

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to digital license plates; amending s.
 3 320.06, F.S.; deleting provisions relating to the
 4 authority of the Department of Highway Safety and
 5 Motor Vehicles to conduct a pilot program to evaluate
 6 the designs, concepts, and technologies for
 7 alternative license plates; amending s. 320.07, F.S.;
 8 exempting owners of digital license plates from
 9 certain penalties; creating s. 320.08069, F.S.;
 10 providing definitions; providing applicability;
 11 authorizing motor vehicles to be equipped with digital
 12 license plates by a certain date; authorizing the
 13 department to contract with digital license plate
 14 providers; providing department authority relating to
 15 the display and use of digital license plates;
 16 specifying requirements for digital license plates,
 17 digital license plate providers, and digital license
 18 plate consumers; authorizing the department to adopt
 19 rules; providing an effective date.

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 21 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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23 Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 320.06, Florida
 24 Statutes, is amended to read:
 25 320.06 Registration certificates, license plates, and

26 validation stickers generally.-

27 ~~(5) The department may conduct a pilot program to evaluate~~
 28 ~~the designs, concepts, and technologies for alternative license~~
 29 ~~plates. For purposes of the pilot program, the department shall~~
 30 ~~investigate the feasibility and use of alternative license plate~~
 31 ~~technologies and the long-term cost impact to the consumer. The~~
 32 ~~pilot program shall be limited to license plates that are used~~
 33 ~~on government-owned motor vehicles as described in s. 320.0655.~~
 34 ~~Such license plates are exempt from the requirements in~~
 35 ~~paragraph (3)(a).~~

36 Section 2. Subsection (7) is added to section 320.07,
 37 Florida Statutes, to read:

38 320.07 Expiration of registration; renewal required;
 39 penalties.-

40 (7) An owner of a digital license plate as described in s.
 41 320.08069 is not subject to the penalties in this section for
 42 failure to display a validation sticker if the vehicle was
 43 operated in compliance with this chapter and any rules adopted
 44 by the department governing the placement of digital license
 45 plates and registration renewal.

46 Section 3. Section 320.08069, Florida Statutes, is created
 47 to read:

48 320.08069 Digital license plates.-

49 (1) DEFINITIONS.-As used in this section, the term:

50 (a) "Digital license plate" means an electronic display

51 that is designed to:

52 1. Display the information required in this chapter to be
53 included on a physical license plate.

54 2. Be placed on a motor vehicle registered under this
55 chapter in lieu of a physical license plate.

56 (b) "Digital license plate provider" means a person or an
57 entity engaged in the business of providing digital license
58 plate hardware and services to motor vehicle owners.

59 (2) APPLICABILITY.—Except as otherwise provided in this
60 section or a rule adopted under this section, a digital license
61 plate issued under this section is subject to the laws of this
62 state applicable to a physical license plate. However, digital
63 license plates issued under this section are exempt from s.
64 320.06(3) (a) .

65 (3) DIGITAL LICENSE PLATE ISSUANCE.—

66 (a) By October 1, 2023, the department shall allow a motor
67 vehicle registered under this chapter to be equipped with a
68 digital license plate in lieu of a physical license plate issued
69 under s. 320.06 upon a determination that the information on the
70 digital license plate display is readable by current automated
71 license plate recognition hardware and software. However, the
72 purchaser of a digital license plate must first obtain a
73 physical license plate from the department before obtaining a
74 digital license plate from a digital license plate provider.

75 (b) The department may contract with one or more digital

76 license plate providers for the issuance of digital license
 77 plates, including any services related to the issuance of
 78 digital license plates. The contract must include provisions
 79 governing the protection of personal and motor vehicle
 80 registration data obtained by a digital license plate provider
 81 in the performance of its services.

82 (c) The department may authorize the display of the motor
 83 vehicle's validation on each digital license plate in lieu of
 84 the validation sticker. The validation must display the owner's
 85 birth month, the license plate number, and the year of
 86 expiration or appropriate renewal period if the owner is not a
 87 natural person. The validation must be displayed in the upper
 88 right corner of the digital license plate.

89 (d) The department may authorize the use of a digital
 90 license plate for electronic toll collection, if such use has
 91 been approved by the Department of Transportation or other
 92 appropriate tolling authority, or to display a parking permit.

93 (e) The department may establish procedures for displaying
 94 the following information on a digital license plate:

95 1. An emergency alert or other public safety alert issued
 96 by a governmental entity, including an alert pursuant to s.
 97 937.021.

98 2. Static logo displays, including unique displays for
 99 fleet license plates as described in s. 320.0657 and digital
 100 versions of specialty license plates as described in s.

101 320.08058, special license plates for military service as
102 authorized in s. 320.089, and special license plates for the
103 Governor and federal and state legislators as authorized in s.
104 320.0807.

105 3. Other displays that the department, in consultation
106 with law enforcement agencies, determines are in the interest of
107 public safety.

108 (4) DIGITAL LICENSE PLATE REQUIREMENTS.—A digital license
109 plate issued under this section must:

110 (a) Meet the specifications and requirements adopted under
111 subsection (3).

112 (b) Include the same information required to be included
113 on a physical license plate and legibly display that information
114 at all times and in all light conditions.

115 (c) Have wireless connectivity capability.

116 (5) DIGITAL LICENSE PLATE PROVIDERS.—A digital license
117 plate provider with whom the department contracts shall:

118 (a) Maintain an inventory of digital license plates issued
119 in this state by the digital license plate provider.

120 (b) Make available a digital version of each specialty
121 license plate authorized by the department.

122 (c) If a digital license plate displays a validation,
123 promptly update the display of the validation to reflect the
124 current registration period for the motor vehicle and, upon
125 request of the department, suspend the display of the validation

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126 | or indicate on the digital license plate that the registration
127 | for the motor vehicle has expired.

128 | (6) DIGITAL LICENSE PLATE CONSUMERS.—A consumer who
129 | chooses to purchase a digital license plate must purchase a
130 | digital license plate directly from a digital license plate
131 | provider. In addition to any fees associated with the purchase
132 | of a digital license plate, the consumer is also responsible for
133 | paying to the department all applicable motor vehicle fees
134 | required by this chapter, including any annual use fees pursuant
135 | to s. 320.08056 associated with any specialty license plate the
136 | consumer wishes to display on the digital license plate.

137 | (7) RULEMAKING.—The department may adopt rules to
138 | implement this section.

139 | Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.