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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. **401**

01/17/2023 Authored by Hornstein and Koegel

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Transportation Finance and Policy

03/15/2023 Adoption of Report: Amended and re-referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to transportation; providing for various transportation-related policies,

1.3 including establishing special license plates and modifying requirements for veteran

1.4 designations on drivers' licenses and identification cards; requiring a report;

1.5 appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 168.1293, by

1.6 adding a subdivision; 171.07, subdivision 15; proposing coding for new law in

1.7 Minnesota Statutes, chapter 168.

1.8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.9 Section 1. **[168.1259] MINNESOTA PROFESSIONAL SPORTS TEAM**

1.10 **FOUNDATION PLATES.**

1.11 Subdivision 1. **Definition.** For purposes of this section, "Minnesota professional sports

1.12 team" means one of the following teams while its home stadium is located in Minnesota:

1.13 Minnesota Vikings, Minnesota Timberwolves, Minnesota Lynx, Minnesota Wild, Minnesota

1.14 Twins, or Minnesota United.

1.15 Subd. 2. **General requirements and procedures.** (a) The commissioner must issue

1.16 Minnesota professional sports team foundation plates to an applicant who:

1.17 (1) is a registered owner of a passenger automobile, noncommercial one-ton pickup

1.18 truck, motorcycle, or recreational vehicle;

1.19 (2) pays an additional fee in the amount specified for special plates under section 168.12,

1.20 subdivision 5;

1.21 (3) pays the registration tax required under section 168.013;

1.22 (4) pays the fees required under this chapter;

2.1 (5) contributes a minimum of \$30 annually to the professional sports team foundations
2.2 account; and

2.3 (6) complies with this chapter and rules governing registration of motor vehicles and
2.4 licensing of drivers.

2.5 (b) Minnesota professional sports team foundation plates may be personalized according
2.6 to section 168.12, subdivision 2a.

2.7 Subd. 3. **Design.** At the request of a Minnesota professional sports team's foundation,
2.8 the commissioner must, in consultation with the foundation, adopt a suitable plate design
2.9 incorporating the foundation's marks and colors. The commissioner may design a single
2.10 plate that incorporates the marks and colors of all foundations that have requested a plate.

2.11 Subd. 4. **Plate transfers.** On application to the commissioner and payment of a transfer
2.12 fee of \$5, special plates issued under this section may be transferred to another motor vehicle
2.13 if the subsequent vehicle is:

2.14 (1) qualified under subdivision 2, clause (1), to bear the special plates; and

2.15 (2) registered to the same individual to whom the special plates were originally issued.

2.16 Subd. 5. **Contributions; account; appropriation.** Contributions collected under
2.17 subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (5), must be deposited in the Minnesota professional
2.18 sports team foundations account, which is established in the special revenue fund. Money
2.19 in the account is appropriated to the commissioner of public safety. This appropriation is
2.20 first for the annual cost of administering the account funds, and the remaining funds are for
2.21 distribution to the foundations in proportion to the total number of Minnesota professional
2.22 sports team foundation plates issued for that year. Proceeds from a plate that includes the
2.23 marks and colors of all foundations must be divided evenly between all foundations. The
2.24 foundations must only use the proceeds for philanthropic or charitable purposes.

2.25 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2024, for Minnesota
2.26 professional sports team foundation special plates issued on or after that date.

2.27 Sec. 2. **[168.1287] MINNESOTA MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS**
2.28 **RELATIVES SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES.**

2.29 Subdivision 1. **Issuance of plates.** The commissioner must issue Minnesota missing
2.30 and murdered Indigenous relatives special license plates or a single motorcycle plate to an
2.31 applicant who:

3.1 (1) is a registered owner of a passenger automobile, noncommercial one-ton pickup
3.2 truck, motorcycle, or recreational vehicle;

3.3 (2) pays an additional fee in the amount specified for special plates under section 168.12,
3.4 subdivision 5;

3.5 (3) pays the registration tax as required under section 168.013;

3.6 (4) pays the fees required under this chapter;

3.7 (5) contributes a minimum of \$20 annually to the Minnesota missing and murdered
3.8 Indigenous relatives account; and

3.9 (6) complies with this chapter and rules governing registration of motor vehicles and
3.10 licensing of drivers.

3.11 Subd. 2. **Design.** In consultation with the Office of Missing and Murdered Indigenous
3.12 Relatives, the commissioner must adopt a suitable plate design that includes a red handprint
3.13 to one side, a partial ribbon skirt toward the bottom corner, and reads "Missing and Murdered
3.14 Indigenous Relatives" or "MMIR."

3.15 Subd. 3. **Plates transfer.** On application to the commissioner and payment of a transfer
3.16 fee of \$5, special plates issued under this section may be transferred to another motor vehicle
3.17 if the subsequent vehicle is:

3.18 (1) qualified under subdivision 1, clause (1), to bear the special plates; and

3.19 (2) registered to the same individual to whom the special plates were originally issued.

3.20 Subd. 4. **Exemption.** Special plates issued under this section are not subject to section
3.21 168.1293, subdivision 2.

3.22 Subd. 5. **Contributions; account; appropriation.** Contributions collected under
3.23 subdivision 1, clause (5), must be deposited in the Minnesota missing and murdered
3.24 Indigenous relatives account, which is established in the special revenue fund. Money in
3.25 the account is appropriated to the commissioner of public safety. This appropriation is first
3.26 for the annual cost of administering the account funds, and the remaining funds are for
3.27 distribution to the Office of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives for investigation
3.28 of unsolved cases and to establish a reward fund for information relating to missing and
3.29 murdered Indigenous relatives.

3.30 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2024, for Minnesota missing
3.31 and murdered Indigenous relatives special plates issued on or after that date.

4.1 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 168.1293, is amended by adding a subdivision
4.2 to read:

4.3 Subd. 8. **Legislative report.** (a) By February 1 annually, the commissioner must submit
4.4 a report on special plates to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over transportation
4.5 policy and finance. At a minimum, the report must:

4.6 (1) identify the number of special plate issuances and total plate counts for each type of
4.7 special plate, with a breakout by each alternative or additional design; and

4.8 (2) for each special plate in which a onetime or annual contribution is required:

4.9 (i) provide a fiscal summary of the contributions, including to specify the appropriate
4.10 contribution account, identify total contributions received in the two most recently completed
4.11 fiscal years, and identify the direct recipients of contribution funds; and

4.12 (ii) provide a description of how contribution funds were spent in the prior fiscal or
4.13 calendar year, as provided by each direct recipient.

4.14 (b) An entity that receives special plate special contribution funds under this chapter
4.15 directly from the commissioner must submit information on contribution funds expenditures
4.16 in the form and manner specified by the commissioner.

4.17 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 171.07, subdivision 15, is amended to read:

4.18 Subd. 15. **Veteran designation.** (a) At the request of an eligible applicant and on payment
4.19 of the required fee, the department ~~shall~~ must issue, renew, or reissue to the applicant a
4.20 driver's license or Minnesota identification card bearing a graphic or written designation
4.21 of:

4.22 (1) Veteran; or

4.23 (2) Veteran 100% T&P.

4.24 (b) At the time of the initial application for the designation provided under this
4.25 subdivision, the applicant must:

4.26 (1) be one of the following:

4.27 (i) a veteran, as defined in section 197.447; or

4.28 (ii) a retired member of the National Guard or a reserve component of the United States
4.29 armed forces;

5.1 (2) ~~have provide~~ a certified copy of the ~~veteran's applicant's~~ discharge papers that confirms
5.2 an honorable or general discharge under honorable conditions status or a military retiree
5.3 identification card, Veteran Identification Card, or Veteran Health Identification Card; and

5.4 (3) if the applicant is seeking the disability designation under paragraph (a), clause (2),
5.5 provide satisfactory evidence of a 100 percent total and permanent service-connected
5.6 disability as determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

5.7 ~~(e) The commissioner of public safety is required to issue drivers' licenses and Minnesota~~
5.8 ~~identification cards with the veteran designation only after entering a new contract or in~~
5.9 ~~coordination with producing a new card design with modifications made as required by~~
5.10 ~~law.~~

5.11 **EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICATION.** This section is effective August 1, 2023, and
5.12 applies to applications submitted on or after that date.