

A bill for an act
relating to motor vehicles; authorizing special highway 14 plates; appropriating
funds; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 168.

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

Section 1. **[168.1295] CERTAIN SPECIAL PLATES; UNIFORM
REQUIREMENTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** For purposes of this section, "special plates" means
plates, or a single motorcycle plate, that are (1) designed with wording and graphics that
differ from a regular Minnesota passenger automobile plate or motorcycle plate, and (2)
authorized under section 168.1299.

Subd. 2. **General requirements; fees.** The commissioner shall issue special plates
to an applicant who:

(1) meets any eligibility requirements established in the section of this chapter that
specifically authorizes the special plates;

(2) is a registered owner of a passenger automobile, one-ton pickup truck,
motorcycle, or recreational motor vehicle;

(3) pays the fee as required under section 168.12, subdivision 5;

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

(5) pays any other fees required under this chapter; and

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

Subd. 3. **Transfers; fee.** On application to the commissioner and payment of
a transfer fee of \$5, special plates may be transferred to another motor vehicle if the
subsequent vehicle is (1) eligible for the special plates, and (2) registered to the same

individual to whom the special plates were originally issued. Only a plate originally issued for a motorcycle may be transferred to a motorcycle.

Subd. 4. **Plate removal, invalidation, replacement.** (a) An individual may use special plates only during the period that the individual remains eligible for the plates. When the individual to whom the special plates were issued ceases to be eligible for the plates, the individual shall remove each set of plates issued. When ownership of a motor vehicle is transferred, the individual ceasing to have ownership shall remove the special plates from the motor vehicle.

(b) If the commissioner receives written notification that an individual is no longer qualified for the special plates, the commissioner shall invalidate the plates and notify the individual of this action. The individual may retain the plates only upon demonstrating compliance with this section and any eligibility requirements established in the section of this chapter that specifically authorizes the special plates.

(c) Upon removal or invalidation of the special plates, the owner of the motor vehicle, or the individual taking possession of the vehicle in the case of transfer of motor vehicle ownership, shall obtain plates for the proper registration classification for the motor vehicle.

Subd. 5. **Record keeping.** The commissioner shall maintain a record of the annual number of each type of special plate issued under this chapter.

Subd. 6. **Rulemaking.** The commissioner may adopt rules governing the issuance and use of the special plates.

Subd. 7. **Legislative report.** (a) By November 15 annually, the commissioner shall submit a report on the special plates to the chairs and ranking minority members of the house of representatives and senate committees with jurisdiction over transportation policy and finance.

(b) The report must, at a minimum, specify:

(1) for each type of special plate, the number issued (i) in the previous fiscal year, and (ii) since inception of the plate; and

(2) for each type of special plate that requires an additional contribution in the section of this chapter that specifically authorizes the special plates:

(i) the amount of contribution funds received (A) in the previous fiscal year, and (B) since inception of the plate; and

(ii) a brief description of the primary expenditures and uses of contribution funds.

(c) Any department or agency receiving contribution funds in association with special plates shall assist the commissioner as requested in preparing the report under this subdivision.

Sec. 2. [168.1299] SPECIAL HIGHWAY 14 PLATES.

Subdivision 1. **Plate issuance.** The commissioner shall issue special highway 14 plates to an applicant who (1) meets the requirements under section 168.1295, and (2) makes an additional onetime contribution of at least \$30.

Subd. 2. **Design.** The commissioner shall create a design or emblem for the special plate in consultation with the U.S. Highway 14 Partnership. The special plate must bear the inscription "SUPPORT HIGHWAY 14" at the bottom of the plate.

Subd. 3. **Compliance with other law.** License plates issued under this section are not subject to section 168.1293, subdivision 2.

Subd. 4. **Contribution funds; Trunk Highway 14 account.** (a) A Trunk Highway 14 account is created in the special revenue fund. The account consists of money contributed under subdivision 1, clause (2), and any other money donated, allotted, transferred, or otherwise provided to the account.

(b) Of the first dollars deposited in the account, an amount equal to the total start-up costs associated with the development and issuance of the special plates is appropriated to the commissioner of public safety.

(c) All money remaining in the account after the appropriation under paragraph (b) is appropriated to the commissioner of transportation.

(d) The appropriation to the commissioner of transportation under paragraph (c) may be used solely for construction or reconstruction of segments of Legislative Route No. 7, signed as Trunk Highway 14 on the effective date of this section, as a freeway, as defined in section 160.02, subdivision 19, with at least two lanes of traffic in each direction.

(e) The appropriation to the commissioner of transportation under paragraph (c) does not change the trunk highway funding allocation process or formula used by the Minnesota Department of Transportation, or the amount otherwise allocated to each transportation district.