

SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
EIGHTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

S.F. No. 1140

(SENATE AUTHORS: PARRY, Senjem and Dibble)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
04/11/2011	1262	Introduction and first reading Referred to Transportation
02/08/2012	3759	Comm report: To pass
	3759	Second reading
02/09/2012	3776	General Orders: Stricken and re-referred to Finance
02/20/2012	3845	Comm report: To pass
	3849	Second reading
03/27/2012	5168a	Special Order: Amended
	5169	Third reading Passed

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A bill for an act
relating to public safety; clarifying special plates for firefighters; providing
special license plates for retired firefighters; clarifying placement of certain
motor vehicle license plates; amending Minnesota Statutes 2010, sections
168.12, by adding a subdivision; 169.79, subdivision 6; Minnesota Statutes 2011
Supplement, section 168.12, subdivision 2b.

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

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Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2011 Supplement, section 168.12, subdivision 2b,
is amended to read:

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Subd. 2b. **Firefighters; special plates, rules.** (a) The commissioner shall issue
special plates, or a single license plate in the case of a motorcycle plate, to any applicant
who:

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(1) is a member of a fire department receiving state aid under chapter 69, has a
letter from the fire chief, and is an owner of a passenger automobile as defined in section
168.002, subdivision 24, a one-ton pickup truck as defined in section 168.002, subdivision
21b, or a motorcycle as defined in section 168.002, subdivision 19;

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(2) pays a fee of \$10 and any other fees required by this chapter;
(3) pays the registration tax required by this chapter for the motor vehicle; and
(4) complies with this chapter and rules governing the registration of motor vehicles

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and licensing of drivers.

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(b) In lieu of the identification required under subdivision 1, the special plates must
bear an emblem of a Maltese Cross together with any numbers or characters prescribed by
the commissioner.

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(c) Special plates issued under this subdivision may only be used during the period
that the owner of the motor vehicle is a member of a fire department as specified in this

subdivision. When the individual to whom the special plates were issued is no longer a member of a fire department or when the motor vehicle ownership is transferred, the owner shall remove the special plates from the motor vehicle. If the commissioner receives written notification that an individual is no longer qualified for these special plates, the commissioner shall invalidate the plates and notify the individual of this action. The individual may retain the plate only upon demonstrating compliance with the qualifications of this subdivision. Upon removal or invalidation of the special plates, or special motorcycle plate, ~~either~~ the owner or purchaser of the motor vehicle shall obtain regular plates ~~or~~, a regular motorcycle plate, or special plates for the proper registration classification for the motor vehicle.

(d) A special motorcycle license plate issued under this subdivision must be the same size as a standard motorcycle license plate.

(e) Upon payment of a fee of \$5, plates issued under this subdivision for a passenger automobile or truck may be transferred to another passenger automobile or truck owned or jointly owned by the person to whom the plates were issued. On payment of a fee of \$5, a plate issued under this subdivision for a motorcycle may be transferred to another motorcycle owned or jointly owned by the person to whom the plate was issued.

(f) The commissioner may adopt rules under the Administrative Procedure Act, sections 14.001 to 14.69, to govern the issuance and use of the special plates authorized in this subdivision.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 168.12, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2g. **Retired firefighters; special plates.** (a) The commissioner shall issue special retired firefighters plates to an applicant who:

(1) is a retired member of a fire department defined in section 299N.01, subdivision 2, has a letter from the fire chief and administrative officer of the local government unit affirming that the applicant is a retired firefighter who served ten or more years and separated in good standing, and is a registered owner of a passenger automobile, a one-ton pickup truck, a recreational vehicle, or a motorcycle;

(2) pays a fee of \$10 for each set of license plates applied for along with any other fees required by this chapter; and

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

(b) The commissioner shall design the special plate emblem so that it is distinguishable from the emblem on firefighter special plates issued under subdivision 2b.

3.1 (c) On payment of a transfer fee of \$5, plates issued under this subdivision may be
3.2 transferred to another passenger automobile, one-ton pickup truck, recreational vehicle, or
3.3 motorcycle registered to the individual to whom the special plates were issued.

3.4 (d) Fees collected under this subdivision must be credited to the vehicle services
3.5 operating account in the special revenue fund.

3.6 (e) This subdivision is exempt from section 168.1293.

3.7 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 169.79, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

3.8 Subd. 6. **Other motor vehicles.** If the motor vehicle is any kind of motor vehicle
3.9 other than those provided for in subdivisions 2 to 4, ~~one plate~~ two plates must be displayed
3.10 ~~on. One plate must be displayed at the front and one on the rear of the vehicle and one~~
3.11 at the back. The two plates must either be mounted on the front and rear bumpers of
3.12 the vehicle or on the front and back of the vehicle exterior in places designed to hold a
3.13 license plate.

3.14 Sec. 4. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

3.15 Sections 1 and 2 are effective January 1, 2013.