids Foundation, Inc.

Beat Childhood Cancer License Plate

Present Situation

Neuroblastoma (Nb) is a cancer that affects children. It is among the most common childhood tumors, and typically affects children under five years old. The majority of childhood Nb cases are aggressive, showing survival rates of less than 60 percent with standard chemotherapy, and a 50 percent relapse rate. Once relapsed, there is currently no curative treatment, and for those under five years old, the survival rate is less than 10 percent.⁴⁸ Beat Nb's mission is to support Nb cancer research and to raise awareness of the disease.⁴⁹

The Ryan Callahan Foundation's goal is to give the families of children battling cancer an exciting escape, far from their daily hardships.⁵⁰

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates the Beat Childhood Cancer license plate, bearing DHSMV-approved colors and design. The word "Florida" appears at the top of the plate and "Beat Childhood Cancer" appears at the bottom of the plate. The annual use fees from the Beat Childhood Cancer license plate must be distributed as follows:

- 75 percent of the proceeds are distributed to Beat Nb, Inc., which may use up to 10 percent of its proceeds for administrative costs directly associated with the operation of the corporation and for marketing and promoting the plate. All remaining proceeds must be used by Beat Nb, Inc., to fund pediatric cancer treatment and research.
- 25 percent of the proceeds are distributed to the Ryan Callahan Foundation, Inc., to be used by the corporation to fund pediatric cancer treatment and research.

Auburn University License Plate

Present Situation

The Tampa Bay Auburn Club is an officially chartered group of Auburn University Alumni and Friends. Its stated mission is to encourage more top Tampa Bay area students to attend Auburn University and

⁴⁸ Beat Nb, Inc. *Neuroblastoma*, <https://beatnb.org/neuroblastoma/> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁴⁹ Beat Nb, Inc. *Our Mission and Vision*, <https://beatnb.org/about-us/> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁵⁰ Ryan Callahan Foundation, <https://ryancallahanfoundation.org/> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

to foster the spirit of Auburn University throughout the Tampa Bay Area.⁵¹ The Tampa Bay Auburn Club currently administers an endowed scholarship.⁵²

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates the Auburn University license plate, bearing DHSMV-approved colors and design. The word “Florida” appears at the top of the plate and “War Eagle” appears at the bottom of the plate. The bill distributes the annual use fees from the Auburn University specialty license plates to the Tampa Bay Auburn Club for awarding scholarships to Florida residents attending Auburn University. Students receiving these scholarships must be eligible for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program⁵³ and must use the scholarship funds for tuition and other expenses related to attending Auburn University.

Ducks Unlimited License Plate

Present Situation

Ducks Unlimited is a waterfowl and wetlands conservation organization founded in 1937. The mission of Ducks Unlimited is habitat conservation.⁵⁴ Since 1985, Ducks Unlimited has worked to conserve more than 29,000 acres of Florida wetlands.⁵⁵

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates a Ducks Unlimited license plate, bearing DHSMV-approved colors and design. The word “Florida” appears at the top of the plate and “Conserving Florida Wetlands” appears at the bottom of the plate. The annual use fee is distributed to Ducks Unlimited, Inc., to be used as follows:

- Up to 5 percent of the proceeds may be used for administrative costs and marketing of the plate.
- At least 95 percent of the proceeds must be used in Florida to support Ducks Unlimited’s mission and efforts to conserve, restore, and manage Florida wetlands and associated habitats for the benefit of waterfowl, other wildlife, and people.

Donate Life Florida License Plate

Present Situation

Donate Life Florida is a non-profit organization contracted by the Agency for Health Care Administration to create the state’s organ, tissue, and eye donor registry.⁵⁶

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates the Donate Life Florida license plate, bearing DHSMV-approved colors and design. The word “Florida” appears at the top of the plate, and “Donors Save Lives” appears at the bottom of the plate. The annual use fees from the Donate Life Florida license plate are distributed to Donate Life Florida, which may use up to 10 percent of the proceeds for marketing and administrative costs. All remaining proceeds must be used by Donate Life Florida to educate Florida residents on the importance of organ, tissue, and eye donation and for the continued maintenance of the Joshua Abbott Organ and Tissue Donor Registry, which is Florida’s official donor registry.

Florida State Beekeepers Association License Plate

Present Situation

The Florida State Beekeepers Association is dedicated to keeping Florida apiculture strong and healthy and is the major voice for the state's beekeeping industry. Its mission is to:

⁵¹ Tampa Bay Auburn Club, Inc., *Tampa Bay Auburn Club*, <http://tampabayauburnclub.com/> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁵² Tampa Bay Auburn Club, *Scholarships*, <http://tampabayauburnclub.com/scholarships/> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁵³ The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program is created pursuant to s. 1009.531, F.S.

⁵⁴ Ducks Unlimited, *About Ducks Unlimited*, <https://www.ducks.org/About-DU?po=footer-m> (last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁵⁵ Ducks Unlimited, *Florida Conservation Projects*, <http://www.ducks.org/florida/florida-conservation-projects> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁵⁶ Donate Life Florida, *About the Joshua Abbott Organ and Tissue Donor Registry*, <https://www.donatelifeflorida.org/about/> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

- Provide resources for the improvement of beekeeping by using proven techniques and procedures in the management of honeybees and share this knowledge with everyone interested in the art of beekeeping.
- Promote the development of practical beekeeping methods in the state of Florida.
- Act in the interest of Florida beekeepers in advocating for and carrying on statewide beekeeping affairs.
- Act as a medium for and to aid in cooperative and mutual beekeeping methods.
- Act as the representative of the Florida beekeepers in state and national beekeeping affairs.⁵⁷

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates the Florida State Beekeepers Association license plate, bearing DHSMV-approved colors and design. The word “Florida” appears at the top of the plate and “Save the Bees” appears at the bottom of the plate. The annual use fees from the sale of the Florida State Beekeepers license plate are distributed to the Florida States Beekeepers Association. The association may use up to 10 percent of the proceeds for administrative, promotional, and marketing costs of the plate and all remaining proceeds must be used to fund outreach and education to raise awareness of the importance of beekeeping to Florida agriculture, and to fund honeybee research and husbandry. The association’s board of managers must approve and is accountable for all such expenditures.

Rotary License Plate

Present Situation

Rotary is a global network of 1.2 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who come together to make positive, lasting change in communities at home and abroad.⁵⁸ Founded in 1990, the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay is dedicated to helping individuals in Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, and Hernando counties. The Foundation functions as a partnership between donors, nonprofits, community and business leaders, professional advisors, volunteers, and the residents of its four-county region.⁵⁹

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates the Rotary license plate, bearing DHSMV-approved colors and design. The word “Florida” appears at the top of the plate and “Rotary” appears at the bottom of the plate. The license plate will also bear the Rotary International wheel emblem.

The annual use fees from the sale of the Rotary license plate are distributed to the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay, Inc., to be distributed as follows:

- Up to 10 percent of the proceeds for administrative costs and for marketing the plate;
- 10 percent of the proceeds are distributed to Rotary’s Camp Florida for direct support to all programs and services provided to special needs children who attend the camp; and
- All remaining proceeds are distributed, proportionally based on sales, to each Rotary district in the state to support Rotary youth programs in Florida.

Florida Bay Forever License Plate

Present Situation

The Florida National Parks Association, Inc., (FNPA) is the official not for profit entity of Everglades National Park, Biscayne National Park, Dry Tortugas National Park, and Big Cypress National Preserve. The purpose of the FNPA is to generate additional revenues to help supplement the park service’s budget as well as support educational, interpretive, and historical and scientific research. The FNPA also operates bookstores within the parks to help generate revenues as well as providing a visitor information services function on behalf of the National Park Service.⁶⁰

⁵⁷ Florida State Beekeepers Association, <https://flstatebeekeepers.com/> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁵⁸ Rotary, *Who We Are*, <https://www.rotary.org/en/about-rotary> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁵⁹ Community Foundation of Tampa Bay, *What We Do*, <https://www.cftampabay.org/what-we-do/> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁶⁰ Florida National Parks Association Website, <https://floridanationalparksassociation.com/> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates the Florida Bay Forever license plate, bearing DHSMV-approved colors and design. The word “Florida” appears at the top of the plate and “Florida Bay Forever” appears at the bottom of the plate. The annual use fees from the sale of the Florida Bay Forever license plate are distributed to the FNPA. FNPA may use up to 10 percent of the proceeds for administrative costs and marketing the plate and all remaining proceeds must be used to supplement the Everglades National Park budget and to support educational, interpretive, historical, and scientific research relating to the Everglades National Park.

Bonefish and Tarpon Trust License Plate

Present Situation

The Bonefish and Tarpon Trust’s mission is to conserve and restore bonefish and tarpon fisheries and habitats through research, stewardship, education, and advocacy.⁶¹

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates a Bonefish and Tarpon Trust license plate, bearing DHSMV-approved colors and designs. The word “Florida” appears at the top of the plate and “Bonefish and Tarpon Trust” appears at the bottom of the plate. The annual use fees from the sale of the Bonefish and Tarpon Trust license plate are distributed to the Bonefish and Tarpon Trust. The trust may use up to 10 percent of the proceeds to promote and market the license plate and all remaining proceeds must be used to conserve and enhance Florida bonefish and tarpon fisheries and their respective environments through stewardship, research, education, and advocacy.

Medical Professionals Who Care License Plate

Present Situation

Based in Gainesville, Florida Benevolent Group, Inc., assists students in obtaining a medical education through a college or certificate program. The organization’s desire is to offer assistance to individuals struggling to make it into school or to stay in school.⁶²

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates a Medical Professionals Who Care license plate, bearing DHSMV-approved colors and design. The word “Florida” appears at the top of the plate and “Medical Professionals Who Care” appears at the bottom of the plate. The annual use fees from the sale of the Medical Professionals Who Care license plate are distributed to Florida Benevolent Group, Inc. Up to 10 percent of the proceeds may be used for administrative costs, marketing, and promoting the plate and all remaining proceeds must be used to assist low-income individuals in obtaining a medical education and career through scholarships, support, and guidance.

University of Georgia License Plate

Present Situation

Founded in 1946 as the Georgia Alumni Association of Jacksonville, the Georgia Bulldog Club of Jacksonville is America’s largest bulldog club.⁶³ In 1988, the club established the Vince Dooley Scholarship Fund to award scholarships to attend the University of Georgia to students from Duval, Nassau, St. Johns, Clay, or Baker counties based on academic and economic need.⁶⁴

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates a University of Georgia license plate, bearing DHSMV-approved colors and design. The word “Florida” appears at the top of the plate and “University of Georgia” appears at the bottom of the plate. The annual use fees from the University of Georgia specialty license plate are distributed to the

⁶¹ Bonefish and Tarpon Trust, *BTT Mission*, <https://www.bonefishtarpontrust.org/btt-mission> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁶² Florida Benevolent Group, *About*, <https://www.floridabenevolentgroup.org/> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁶³ Georgia Bulldog Club of Jacksonville, *Welcome to the Home of the Georgia Bulldog Club of Jacksonville*, <https://jaxbulldogs.com/> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁶⁴ Georgia Bulldog Club of Jacksonville, *Scholarship*, <https://jaxbulldogs.com/scholarship-fund/> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

Georgia Bulldog Club of Jacksonville. The club must distribute the proceeds received for awarding scholarships to Florida residents attending the University of Georgia. Students receiving the scholarship must be eligible for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program and use the scholarship funds for tuition and other expenses related to attending the University of Georgia.

Highwaymen License Plate

Present Situation

From the early 1950s through the 1980s, a group of 26 African-American artists, known as the “Florida Highwaymen,” used vivid and bright colors to display the beautiful untouched Florida landscape. They painted from their garages and backyards on inexpensive Upson board and, on the weekends, traveled and sold their paintings to hotels, offices, businesses, and individuals for approximately \$25 apiece. Currently, the market for an original work of art by a Florida Highwayman can bring \$5,000 or more. Some of the Highwaymen who are still living have resumed painting to meet the continuing demand for their work.⁶⁵

In 1984, the Florida Legislature authorized school districts to create local education foundations to raise private funds for programs to support students, teachers, and public schools in their respective districts. In 1990, the St. Lucie County Education Foundation was organized as a direct-support organization of the St. Lucie County School Board. The St. Lucie County Education Foundation is a non-profit organization that advances K-12 public education in St. Lucie County by increasing the capacity and resources of the district in partnership with key stakeholders.⁶⁶

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates a Highwaymen license plate, bearing DHSMV-approved colors and design. The word “Florida” appears at the top of the plate and “Highwaymen” appears at the bottom of the plate. The annual use fees from the Highwaymen specialty license plate are distributed to the City of Fort Pierce, subject to a city resolution designating the city as the license plate’s fiscal agent. The city may use up to 10 percent of the fees for administrative costs and marketing the license plate and must use the remainder of the fees as follows:

- Before completion of the construction of the Highwaymen Museum and African-American Cultural Center, the city must distribute at least 15 percent of the proceeds to the St. Lucie Education Foundation, Inc., to fund art education and art projects in public schools within St. Lucie County. All remaining proceeds must be used by the city to fund the construction of the Highwaymen Museum and African-American Cultural Center.
- Upon completion of construction of the Highwaymen Museum and African American Cultural Center, the city must distribute at least 10 percent to the St. Lucie Education Foundation, Inc., to fund area education and art projects within St. Lucie County. All remaining proceeds must be used by the city to fund the day-to-day operations of the Highwaymen Museum and African-American Cultural Center.

Dan Marino Campus License Plate

Present Situation

Based in Fort Lauderdale, the Dan Marino Foundation, Inc., is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of persons with autism or other developmental disabilities.⁶⁷

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates a Dan Marino Campus license plate, bearing DHSMV-approved colors and design. The word “Florida” appears at the top of the plate and “Marino Campus” appears at the bottom of the plate. The annual use fees from the sale of the Dan Marino Campus license plate are distributed to the Dan Marino Foundation, Inc. Up to 10 percent of the proceeds may be used for administrative costs and

⁶⁵ Florida Highwaymen, available at <http://www.floridahighwaymenpaintings.com/> (last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁶⁶ Education Foundation, *About Us*, available at <https://www.educationfoundationstlucie.org/p/3/about-us#.WjFxDGhSyUk> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁶⁷ Dan Marino Foundation Website. <https://danmarinofoundation.org/> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

marketing the plate and all remaining proceeds must be used to assist Floridians with developmental disabilities in becoming employed, independent, and productive; to promote awareness of such services; and to promote and fund education scholarships related to such services.

Orlando City Soccer License Plate

Present Situation

Section 320.08058(9), F.S., provides that Florida Professional Sports Team license plates must bear DHSMV-approved colors and design and must include the official league or team logo or both, as appropriate, for each team. The word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate. The annual use fee is distributed as follows:

- 55 percent of the proceeds must be deposited into the Professional Sports Development Trust Fund within the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), to be used solely to attract and support major sports events in this state.
- The remaining proceeds must be allocated to Enterprise Florida, Inc., and must be deposited into the Professional Sports Development Trust Fund within DEO. These funds must be used by Enterprise Florida, Inc., to:
 - Promote the economic development of the sports industry;
 - Distribute licensing and royalty fees to participating professional sports teams;
 - Promote education programs in Florida schools that provide an awareness of the benefits of physical activity and nutrition standards;
 - Partner with the Department of Education and the Department of Health to develop a program that recognizes schools whose students demonstrate excellent physical fitness or fitness improvement;
 - Institute a grant program for communities bidding on minor sporting events that create an economic impact for the state;
 - Distribute funds to Florida-based charities designated by Enterprise Florida, Inc., and the participating professional sports teams; and
 - Fulfill the sports promotion responsibilities of DEO.

The proceeds from the Professional Sports Development Trust Fund may be used for operational expenses of Enterprise Florida, Inc., and financial support of the Sunshine State Games.

There are nine Florida Professional Sports Team specialty license plates available for purchase: Florida Panthers, Miami Heat, Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Jacksonville Jaguars, Miami Marlins, Tampa Bay Lightning, Miami Dolphins, Orlando Magic, and Tampa Bay Rays.⁶⁸

Orlando City Soccer Club was formed in 2010 and was awarded a Major League Soccer franchise in November 2013.⁶⁹

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates an Orlando City Soccer Club license plate, bearing DHSMV-approved colors and design. The new license plates will display the word “Florida” at the top of the plate and must include the official league or team logo, or both. The annual use fee from the Orlando City Soccer license plate is distributed pursuant to the distribution of Florida Professional Sports Team license plates provided in current law.

Coastal Conservation Association License Plate

Present Situation

Coastal Conservation Association Florida (CCAF) is a statewide, non-profit marine organization working in an advocacy role to protect the state’s marine resources and the interests of saltwater anglers. It is comprised of 30 local chapters from Key West to Pensacola and it supports resource-

⁶⁸ Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, *Specialty License Plates*, available at: <https://www.flhsmv.gov/motor-vehicles-tags-titles/personalized-specialty-license-plates/specialty-license-plates/> (Last visited Jan. 14, 2019).

⁶⁹ Orlando City Soccer Club Website, *History*, <https://www.orlandocitysc.com/club/history> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

based law enforcement, access to recreational fishing, and fishery regulations to protect state and federal fish stocks. CCAF is one of the 17 state chapters of the Coastal Conservation Association.⁷⁰

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates the Coastal Conservation Association license plate. The license plate must bear DHSMV-approved colors and design. The new license plates will display the word “Florida” at the top of the plate and “Conserve Florida’s Fisheries” at the bottom of the plate. The annual use fee is distributed to CCAF to support the mission and efforts of CCAF for habitat enhancement and restoration, saltwater fisheries conservation, and education; to advise the public on the conservation of marine resources; and to promote and enhance the present and future availability of those coastal resources for the benefit and enjoyment of the public. CCAF may use up to 10 percent of the proceeds for administrative costs and up to 10 percent of the proceeds to promote and market the plate.

Daughters of the American Revolution License Plate

Present Situation

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) was founded October 11, 1890, by a group of women in Washington, D.C., after being excluded from the men’s organizations to celebrate the women’s ancestors who fought during the Revolutionary War. The objectives of the DAR are to continue the memory and spirit of men and women who achieved America’s independence, to educate the public, and to foster patriotism and love of country. Since its founding in 1890, DAR has admitted more than 950,000 members.⁷¹

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates the Daughters of the American Revolution license plate. The license plate must bear the DHSMV-approved colors and design. The word “Florida” appears at the top of the plate and “Daughters of the American Revolution” appears at the bottom of the plate. The annual use fees are distributed to the Daughters of the American Revolution. Up to 10 percent of the proceeds may be used for promoting and marketing the plate. The remainder of the proceeds must be used by the organization to promote patriotism, preserve American history, and secure America’s future through educational programs for local public and private K-12 students and scholarships and other educational funding for underprivileged children.

Gadsden Flag License Plate

Present Situation

During the American Revolution, Colonel Christopher Gadsden of South Carolina had seen and liked a bright yellow banner with a hissing, coiled rattlesnake rising up in the center, and beneath the serpent the same words that appeared on the Striped Rattlesnake Flag – Don’t Tread On Me. Colonel Gadsden made a copy of this flag and submitted the design to the Provincial Congress in South Carolina.⁷²

The Florida Veterans Foundation is the direct-support organization of the Florida Department of Veterans’ Affairs. The Foundation’s mission is to provide educational and outreach programs that will seek out and help veterans with suicide prevention and veterans with an opioid addiction recovery, provide a statewide veterans charity registry, and register veterans for U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs benefits.⁷³

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates the Gadsden Flag license plate, which must replicate the color, layout, and design of the Gadsden Flag. The word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate, and the words “Don’t Tread on Me” must appear at the bottom of the plate. The annual use fees are distributed to the Florida

⁷⁰ Coastal Conservation Association Florida, <https://www.ccaflorida.org/> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁷¹ Daughters of the American Revolution, *DAR History*, <https://www.dar.org/national-society/about-dar/dar-history> (last visited January 8, 2020).

⁷² <http://www.usflag.org/history/gadsden.html> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁷³ Florida Veterans Foundation, *About Florida Veterans Foundation*, <https://helpflvets.org/about/> (Last visited Jan. 14, 2020).

Veterans Foundation, Inc., and must be used to benefit veterans. Up to 10 percent of the proceeds may be used for continuing promotion and marketing of the license plate.

America the Beautiful License Plate

Present Situation

The America the Beautiful Fund is the fictitious name of Live Laugh Love Give, Inc.⁷⁴ Based in Tampa, this organization is a registered Florida nonprofit corporation.⁷⁵

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates the America the Beautiful license plate, bearing DHSMV-approved design and colors. The word “Florida” appears at the top of the plate and “America the Beautiful” appears at the bottom of the plate. The annual use fees are distributed to the America the Beautiful Fund to be used as follows:

- 10 percent to offset administrative, marketing, and promotion costs.
- 90 percent for projects and programs teaching character, leadership, and service to Florida youth; the provision of support services and assistance to the military community; outdoor education advancing self-sufficiency; wildlife conservation; the maintenance of historic or culturally important sites, buildings, structures, or objects; and the development and modification of playgrounds, recreational areas, or other outdoor amenities, including disability access.

Tread Lightly Off Road Florida License Plate

Present Situation

The purpose of the Florida Off Road Foundation, Inc., is to provide and distribute funds from the foundation from the sale of the Florida Off Road license plates to help preserve and protect Florida’s off road natural habitat, environment, and other programs.⁷⁶

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates the Tread Lightly Off Road Florida license plate, bearing DHSMV-approved colors and design. The word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate and “Tread Lightly” must appear at the bottom of the plate. The annual use fees are distributed to the Florida Off Road Foundation, Inc. Up to 10 percent of the funds may be used for marketing of the plate, administrative costs directly associated with the creation of the plate, and administrative costs related to the distribution of proceeds, including annual audit services and compliance affidavit costs. The remainder of the funds must be used by the Florida Off Road Foundation, Inc., to fund qualified non-profit organizations that protect and preserve Florida’s natural off-road habitat, educate Floridians about responsible use of the off-road environment; support civilian volunteer programs to promote the use of off-road vehicles to assist law enforcement in situations such as search and rescue; support organized cleanups, trail maintenance, and restoration; or preserve Florida’s off-road culture.

University of Alabama License Plate

Present Situation

The Pensacola Bama Club is a non-profit, fan-based organization representing the University of Alabama National Alumni Association in Pensacola, Florida. The Bama Club is open to alumni, friends, and fans of the University of Alabama. One of the organization’s primary missions is to provide scholarships to deserving local high school students.⁷⁷

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates a University of Alabama license plate, bearing DHSMV-approved colors and design. The word “Florida” appears at the top of the plate and “University of Alabama” appears at the bottom of

⁷⁴ Department of State, Sunbiz.org, *Fictitious Name Detail, America the Beautiful Fund*, Registration No. G15000109272.

⁷⁵ Department of State, Sunbiz.org, *Detail by Entity Name, Live Laugh Love Give, Inc.*, Document No. N15000007314.

⁷⁶ Florida Off Road Foundation, Inc., Articles of Incorporation, Available at:

<http://search.sunbiz.org/Inquiry/CorporationSearch/ConvertTiffToPDF?storagePath=COR%5C2019%5C0214%5C40153624.tif&documentNumber=N19000001532> (Last visited Jan. 20, 2020).

⁷⁷ Pensacola Bama Club, *About*, <https://www.pensacolabamaclub.org/about> (Last visited Jan. 14, 2020).

the plate. The annual use fees from the University of Alabama specialty license plate are distributed to the Pensacola Bama Club, which uses the proceeds for awarding scholarships to Florida residents attending the University of Alabama. The proceeds must be deposited in the statutorily required endowment.⁷⁸ Students receiving the scholarship must be eligible for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program and use the scholarship funds for tuition and other expenses related to attending the University of Alabama.

Preserve Vision

Present Situation

Preserve Vision Florida, formerly Prevent Blindness Florida, is a non-profit organization offering vision education and services to Florida's children and adults. Its focus is promoting a lifetime of healthy vision care through advocacy, education, screening, and research. Its mission is to promote healthy vision through vision awareness and education, vision screening, assistance to receive medical eye care, and advocacy for vision and medical eye care health service.⁷⁹ Prevent Blindness Florida changed its name to Preserve Vision Florida in May 2016.⁸⁰

Section 320.08068, F.S., creates a motorcycle specialty license plate with an annual use fee of \$20. The annual use fee is distributed to The Able Trust as its custodial agent. After paying administrative costs, The Able Trust distributes 20 percent of the proceeds to Prevent Blindness Florida.⁸¹

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill updates the reference from "Prevent Blindness Florida" to "Preserve Vision Florida" to reflect the change in the organization's name.

Special License Plates for Former Federal and State Legislators

Present Situation

Section 320.0807, F.S., provides for special license plates for the Governor and federal and state legislators. Section 320.0807(5), F.S., provides that upon application by any current or former President of the Senate or current or former Speaker of the House of Representatives, and payment of the appropriate fees,⁸² DHSMV may issue a license plate stamped "Senate President" or "House Speaker" followed by the number assigned by DHSMV or chosen by the applicant if it is not already in use.

Upon application by any former member of Congress or former member of the state Legislature and payment of the appropriate registration fees, plus a one-time fee of \$500, DHSMV may issue a former member of Congress, State Senator, or State Representative a license plate stamped "Retired Congress," "Retired Senate," or "Retired House," as appropriate, for a vehicle owned by the former member. To qualify for a Retired Congress, Retired Senate, or Retired House prestige license plate, a former member must have served at least four years as a member of Congress, State Senator, or State Representative. \$450 of the one-time \$500 fee collected for the license plate is distributed to the Florida Historic Capitol's direct-support organization⁸³ to benefit the Florida Historic Capitol Museum, and the remaining \$50 is deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund.

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill repeals the authorization for the "Senate President" or "House Speaker" special license plate and special license plates for former members of Congress, former State Senators, and former State Representatives. Current members of Congress and legislators would still be authorized to receive

⁷⁸ The endowment is required by s. 320.08056(12), F.S.

⁷⁹ Preserve Vision Florida Website, <http://pvfla.org/about-us/> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁸⁰ Department of State, Division of Corporations – Sunbiz.org, *Preserve Vision Florida, Inc.* (May 4, 2016), <http://search.sunbiz.org/Inquiry/CorporationSearch/ConvertTiffToPDF?storagePath=COR%5C2016%5C0509%5C84865905.Tif&documentNumber=706503> (last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁸¹ Section 320.08068(4), F.S.

⁸² The fees are prescribed in s. 320.0805, F.S.

⁸³ The Florida Historic Capitol direct-support organization is established pursuant to s. 272.136, F.S.

special license plates indicating he or she is a member of Congress, State Senator, or State Representative.

Military Special License Plates

Present Situation

There are currently 21 special use license plates for motor vehicles authorized in s. 320.089, F.S. These special license plates are available to military service members or veterans for various types of service. Examples of military service special license plates include Veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces, World War II Veteran, and Woman Veteran. While anyone who pays the appropriate fees may purchase most specialty license plates, an applicant must provide proof of eligibility to obtain a special license plate.

Special license plates are each stamped with words consistent with the type of special license plate issued. A likeness of the related campaign medal or badge appears on the plate followed by the license plate serial number.

Applicants for special license plates are required to pay the annual license tax⁸⁴ with the exception of certain disabled veterans who qualify for the Pearl Harbor, Purple Heart, or Prisoner of War plate, to whom such plates are issued at no cost.⁸⁵ The first \$100,000 in general revenue annually generated from the issuance of special use plates is deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund under the Veterans' Nursing Homes of Florida Act.⁸⁶ Any additional general revenue is deposited into the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund and used to construct, operate, and maintain domiciliary and nursing homes for veterans.⁸⁷

There are currently no special license plates authorized for motorcycles.

Purple Heart

The Purple Heart is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who are wounded by an instrument of war in the hands of the enemy and posthumously to the next of kin in the name of those who are killed in action or die of wounds received in action.⁸⁸

Bronze Star

The Bronze Star Medal is awarded to any person who, after December 6, 1941, while serving in any capacity with the U.S. Armed Forces, distinguishes himself or herself by heroic or meritorious achievement or service not involving participation in aerial flight.⁸⁹

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates the Purple Heart motorcycle special license plate. Upon application to DHSMV and payment of the motorcycle license tax,⁹⁰ a resident who owns or leases a motorcycle that is not used for-hire or commercial use must be issued a Purple Heart motorcycle license plate if he or she provides documentation acceptable to DHSMV that he or she is a recipient of the Purple Heart medal. The Purple Heart motorcycle special license plate will be stamped with the term "Combat-wounded Veteran." The license plate may have the term "Purple Heart" stamped on the plate and the likeness of the Purple Heart Medal stamped on the license plate.

The bill creates the Bronze Star automobile special use license plate for recipients of the Bronze Star medal who provide proof of their qualification. The license plate will be stamped with the term "Bronze Star" and a likeness of the related campaign medal. Revenue generated from the sale of the Bronze Star special use license plate will be administered the same as the existing special use license plates,

⁸⁴ The annual license tax is provided in s. 320.08, F.S.

⁸⁵ Section 320.089(2)(a), F.S.

⁸⁶ Section 320.089(1)(b), F.S.

⁸⁷ *Id.*

⁸⁸ <http://www.purpleheart.org/HistoryOrder.aspx> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁸⁹ Bronze Star Metal, <https://www.thebalance.com/bronze-star-medal-3344939> (Last visited Jan. 8, 2020).

⁹⁰ The license tax is provided in s. 320.08, F.S.

and deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund and the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund to support the State Veterans Homes Program.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1 amends s. 320.06, F.S., relating to registration certificates, license plates, and validation stickers.

Section 2 amends s. 320.0657, F.S., relating to permanent registration for fleet license plates.

Section 3 amends s. 320.08, F.S., relating to license taxes.

Section 4 amends s. 320.08053, F.S., relating to the establishment of specialty license plates.

Section 5 amends s. 320.08056, F.S., relating to specialty license plates.

Section 6 amends s. 320.08056, F.S., relating to specialty license plates, effective July 1, 2023.

Section 7 amends s. 320.08058, F.S., relating to specialty license plates.

Section 8 amends s. 320.08062, F.S., relating to audits and attestations required; annual use fees of specialty license plates.

Section 9 amends s. 320.08068, F.S., relating to motorcycle specialty license plates.

Section 10 amends s. 320.0807, F.S., relating to special license plates for Governor and federal and state legislators.

Section 11 creates s. 320.0875, F.S., relating to the Purple Heart special motorcycle license plate.

Section 12 amends s. 320.089, F.S., relating to certain special license plates.

Section 13 provides that except as otherwise expressly provided in this act, the act takes effect October 1, 2020, but only if HB 387 or similar legislation takes effect.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

Proceeds from the sale of the Orlando City Soccer Club specialty license plate will be deposited into the Professional Sports Development Trust Fund within DEO. To the extent that individuals choose to purchase this specialty license plate, there may be a positive, but indeterminate impact to the Professional Sports Development Trust Fund.

Revenue collected from the sale of the Purple Heart Motorcycle plate and the Bronze Star plate will be deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund and the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund within the Department of Veterans' Affairs. To the extent eligible individuals choose to purchase these specialty license plates, there may be an indeterminate, positive fiscal impact on these trust funds.

The Florida Historic Capitol Trust Fund and the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund may experience a reduction in revenues due to the repeal of the authorization for "Senate President" or "House Speaker" special license plates and special license plates for former members of Congress, former State Senators, and former State Representatives. However, the amount of revenue is likely insignificant.

2. Expenditures:

According to DHSMV, creation or modification of specialty and special license plates require system programming to implement. Depending on the number of distributions tied to the plate, the amount of programming may vary as will the resources needed to complete the changes. The average specialty/special license plate with a single distribution requires approximately 200-250 hours of programming, at a rate of \$35 to \$40 per hour.⁹¹ Additional distributions generally require an additional five to 10 hours per distribution.

There are currently over 120 specialty license plates and the bill establishes a cap of 125 for specialty license plates, creates 21 new license plates, and removes from law four plates that have been discontinued. Because the bill effectively creates a waiting list of authorized specialty plates, not all new license plates will be created at the same time. Therefore, the negative fiscal impact associated with programming efforts is indeterminate; however, DHSMV expects these costs will be absorbed within existing resources over time.

DHSMV states the cost to perform an audit every three years of each specialty license plate may result in a workload impact that can also be absorbed within existing resources.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

The bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on local government revenues.

2. Expenditures:

The bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on local government expenditures.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

Organizations receiving specialty license plate revenue may experience additional revenues associated with the sale of the organization's specialty license plates.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

Current law prohibits the redesign of a specialty license plate unless the inventory of the license plate has been depleted. However, the organization may purchase the remaining inventory of the specialty license plate from DHSMV at the department's cost.⁹² Special Olympics Florida may be required to purchase the remaining inventory of its specialty license plate at DHSMV's cost prior to the authorized redesign of its license plates.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not applicable. This bill does not appear to affect county or municipal governments.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

⁹¹ Email from Kevin Jacobs, Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs, Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles., RE., HBs 273/275 and 199/201, (January 24, 2019). Follow-up e-mail from Kevin Jacobs, Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs, Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, RE. Specialty License Plate Fiscal. (August 12, 2019). On file with the Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee.

⁹² Section 320.08056(9), F.S.

This bill does not provide a grant of rulemaking authority, nor does it require rulemaking.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

Lines 162 through 172 of the bill require new specialty license plates awaiting issuance to be issued in the order they appear in s. 320.08056(4), F.S., which establishes the annual use fee for each specialty license plate. However, lines 205 through 297 of the bill strikes-through some of the license plate annual use fees. Therefore, it may be more appropriate to reference the order specialty license plates are listed in s. 320.08058, F.S.

Line 305 refers to the annual use fee in s. 320.08056(4), F.S.; however, CS/HB 387, which is linked to this bill, establishes annual use fees in 320.03086(3)(d) and (4). Therefore, it may be appropriate to correct this reference.

IV. AMENDMENTS/ COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

None.