

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 1118 (Second Edition)

SHORT TITLE: Special License Plates

SPONSOR(S): Senator Kerr

FISCAL IMPACT					
	Yes (X)	No ()	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 2004-05</u>	<u>FY 2005-06</u>	<u>FY 2006-07</u>	<u>FY 2007-08</u>	<u>FY 2008-09</u>
REVENUES					
Highway Fund – Special Registration Plate Acct					
4-H plate	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Retired HP plate			No Fiscal Impact		
High School plate			No Estimate Available		
Collegiate and Cultural Attraction Plate Acct					
4-H plate	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
High School plate			No Estimate Available		
EXPENDITURES					
Highway Fund – Special Registration Plate Acct					
4-H plate	\$4,440				
High School plate			No Estimate Available		
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: Department of Transportation – Division of Motor Vehicles					
EFFECTIVE DATE: This act is effective when it becomes law.					

BILL SUMMARY:

This act authorizes the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to issue a Retired Highway Patrol special plate to the surviving spouse of retired Highway Patrolmen. The bill also authorizes the issuance of a 4-H special registration plate and a high school insignia special plate.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

The change in the Retired Highway Patrol plate will not create a fiscal impact. The bill simply lets the surviving spouse renew an existing plate, so no new plates will be sold. In fact, it should keep the Special Registration Plate Account from losing revenue due to the death of one of the 864 retired Highway Patrolmen that currently have the plates. It is not known how many surviving spouses will choose to continue the retiree plate.

For the new 4-H special plate, this fiscal analysis assumes that the plate applicants already register their vehicles in the state and are paying the current \$20 registration fee, thus there is no new revenue for the Highway Fund. The analysis also assumes the issuance of the minimum 300 license plates in FY 2004-05 and renewal of those plates in the following years. There is a one-time cost of \$100 to design a new plate and an average programming cost of \$3,560 per plate to change the State Titling and Registration System (STARS). There is also a one-time cost to manufacture the special plate. The cost of a DMV recommended two-color plate is \$2.59. For 300 new plates in FY 2004-05, the manufacturing cost is \$777 (300 plate minimum X \$2.59). The total one-time cost for the new plate is \$4,437 and is paid from the Special Registration Plate Account.

In addition to the normal \$20 registration fee, each special plate is assessed a \$10 fee that is deposited into the Special Registration Plate Account. For the 300-plate minimum, this account will receive \$3,000 a year. The 4-H plate also has a \$10 fee that is deposited into the Collegiate and Cultural Attraction Plate Account, then transferred to the 4-H Foundation of North Carolina, Inc. These funds are to be used to repair and renovate 4-H camps and conference centers. For the 300-plate minimum, this fund will earn \$3,000 a year.

No estimate is available for the number of high school insignia plates that might meet the 300-plate minimum. According to the Department of Public Instruction, there were 338 public high schools in North Carolina in FY 2002-03. The high school plate has the normal \$20 registration fee, the standard \$10 fee that is deposited into the Special Registration Plate Account, and a \$15 fee that is returned to the high school to use for academic enhancement.

SOURCES OF DATA: Division of Motor Vehicles; Department of Public Instruction

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

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Signed Copy Located in the NCGA Principal Clerk's Offices