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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 1572

02/25/2021 Authored by Mekeland, Lucero, Erickson and Miller
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Transportation Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to motor vehicles; establishing "Choose Life" special license plates;
1.3 appropriating money; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter
1.4 168.

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

1.6 Section 1. 168.1258 SPECIAL "CHOOSE LIFE" PLATES.

1.7 Subdivision 1. Issuance of plates. The commissioner shall issue "Choose Life" special
1.8 license plates or a single motorcycle plate to an applicant who:

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

1.11 (2) pays special plate fees under section 168.12, subdivision 5, for each set of plates,
1.12 along with any other fees required by this chapter;

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

1.14 (4) contributes \$25 upon initial application and a minimum of \$25 annually to the choose
1.15 life account; and

1.16 (5) complies with this chapter and rules governing registration of motor vehicles and
1.17 licensing of drivers.

1.18 Subd. 2. Design. The commissioner must adopt a suitable plate design that includes an
1.19 image of the "Choose Life" kids logo in the design area on the left side of the plate and the
1.20 inscription "Choose Life" on the bottom of the plate.

2.1 Subd. 3. **Plates transfer.** On application to the commissioner and payment of a transfer  
2.2 fee of \$5, special plates may be transferred to another qualified motor vehicle that is  
2.3 registered to the same individual to whom the special plates were originally issued.

2.4 Subd. 4. **Exemption.** Special plates issued under this section are not subject to section  
2.5 168.1293, subdivision 2.

2.6 Subd. 5. **Contributions; account; appropriation.** Contributions collected under  
2.7 subdivision 1, clause (4), must be deposited in the choose life account, which is established  
2.8 in the special revenue fund. Money in the account is appropriated to the commissioner of  
2.9 public safety. This appropriation is first for the annual cost of administering the account  
2.10 funds, and the remaining funds are for distribution to Choose Life Minnesota, Inc., to be  
2.11 distributed to agencies as required under subdivision 6. The commissioner must include  
2.12 with its distribution to Choose Life Minnesota, Inc., a report specifying the ratio of  
2.13 contributions collected under subdivision 1, clause (4), in each county to the total  
2.14 contributions collected in the state.

2.15 Subd. 6. **Contribution recipient requirements.** (a) Using the county contribution report  
2.16 from the commissioner in subdivision 5, Choose Life Minnesota, Inc., shall distribute each  
2.17 county's share of collected contributions to nongovernmental, nonprofit agencies within  
2.18 each county that assist pregnant women who are making an adoption plan for their children.  
2.19 Funds may not be distributed to any agency that is involved or associated with abortion  
2.20 activities, including counseling for or referrals to abortion clinics, providing medical  
2.21 abortion-related procedures, or pro-abortion advertising. Funds may not be distributed to  
2.22 any agency that charges women for services received.

2.23 (b) Agencies that receive funds under this subdivision must use the funds to provide for  
2.24 the material needs of pregnant women who are making an adoption plan for their children,  
2.25 including but not limited to clothing, housing, medical care, food, utilities, and transportation.  
2.26 Funds may be expended to support birth mothers for 60 days after delivery and infants  
2.27 awaiting placement with adoptive parents and any adoption-related counseling, training, or  
2.28 advertising.

2.29 (c) Funds distributed under this section must not be used for administrative expenses,  
2.30 legal expenses, or capital expenditures except that Choose Life Minnesota, Inc., may use  
2.31 up to 15 percent of funds for administration and promotion of the "Choose Life" special  
2.32 license plate program.

2.33 (d) If no qualified agency applies to receive funds in a county in any year, that county's  
2.34 share of contributions collected under subdivision 1, clause (4), shall be distributed

3.1 proportionally to any qualified agencies that apply to receive funds and that maintain a place  
3.2 of business within a 100-mile radius of the county seat of such county. If no qualified  
3.3 agencies apply, the funds shall be held by Choose Life Minnesota, Inc., until a qualified  
3.4 agency under this subdivision applies for the funds.

3.5 (e) Each agency that receives funds under this subdivision must submit an annual  
3.6 attestation to Choose Life Minnesota, Inc. Any unused funds that exceed ten percent of the  
3.7 funds received by an agency each year must be returned to Choose Life Minnesota, Inc.,  
3.8 which shall distribute the funds to other qualified agencies within the state of Minnesota.

3.9 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2022, for special plates issued  
3.10 on or after that date.