

TRANSPORTATION  
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SENATE FILE 2039  
BY LAMBERTI

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the issuance and display of one motor vehicle  
2 registration plate.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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SF-2039  
TRANSPORTATION

1 Section 1. Section 321.18, subsection 7, Code Supplement  
2 2001, is amended to read as follows:

3 7. Any school bus in this state used exclusively for the  
4 transportation of pupils to and from school or a school  
5 function or for the purposes provided in section 285.1,  
6 subsection 1, and section 285.10, subsection 9, or used  
7 exclusively for the transportation of children enrolled in a  
8 federal head start program. Upon application the department  
9 shall, without charge, issue a registration certificate and  
10 shall also issue a registration plates plate which shall have  
11 imprinted thereon the words "Private School Bus" and a  
12 distinguishing number assigned to the applicant. ~~Such-plates~~  
13 The plate shall be attached to the ~~front-and~~ rear of each bus  
14 exempt from registration under this subsection.

15 Sec. 2. Section 321.19, subsection 1, unnumbered paragraph  
16 2, Code 2001, is amended to read as follows:

17 The department shall furnish, on application, free of  
18 charge, distinguishing plates for vehicles thus exempted,  
19 which plates except plates on Iowa state patrol vehicles shall  
20 bear the word "official" and the department shall keep a  
21 separate record. Registration plates issued for Iowa state  
22 patrol vehicles, except unmarked patrol vehicles, shall bear  
23 two red stars on a yellow background, one before and one  
24 following the registration number on the plate, which  
25 registration number shall be the officer's badge number.  
26 Registration plates issued for county sheriff's patrol  
27 vehicles shall display one seven-pointed gold star followed by  
28 the letter "S" and the call number of the vehicle. However,  
29 the director of general services or the director of  
30 transportation may order the issuance of a regular  
31 registration ~~plates~~ plate for any exempted vehicle used by  
32 peace officers in the enforcement of the law, persons  
33 enforcing chapter 124 and other laws relating to controlled  
34 substances, persons in the department of justice, the  
35 alcoholic beverages division of the department of commerce,

1 disease investigators of the Iowa department of public health,  
2 the department of inspections and appeals, and the department  
3 of revenue and finance, who are regularly assigned to conduct  
4 investigations which cannot reasonably be conducted with a  
5 vehicle displaying an "official" state registration plates  
6 plate, persons in the lottery division of the department of  
7 revenue and finance whose regularly assigned duties relating  
8 to security or the carrying of lottery tickets cannot  
9 reasonably be conducted with a vehicle displaying an  
10 "official" registration plates plate, and persons in the  
11 department of economic development who are regularly assigned  
12 duties relating to existing industry expansion or business  
13 attraction. For purposes of sale of exempted vehicles, the  
14 exempted governmental body, upon the sale of the exempted  
15 vehicle, may issue for in-transit purposes a pasteboard card  
16 bearing the words "Vehicle in Transit", the name of the  
17 official body from which the vehicle was purchased, together  
18 with the date of the purchase plainly marked in at least one-  
19 inch letters, and other information required by the  
20 department. The in-transit card is valid for use only within  
21 forty-eight hours after the purchase date as indicated on the  
22 bill of sale which shall be carried by the driver.

23 Sec. 3. Section 321.20B, subsection 4, paragraph a,  
24 subparagraph (3), unnumbered paragraph 1, Code Supplement  
25 2001, is amended to read as follows:

26 Issue a citation and remove the motor vehicle's license  
27 plates plate and registration receipt. Upon removing the  
28 license plates plate and registration receipt, the peace  
29 officer shall deliver the plates plate for destruction, as  
30 appropriate, and forward the registration receipt and evidence  
31 of the violation, as determined by the department, to the  
32 county treasurer of the county in which the motor vehicle is  
33 registered. The motor vehicle may be driven for a time period  
34 of up to forty-eight hours after receiving the citation solely  
35 for the purpose of removing the motor vehicle from the

1 highways of this state, unless the driver's operating  
2 privileges are otherwise suspended.

3 Sec. 4. Section 321.20B, subsection 4, paragraph a,  
4 subparagraph (4), subparagraph subdivision (a), Code  
5 Supplement 2001, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) Issue a citation, remove the motor vehicle's license  
7 ~~plates~~ plate and registration receipt, and impound the motor  
8 vehicle. The peace officer shall deliver the ~~plates~~ plate for  
9 destruction, as appropriate, and forward the registration  
10 receipt and evidence of the violation, as determined by the  
11 department, to the county treasurer of the county in which the  
12 motor vehicle is registered.

13 Sec. 5. Section 321.20B, subsection 4, paragraph b,  
14 subparagraph (1), subparagraph subdivisions (a) and (b), Code  
15 Supplement 2001, are amended to read as follows:

16 (a) If the person was cited pursuant to paragraph "a",  
17 subparagraph (3), the owner or driver shall provide a copy of  
18 the receipt to the county treasurer of the county in which the  
19 motor vehicle is registered and the owner shall be assessed a  
20 fifteen dollar administrative fee by the county treasurer who  
21 shall issue a new license ~~plates~~ plate and registration to the  
22 person after payment of the fee.

23 (b) If the person was cited pursuant to paragraph "a",  
24 subparagraph (4), the owner or driver, after the owner  
25 provides proof of financial liability coverage to the clerk of  
26 court, may claim the motor vehicle after such person pays any  
27 applicable fine and the costs of towing and storage for the  
28 motor vehicle, and the owner or driver provides a copy of the  
29 receipt and the owner pays to the county treasurer of the  
30 county in which the motor vehicle is registered a fifteen  
31 dollar administrative fee, and the county treasurer shall  
32 issue a new license ~~plates~~ plate and registration to the  
33 person.

34 Sec. 6. Section 321.20B, subsection 4, paragraph b,  
35 subparagraph (2), subparagraph subdivisions (a) and (b), Code

1 Supplement 2001, are amended to read as follows:

2 (a) Sign an admission of violation on the citation and  
3 remit to the clerk of court a scheduled fine as provided in  
4 section ~~805.87-subsection-2~~ 805.8A, subsection 14, paragraph  
5 "f", for a violation of subsection 1. Upon payment of the  
6 fine to the clerk of court of the county where the citation  
7 was issued, payment of a fifteen dollar administrative fee to  
8 the county treasurer of the county in which the motor vehicle  
9 is registered, and providing proof of payment of any  
10 applicable fine and proof of financial liability coverages to  
11 the county treasurer of the county in which the motor vehicle  
12 is registered, the treasurer shall issue a new license plates  
13 plate and registration to the owner.

14 (b) Request an appearance before the court on the matter.  
15 If the matter goes before the court, and the owner or driver  
16 is found guilty of a violation of subsection 1, the court may  
17 impose a fine as provided in section 805.8, subsection 2, for  
18 a violation of subsection 1, or the court may order the person  
19 to perform unpaid community service instead of the fine. Upon  
20 the payment of the fine or the entry of the order for unpaid  
21 community service, the person shall provide proof of payment  
22 or entry of such order and the county treasurer of the county  
23 in which the motor vehicle is registered shall issue a new  
24 license plates plate and registration to the owner upon the  
25 owner providing proof of financial liability coverage and  
26 paying a fifteen dollar administrative fee to the county  
27 treasurer.

28 Sec. 7. Section 321.22, subsection 1, Code 2001, is  
29 amended to read as follows:

30 1. An urban transit company or system having a franchise  
31 to operate in any city and or any regional transit system may  
32 make application to the department, upon forms furnished by  
33 the department, for a certificate containing a distinguishing  
34 number and for one or more ~~pairs-of~~ transit bus plates to be  
35 attached to the ~~front-and~~ rear of buses owned or operated by

1 the transit company or system.

2 Sec. 8. Section 321.23, subsection 3, Code 2001, is  
3 amended to read as follows:

4 3. In the event an applicant for registration of a foreign  
5 vehicle for which a certificate of title has been issued is  
6 able to furnish evidence of being the registered owner of the  
7 vehicle to the county treasurer of the owner's residence,  
8 although unable to surrender ~~such~~ the certificate of title,  
9 the county treasurer may issue a registration receipt and  
10 ~~plates~~ plate upon receipt of the required registration fee but  
11 shall not issue a certificate of title thereto. Upon  
12 surrender of the certificate of title from the foreign state,  
13 the county treasurer shall issue a certificate of title to the  
14 owner, or person entitled thereto, of ~~such~~ the vehicle as  
15 provided in this chapter. The owner of a vehicle registered  
16 under this subsection shall not be required to obtain a  
17 certificate of title in this state and may transfer ownership  
18 of the vehicle to a motor vehicle dealer licensed under  
19 chapter 322 if, at the time of the transfer, the certificate  
20 of title is held by a secured party and the dealer has  
21 forwarded to the secured party the sum necessary to discharge  
22 the security interest pursuant to section 321.48, subsection  
23 1.

24 Sec. 9. Section 321.25, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code  
25 Supplement 2001, is amended to read as follows:

26 A vehicle may be operated upon the highways of this state  
27 without a registration ~~plates~~ plate for a period of forty-five  
28 days after the date of delivery of the vehicle to the  
29 purchaser from a dealer if a card bearing the words  
30 "registration applied for" is attached on the rear of the  
31 vehicle. The card shall have plainly stamped or stenciled the  
32 registration number of the dealer from whom the vehicle was  
33 purchased and the date of delivery of the vehicle. In  
34 addition, a dealer licensed to sell new motor vehicles may  
35 attach the card to a new motor vehicle delivered by the dealer

1 to the purchaser even if the vehicle was purchased from an  
2 out-of-state dealer and the card shall bear the registration  
3 number of the dealer that delivered the vehicle. A dealer  
4 shall not issue a card to a person known to the dealer to be  
5 in possession of a registration plates plate which may be  
6 attached to the vehicle. A dealer shall not issue a card  
7 unless an application for registration and certificate of  
8 title has been made by the purchaser and a receipt issued to  
9 the purchaser of the vehicle showing the fee paid by the  
10 person making the application. Dealers' records shall  
11 indicate the agency to which the fee is sent and the date the  
12 fee is sent. The dealer shall forward the application by the  
13 purchaser to the county treasurer or state office within  
14 thirty calendar days from the date of delivery of the vehicle.  
15 However, if the vehicle is subject to a security interest and  
16 has been offered for sale pursuant to section 321.48,  
17 subsection 1, the dealer shall forward the application by the  
18 purchaser to the county treasurer or state office within  
19 thirty calendar days from the date of the delivery of the  
20 vehicle to the purchaser.

21 Sec. 10. Section 321.26, subsection 2, Code 2001, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 2. The county treasurer may adjust the renewal or  
24 expiration date of vehicles when deemed necessary to equalize  
25 the number of vehicles registered in each twelve-month period  
26 or for the administrative efficiency of the county treasurer's  
27 office. The adjustment shall be accomplished by delivery of a  
28 written notice to the vehicle owner of the adjustment and  
29 allowance of a credit for the remaining months of the unused  
30 portion of the registration fee, rounded to the nearest whole  
31 dollar, which amount shall be deducted from the annual  
32 registration fee due at the time of registration. Upon  
33 receipt of the notification the owner shall, within thirty  
34 days, surrender the registration card and registration plates  
35 plate to the county treasurer of the county where the vehicle

1 is registered, except that the registration plates plate shall  
2 not be surrendered if validation stickers or other emblems are  
3 used to designate the month and year of expiration of  
4 registration. Upon payment of the annual registration fee,  
5 less the credit allowed for the remaining months of the unused  
6 portion of the registration fee, the county treasurer shall  
7 issue a new registration card and registration plates plate,  
8 validation stickers, or emblems which indicate the month and  
9 year of expiration of registration.

10 Sec. 11. Section 321.34, Code Supplement 2001, is amended  
11 to read as follows:

12 321.34 PLATES PLATE OR VALIDATION STICKER FURNISHED --  
13 RETAINED BY OWNER -- SPECIAL PLATES.

14 1. PLATES PLATE ISSUED. The county treasurer upon  
15 receiving application, accompanied by proper fee, for  
16 registration of a vehicle shall issue to the owner one  
17 registration plate ~~for-a-motorcycle, motorized-bicycle, truck~~  
18 ~~tractor, trailer, or semitrailer and two registration plates~~  
19 ~~for every other motor vehicle~~. The registration plates plate,  
20 including a special registration plates plate, shall be  
21 assigned to the owner of a vehicle. When the owner of a  
22 registered vehicle transfers or assigns ownership of the  
23 vehicle to another person, the owner shall remove the  
24 registration plates plate from the vehicle. The owner shall  
25 forward the plates plate to the county treasurer where the  
26 vehicle is registered or the owner may have the plates plate  
27 assigned to another vehicle within thirty days after transfer,  
28 upon payment of the fees required by law. The owner shall  
29 immediately affix a registration plates plate retained by the  
30 owner to another vehicle owned or acquired by the owner,  
31 providing the owner complies with section 321.46. The  
32 department shall adopt rules providing for the assignment of a  
33 registration plates plate to the transferee of a vehicle for  
34 which a credit is allowed under section 321.46, subsection 6.  
35 2. VALIDATION STICKERS. In lieu of issuing a new

1 registration ~~plates~~ plate each registration year for a vehicle  
2 renewing registration, the department may reassign the  
3 registration ~~plates~~ plate previously issued to the vehicle and  
4 may adopt and prescribe an annual validation sticker  
5 indicating payment of registration fees. The department shall  
6 issue one validation sticker for each ~~set-of~~ registration  
7 ~~plates~~ plate. The sticker shall specify the month and year of  
8 expiration of the registration ~~plates~~ plate. ~~The-sticker~~  
9 ~~shall-be-displayed-only-on-the-rear-registration-plate,-except~~  
10 ~~that-the-sticker-shall-be-displayed-on-the-front-registration~~  
11 ~~plate-of-a-truck-tractor.~~

12 The state department of transportation shall adopt rules to  
13 provide for the placement of the motor vehicle registration  
14 validation sticker.

15 3. RADIO OPERATORS ~~PLATES~~ PLATE. The owner of an  
16 automobile, light delivery truck, panel delivery truck,  
17 motorcycle, trailer, or pickup who holds an amateur radio  
18 license issued by the federal communications commission may,  
19 upon written application to the county treasurer accompanied  
20 by a fee of five dollars, order a special registration ~~plates~~  
21 plate bearing the call letters authorized the radio station  
22 covered by the person's amateur radio license. When received  
23 by the county treasurer, ~~such~~ the special registration ~~plates~~  
24 plate shall be issued to the applicant in exchange for the  
25 registration ~~plates~~ plate previously issued to the person.  
26 Not more than one ~~set-of~~ special registration ~~plates~~ plate may  
27 be issued to an applicant. ~~Said~~ The fee shall be in addition  
28 to and not in lieu of the fee for a regular registration  
29 ~~plates~~ plate. ~~Special~~ A special registration ~~plates~~ plate  
30 must be surrendered upon expiration of the owner's amateur  
31 radio license and the owner shall ~~thereupon~~ then be entitled  
32 to the owner's regular registration ~~plates~~ plate. The county  
33 treasurer shall validate a special ~~plates~~ plate in the same  
34 manner as a regular registration ~~plates~~ plate, upon payment of  
35 five dollars in addition to the regular annual registration

1 fee.

2 4. MULTIYEAR PLATES PLATE. In lieu of issuing an annual  
3 registration plates plate for trailers, semitrailers, motor  
4 trucks, and truck tractors, the department may issue a  
5 multiyear registration plate for a three-year period or a  
6 permanent registration plate for trailers and semitrailers  
7 licensed under chapter 326, and a permanent registration plate  
8 for motor trucks and truck tractors licensed under chapter  
9 326, upon payment of the appropriate registration fee.  
10 Payment of fees for trailers and semitrailers for a permanent  
11 registration plate shall, at the option of the registrant, be  
12 made at five-year intervals or on an annual basis. Fees from  
13 three-year and five-year payments shall not be reduced or  
14 prorated. Payment of fees for motor trucks and truck tractors  
15 shall be made on an annual basis.

16 5. PERSONALIZED REGISTRATION PLATES PLATE.

17 a. Upon application and the payment of a fee of twenty-  
18 five dollars, the director may issue to the owner of a motor  
19 vehicle registered in this state or a trailer or travel  
20 trailer registered in this state, a personalized registration  
21 plates plate marked with up to seven initials, letters, or  
22 combination of numerals and letters requested by the owner.  
23 However, a personalized registration plates plate for  
24 motorcycles and motorized bicycles shall be marked with no  
25 more than six initials, letters, or combinations of numerals  
26 and letters. Upon receipt of the personalized registration  
27 plates plate, the applicant shall surrender the regular  
28 registration plates plate to the county treasurer. The fee  
29 for issuance of the personalized registration plates plate  
30 shall be in addition to the regular annual registration fee.

31 b. The county treasurer shall validate a personalized  
32 registration plates plate in the same manner as a regular  
33 registration plates-are plate is validated under this section  
34 at an annual fee of five dollars in addition to the regular  
35 annual registration fee. A person renewing a personalized

1 registration plate within one month following the time  
2 requirements under section 321.40 may renew the personalized  
3 plate without paying the additional registration fee under  
4 paragraph "a" but shall pay the five-dollar fee in addition to  
5 the regular registration fee and any penalties subject to  
6 regular registration plate holders for late renewal.

7 c. The fees collected by the director under this section  
8 shall be paid to the treasurer of state and credited by the  
9 treasurer of state as provided in section 321.145.

10 6. SAMPLE VEHICLE REGISTRATION PLATES PLATE. Vehicle A  
11 vehicle registration plates plate displaying the general  
12 design of a regular registration plates plate, with the word  
13 "sample" displayed on the plate, may be furnished to any  
14 person upon payment of a fee of three dollars, except that  
15 such plates may be furnished to governmental agencies without  
16 cost. Sample A sample registration plates plate shall not be  
17 attached to a vehicle moved on the highways of this state.

18 7. COLLEGIATE PLATES PLATE.

19 a. Upon application and payment of the proper fees, the  
20 director may issue to the owner of a motor vehicle, trailer,  
21 or travel trailer registered in this state, a collegiate  
22 registration plates plate. Upon receipt of the collegiate  
23 registration plates plate, the applicant shall surrender the  
24 regular registration plates plate to the county treasurer.

25 b. Collegiate registration plates shall be designed for  
26 each of the three state universities. The collegiate  
27 registration plates shall be designated as follows:

28 (1) The letters "ISU" followed by a four-digit number all  
29 in cardinal on a gold background for Iowa state university of  
30 science and technology.

31 (2) The letters "UNI" followed by a four-digit number all  
32 in purple on a gold background for the university of northern  
33 Iowa.

34 (3) The letters "UI" followed by a four-digit number all  
35 in black on a gold background for the state university of

1 Iowa.

2 (4) In lieu of the letter number designation provided  
3 under subparagraphs (1) through (3), the collegiate  
4 registration plates may be designated in the manner provided  
5 for personalized registration plates under subsection 5,  
6 paragraph "a", in the colors designated for the respective  
7 universities under subparagraphs (1) through (3).

8 c. The fees for a collegiate registration plate are as  
9 follows:

10 (1) A registration fee of twenty-five dollars.

11 (2) A special collegiate registration fee of twenty-five  
12 dollars.

13 These fees are in addition to the regular annual  
14 registration fee. The fees collected by the director under  
15 this subsection shall be paid monthly to the treasurer of  
16 state and credited by the treasurer of state to the road use  
17 tax fund. Notwithstanding section 423.24 and prior to the  
18 revenues being credited to the road use tax fund under section  
19 423.24, subsection 1, paragraph "b", the treasurer of state  
20 shall credit monthly from those revenues respectively, to Iowa  
21 state university of science and technology, the university of  
22 northern Iowa, and the state university of Iowa, the amount of  
23 the special collegiate registration fees collected in the  
24 previous month for collegiate registration plates designed for  
25 the university. The moneys credited are appropriated to the  
26 respective universities to be used for scholarships for  
27 students attending the universities.

28 d. The county treasurer shall validate a collegiate  
29 registration ~~plates~~ plate in the same manner as a regular  
30 registration ~~plates-are~~ plate is validated under this section  
31 at an annual fee of five dollars in addition to the regular  
32 annual registration fee.

33 e. A collegiate registration plate shall not be issued if  
34 its combination of alphanumeric characters are identical to  
35 those contained on a current personalized registration plate

1 issued under subsection 5. However, the owner of a motor  
2 vehicle who has a personalized registration plate issued for  
3 the motor vehicle may, after proper application and payment of  
4 fees, be issued a collegiate registration plate containing the  
5 same alphanumeric characters as those on the personalized  
6 plate. Upon receipt of the collegiate registration ~~plates~~  
7 plate, the owner shall surrender the personalized registration  
8 ~~plates~~ plate to the county treasurer.

9 8. CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR ~~PLATES~~ PLATE. The owner  
10 of a motor vehicle subject to registration under section  
11 321.109, subsection 1, light delivery truck, panel delivery  
12 truck, motorcycle, trailer, or pickup who has been awarded the  
13 congressional medal of honor may, upon written application to  
14 the department, order a special registration plates plate  
15 which shall be red, white, and blue in color and shall bear an  
16 emblem of the congressional medal of honor and an identifying  
17 number. Each applicant applying for a special registration  
18 ~~plates~~ plate under this subsection may purchase only one ~~set~~  
19 ~~of registration plates~~ plate under this subsection. The  
20 application is subject to approval by the department and the  
21 special registration ~~plates~~ plate shall be issued to the  
22 applicant in exchange for the registration ~~plates~~ plate  
23 previously issued to the person. The special ~~plates-are~~ plate  
24 is subject to an annual registration fee of fifteen dollars.  
25 The department shall validate the special ~~plates~~ plate in the  
26 same manner as a regular registration plates-are plate is  
27 validated under this section. The department shall not issue  
28 special registration plates until service organizations in the  
29 state have furnished the department either the special dies or  
30 the cost of the special dies necessary for the manufacture of  
31 the special registration plate.

32 The surviving spouse of a person who was issued a special  
33 ~~plates~~ plate under this subsection may continue to use the  
34 special ~~plates~~ plate subject to registration of the special  
35 ~~plates~~ plate in the surviving spouse's name and upon payment

1 of the fifteen dollar annual registration fee. If the  
2 surviving spouse remarries, the surviving spouse shall return  
3 the special plates plate to the department and the department  
4 shall issue a regular registration plates plate to the  
5 surviving spouse.

6 8A. EX-PRISONER OF WAR SPECIAL PLATES PLATE. The owner of  
7 a motor vehicle subject to registration under section 321.109,  
8 subsection 1, light delivery truck, panel delivery truck,  
9 motorcycle, trailer, or pickup who was a prisoner of war  
10 during the Second World War at any time between December 7,  
11 1941, and December 31, 1946, the Korean Conflict at any time  
12 between June 25, 1950, and January 31, 1955, or the Vietnam  
13 Conflict at any time between August 5, 1964, and June 30,  
14 1973, all dates inclusive, may, upon written application to  
15 the department, order only one ~~set-of~~ special registration  
16 plates plate with an ex-prisoner of war processed emblem. The  
17 emblem shall be designed by the department in cooperation with  
18 the adjutant general and shall signify that the owner was a  
19 prisoner of war as described in this subsection. The  
20 application is subject to approval by the department, in  
21 consultation with the adjutant general. The special plates  
22 plate shall be issued at no charge and are subject to an  
23 annual registration fee of fifteen dollars. The county  
24 treasurer shall validate the special plates plate in the same  
25 manner as a regular registration plates-are plate is validated  
26 under this section.

27 The surviving spouse of a person who was issued a special  
28 plates plate under this subsection may continue to use or  
29 apply for and use the special plates plate subject to  
30 registration of the special plates plate in the surviving  
31 spouse's name and upon payment of the annual registration fee.  
32 If the surviving spouse remarries, the surviving spouse shall  
33 return the special plates plate to the department and the  
34 department shall issue a regular registration plates plate to  
35 the surviving spouse.

1 9. LEASED VEHICLES. Registration-plates A registration  
2 plate under this section, including a disabled veteran plates  
3 plate specified in section 321.105, may be issued to the  
4 lessee of a motor vehicle if the lessee provides evidence of a  
5 lease for a period of more than sixty days and if the lessee  
6 complies with the requirements, under this section, for  
7 issuance of the specific registration plates plate.

8 10. FIRE FIGHTER PLATES PLATE. The owner of a motor  
9 vehicle subject to registration pursuant to section 321.109,  
10 subsection 1, light delivery truck, panel delivery truck,  
11 pickup, motor home, multipurpose vehicle, motorcycle, trailer,  
12 or travel trailer who is a current or former member of a paid  
13 or volunteer fire department, may upon written application to  
14 the department, order a special registration plates plate,  
15 designed by the department in cooperation with representatives  
16 designated by the Iowa fire fighters' associations, which  
17 plates-signify plate signifies that the applicant is a current  
18 or former member of a paid or volunteer fire department. The  
19 application shall be approved by the department, in  
20 consultation with representatives designated by the Iowa fire  
21 fighters' associations, and the special registration plates  
22 plate shall be issued to the applicant in exchange for the  
23 registration plates plate previously issued to the person.  
24 The fee for the special plates plate shall be twenty-five  
25 dollars which shall be in addition to the regular annual  
26 registration fee. The department shall validate the special  
27 plates plate in the same manner as a regular registration  
28 plates-are plate is validated under this section at the  
29 regular annual registration fee.

30 10A. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PLATES PLATE. The owner  
31 of a motor vehicle subject to registration pursuant to section  
32 321.109, subsection 1, light delivery truck, panel delivery  
33 truck, pickup, motor home, multipurpose vehicle, motorcycle,  
34 trailer, or travel trailer who is a current member of a paid  
35 or volunteer emergency medical services agency may, upon

1 written application to the department, order a special  
2 registration ~~plates~~ plate, designed by the department in  
3 cooperation with representatives designated by the Iowa  
4 emergency medical services association, which ~~plates-signify~~  
5 plate signifies that the applicant is a current member of a  
6 paid or volunteer emergency medical services agency. The  
7 application shall be approved by the department, in  
8 consultation with representatives designated by the Iowa  
9 emergency medical services association, and the special  
10 registration ~~plates~~ plate shall be issued to the applicant in  
11 exchange for the registration ~~plates~~ plate previously issued  
12 to the person. The fee for the special ~~plates~~ plate shall be  
13 twenty-five dollars which shall be in addition to the regular  
14 annual registration fee. The department shall validate the  
15 special ~~plates~~ plate in the same manner as a regular  
16 registration ~~plates-are~~ plate is validated under this section  
17 at the regular annual registration fee.

18 11. NATURAL RESOURCES ~~PLATES~~ PLATE.

19 a. Upon application and payment of the proper fees, the  
20 director may issue a natural resources ~~plates~~ plate to the  
21 owner of a motor vehicle subject to registration under section  
22 321.109, subsection 1, light delivery truck, panel delivery  
23 truck, pickup, motor home, multipurpose vehicle, motorcycle,  
24 trailer, or travel trailer.

25 b. Natural resources plates shall be designed by the  
26 department in cooperation with the department of natural  
27 resources which design shall include on the plate the name of  
28 the county where the vehicle is registered.

29 c. The special natural resources fee for a letter number  
30 designated natural resources ~~plates~~ plate is thirty-five  
31 dollars. The fee for a personalized natural resources ~~plates~~  
32 plate is forty-five dollars which shall be paid in addition to  
33 the special natural resources fee of thirty-five dollars. The  
34 fees collected by the director under this subsection shall be  
35 paid monthly to the treasurer of state and credited to the

1 road use tax fund. Notwithstanding section 423.24, and prior  
2 to the crediting of revenues to the road use tax fund under  
3 section 423.24, subsection 1, paragraph "b", the treasurer of  
4 state shall credit monthly from those revenues to the Iowa  
5 resources enhancement and protection fund created pursuant to  
6 section 455A.18, the amount of the special natural resources  
7 fees collected in the previous month for the natural resources  
8 plates.

9 d. Upon receipt of the special registration ~~plates~~ plate,  
10 the applicant shall surrender the current registration receipt  
11 and ~~plates~~ plate to the county treasurer. The county  
12 treasurer shall validate the special registration ~~plates~~ plate  
13 in the same manner as a regular registration ~~plates-are~~ plate  
14 is validated under this section. The annual special natural  
15 resources fee for a letter number designated ~~plates~~ plate is  
16 ten dollars which shall be paid in addition to the regular  
17 annual registration fee. The annual fee for a personalized  
18 natural resources ~~plates~~ plate is five dollars which shall be  
19 paid in addition to the annual special natural resources fee  
20 and the regular annual registration fee. The annual special  
21 natural resources fee shall be credited as provided under  
22 paragraph "c".

23 11A. LOVE OUR KIDS ~~PLATES~~ PLATE.

24 a. Upon application and payment of the proper fees, the  
25 director may issue a "love our kids" ~~plates~~ plate to the owner  
26 of a motor vehicle subject to registration under section  
27 321.109, subsection 1, light delivery truck, panel delivery  
28 truck, pickup, motor home, multipurpose vehicle, motorcycle,  
29 trailer, or travel trailer.

30 b. Love our kids plates shall be designed by the  
31 department in cooperation with the Iowa department of public  
32 health.

33 c. The special fee for a letter number designated love our  
34 kids ~~plates~~ plate is thirty-five dollars. The fee for a  
35 personalized love our kids ~~plates~~ plate is twenty-five

1 dollars, which shall be paid in addition to the special love  
2 our kids fee of thirty-five dollars. The fees collected by  
3 the director under this subsection shall be paid monthly to  
4 the treasurer of state and credited to the road use tax fund.  
5 Notwithstanding section 423.24, and prior to the crediting of  
6 revenues to the road use tax fund under section 423.24,  
7 subsection 1, paragraph "b", the treasurer of state shall  
8 transfer monthly from those revenues to the Iowa department of  
9 public health the amount of the special fees collected in the  
10 previous month for the love our kids plates. Notwithstanding  
11 section 8.33, moneys transferred under this subsection shall  
12 not revert to the general fund of the state.

13 d. Upon receipt of the special registration ~~plates~~ plate,  
14 the applicant shall surrender the current registration receipt  
15 and ~~plates~~ plate to the county treasurer. The county  
16 treasurer shall validate the special registration ~~plates~~ plate  
17 in the same manner as a regular registration ~~plates-are~~ plate  
18 is validated under this section. The annual special love our  
19 kids fee for a letter number designated ~~plates~~ plate is ten  
20 dollars, which shall be paid in addition to the regular annual  
21 registration fee. The annual fee for a personalized love our  
22 kids ~~plates~~ plate is five dollars, which shall be paid in  
23 addition to the annual special love our kids fee and the  
24 regular annual registration fee. The annual love our kids fee  
25 shall be credited as provided under paragraph "c".

26 11B. MOTORCYCLE RIDER EDUCATION ~~PLATES~~ PLATE.

27 a. Upon application and payment of the proper fees, the  
28 director may issue a "motorcycle rider education" ~~plates~~ plate  
29 to the owner of a motor vehicle subject to registration under  
30 section 321.109, subsection 1, light delivery truck, panel  
31 delivery truck, pickup, motor home, multipurpose vehicle,  
32 motorcycle, trailer, or travel trailer.

33 b. Motorcycle rider education plates shall be designed by  
34 the department.

35 c. The special fee for a letter number designated

1 motorcycle rider education ~~plates~~ plate is thirty-five  
2 dollars. The fee for a personalized motorcycle rider  
3 education ~~plates~~ plate is twenty-five dollars, which shall be  
4 paid in addition to the special motorcycle rider education fee  
5 of thirty-five dollars. The fees collected by the director  
6 under this subsection shall be paid monthly to the treasurer  
7 of state and credited to the road use tax fund.

8 Notwithstanding section 423.24, and prior to the crediting of  
9 revenues to the road use tax fund under section 423.24,  
10 subsection 1, paragraph "b", the treasurer of state shall  
11 transfer monthly from those revenues to the department for use  
12 in accordance with section 321.180B, subsection 6, the amount  
13 of the special fees collected in the previous month for the  
14 motorcycle rider education plates.

15 d. Upon receipt of the special registration ~~plates~~ plate,  
16 the applicant shall surrender the current registration receipt  
17 and ~~plates~~ plate to the county treasurer. The county  
18 treasurer shall validate the special registration ~~plates~~ plate  
19 in the same manner as a regular registration ~~plates-are~~ plate  
20 is validated under this section. The annual special  
21 motorcycle rider education fee for a letter number designated  
22 ~~plates~~ plate is ten dollars, which shall be paid in addition  
23 to the regular annual registration fee. The annual fee for a  
24 personalized motorcycle rider education ~~plates~~ plate is five  
25 dollars, which shall be paid in addition to the annual special  
26 motorcycle rider education fee and the regular annual  
27 registration fee. The annual motorcycle rider education fee  
28 shall be credited as provided under paragraph "c".

29 12. SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES -- GENERAL PROVISIONS.

30 a. The owner of a motor vehicle subject to registration  
31 pursuant to section 321.109, subsection 1, light delivery  
32 truck, panel delivery truck, pickup, motor home, multipurpose  
33 vehicle, motorcycle, trailer, or travel trailer may, upon  
34 written application to the department, order a special  
35 registration ~~plates~~ plate with a distinguishing processed

1 emblem as authorized by this section or as approved by the  
2 department. The fee for the issuance of a special  
3 registration ~~plates~~ plate is twenty-five dollars for each  
4 vehicle, unless otherwise provided by this section, which fee  
5 is in addition to the regular annual registration fee. The  
6 county treasurer shall validate a special registration plates  
7 plate with a distinguishing processed emblem in the same  
8 manner as a regular registration plates plate, upon payment of  
9 five dollars in addition to the regular annual registration  
10 fee.

11 b. Upon receipt of a special registration plate with a  
12 distinguishing processed emblem as authorized by this section  
13 or as approved by the department, the applicant shall  
14 surrender the regular registration ~~plates~~ plate to the county  
15 treasurer. An applicant no longer eligible for a special  
16 registration plate shall surrender the special vehicle  
17 registration ~~plates~~ plate to the county treasurer for issuance  
18 of a regular registration plates plate.

19 c. An applicant may, upon payment of the additional fee  
20 for a personalized plate as provided in subsection 5, obtain a  
21 personalized special registration plate with a processed  
22 emblem. Personalized plates authorized by this section with  
23 the processed emblem shall be limited to no more than five  
24 initials, letters, or combinations of numerals and letters.

25 d. A special registration plate issued for a motorcycle or  
26 motorized bicycle under this section shall be designated in  
27 the manner provided for personalized registration plates under  
28 subsection 5, paragraph "a".

29 12A. SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES -- ARMED FORCES SERVICES  
30 SERVICE. An owner of a vehicle referred to in subsection 12  
31 who applies for any type of special registration ~~plates~~ plate  
32 associated with service in the United States armed forces  
33 shall be issued one ~~set-of-the-special~~ registration ~~plates~~  
34 plate at no charge, but shall be subject to the annual  
35 registration fee of fifteen dollars if all of the following

1 conditions are met:

2 a. The owner is eligible for, but has relinquished to the  
3 department or the county treasurer or has not been issued, a  
4 congressional medal of honor, ex-prisoner of war, or legion of  
5 merit special registration plates plate under this section, or  
6 a disabled veteran registration plates plate under section  
7 321.105.

8 b. The owner provides the appropriate information  
9 regarding the owner's eligibility for any of the special  
10 registration plates described in paragraph "a", and regarding  
11 the owner's eligibility for the special registration plates  
12 plate for which the owner has applied, as required by the  
13 department.

14 A disabled veteran shall be exempt from payment of the  
15 fifteen dollar annual registration fee as provided in section  
16 321.105.

17 Upon the death of the vehicle owner entitled to the special  
18 registration plates plate, the special registration plates  
19 plate shall be surrendered to the department or the county  
20 treasurer.

21 13. NEW SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES -- DEPARTMENT REVIEW.

22 a. Any person may submit a request to the department to  
23 recommend a new special registration plate with a processed  
24 emblem. The request shall provide a proposed design for the  
25 processed emblem, the purpose of the special registration  
26 plate with the processed emblem, any eligibility requirements  
27 for purchase or receipt of the special registration plate with  
28 the processed emblem, and evidence there is sufficient  
29 interest in the special registration plate with the processed  
30 emblem to pay implementation costs. The department shall  
31 consider the request and make a recommendation based upon  
32 criteria established by the department which shall include  
33 consideration of the information included in the request, the  
34 number of special registration plates with processed emblems  
35 currently authorized, and any other relevant factors.

1 b. If a request for a proposed special registration plate  
2 with a processed emblem meets the criteria established by the  
3 department, the department shall, in consultation with the  
4 persons seeking the special registration plate with the  
5 processed emblem, approve a recommended design for the  
6 processed emblem, and propose eligibility requirements for the  
7 special registration plate with the processed emblem.

8 c. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter  
9 17A regarding the approval and issuance of special  
10 registration plates.

11 d. A state agency may submit a request to the department  
12 recommending a special registration plate. The alternate fee  
13 for letter number designated plates is thirty-five dollars  
14 with a ten dollar annual special renewal fee. The fee for a  
15 personalized ~~plates~~ plate is twenty-five dollars which is in  
16 addition to the alternative fee of thirty-five dollars with an  
17 annual personalized plate renewal fee of five dollars which is  
18 in addition to the special renewal fee of ten dollars. The  
19 alternate fees are in addition to the regular annual  
20 registration fee. The alternate fees collected under this  
21 paragraph shall be paid monthly to the treasurer of state and  
22 credited to the road use tax fund. Notwithstanding section  
23 423.24 and prior to the crediting of the revenues to the road  
24 use tax fund under section 423.24, subsection 1, paragraph  
25 "b", the treasurer of state shall credit monthly the amount of  
26 the alternate fees collected in the previous month to the  
27 state agency that recommended the special registration plate.

28 14. PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES SPECIAL ~~PLATES~~ PLATE. An  
29 owner referred to in subsection 12 or an owner of a trailer  
30 used to transport a wheelchair who is a person with a  
31 disability, or who is the parent or guardian of a child who  
32 resides with the parent or guardian owner and who is a person  
33 with a disability, as defined in section 321L.1, may, upon  
34 written application to the department, order a special  
35 registration ~~plates~~ plate with a persons with disabilities

1 processed emblem designed by the department bearing the  
2 international symbol of accessibility. The special  
3 registration ~~plates~~ plate with a persons with disabilities  
4 processed emblem shall only be issued if the application is  
5 accompanied with a statement from a physician licensed under  
6 chapter 148, 149, 150, or 150A, a physician assistant licensed  
7 under chapter 148C, an advanced registered nurse practitioner  
8 licensed under chapter 152, or a chiropractor licensed under  
9 chapter 151, written on the physician's, physician  
10 assistant's, nurse practitioner's, or chiropractor's  
11 stationery, stating the nature of the applicant's or the  
12 applicant's child's disability and such additional information  
13 as required by rules adopted by the department, including  
14 proof of residency of a child who is a person with a  
15 disability. If the application is approved by the department,  
16 the special registration ~~plates~~ plate with a persons with  
17 disabilities processed emblem shall be issued to the  
18 applicant. There shall be no fee in addition to the regular  
19 annual registration fee for the special registration ~~plates~~  
20 plate with a persons with disabilities processed emblem. The  
21 authorization for a special registration ~~plates~~ plate with a  
22 persons with disabilities processed emblem shall not be  
23 renewed without the applicant furnishing evidence to the  
24 department that the owner of the vehicle or the owner's child  
25 is still a person with a disability as defined in section  
26 321L.1. An owner who has a child who is a person with a  
27 disability shall provide satisfactory evidence to the  
28 department that the child with a disability continues to  
29 reside with the owner. The registration ~~plates~~ plate with a  
30 persons with disabilities processed emblem shall be  
31 surrendered in exchange for a regular registration ~~plates~~  
32 plate as provided in subsection 12 when the owner of the  
33 vehicle or the owner's child no longer qualifies as a person  
34 with a disability as defined in section 321L.1 or when the  
35 owner's child who is a person with a disability no longer

1 resides with the owner.

2 15. LEGION OF MERIT SPECIAL PLATES PLATE. The owner of a  
3 motor vehicle subject to registration under section 321.109,  
4 subsection 1, light delivery truck, panel delivery truck,  
5 motorcycle, trailer, or pickup who has been awarded the legion  
6 of merit may, upon written application to the department and  
7 presentation of satisfactory proof of the award of the legion  
8 of merit as established by the Congress of the United States,  
9 order a special registration plates plate with a legion of  
10 merit processed emblem. The emblem shall be designed by the  
11 department in cooperation with the adjutant general and shall  
12 signify that the owner was awarded the legion of merit. The  
13 application is subject to approval by the department, in  
14 consultation with the adjutant general. The special plates  
15 plate shall be issued at no charge and are is subject to an  
16 annual registration fee of fifteen dollars. The county  
17 treasurer shall validate the special plates plate in the same  
18 manner as a regular registration plates-are plate is validated  
19 under this section.

20 The surviving spouse of a person who was issued a special  
21 plates plate under this subsection may continue to use or  
22 apply for and use the special plates plate subject to  
23 registration of the special plates plate in the surviving  
24 spouse's name and upon payment of the annual registration fee.  
25 If the surviving spouse remarries, the surviving spouse shall  
26 return the special plates plate to the department and the  
27 department shall issue a regular registration plates plate to  
28 the surviving spouse.

29 16. NATIONAL GUARD SPECIAL PLATES PLATE. An owner  
30 referred to in subsection 12 who is a member of the national  
31 guard, as defined in chapter 29A, may, upon written  
32 application to the department, order a special registration  
33 plates plate with a national guard processed emblem with the  
34 emblem designed by the department in cooperation with the  
35 adjutant general which emblem signifies that the applicant is

1 a member of the national guard. The application shall be  
2 approved by the department in consultation with the adjutant  
3 general. ~~Special~~ A special registration ~~plates~~ plate with a  
4 national guard processed emblem shall be surrendered, as  
5 provided in subsection 12, in exchange for a regular  
6 registration ~~plates~~ plate upon termination of the owner's  
7 membership in the active national guard.

8 17. PEARL HARBOR SPECIAL ~~PLATES~~ PLATE. An owner referred  
9 to in subsection 12 who was at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, as a  
10 member of the armed services of the United States on December  
11 7, 1941, may, upon written application to the department,  
12 order a special registration ~~plates~~ plate with a Pearl Harbor  
13 processed emblem. The emblem shall be designed by the  
14 department in consultation with service organizations. The  
15 application is subject to approval by the department.

16 18. PURPLE HEART SPECIAL ~~PLATES~~ PLATE. An owner referred  
17 to in subsection 12 who was awarded a purple heart medal by  
18 the United States government for wounds received in military  
19 or naval combat against an armed enemy of the United States  
20 may, upon written application to the department and  
21 presentation of satisfactory proof of the award of the purple  
22 heart medal, order a special registration ~~plates~~ plate with a  
23 purple heart processed emblem. The design of the emblem shall  
24 include a representation of a purple heart medal and ribbon.  
25 The application is subject to approval by the department in  
26 consultation with the adjutant general.

27 19. UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES RETIRED SPECIAL ~~PLATES~~  
28 PLATE. An owner referred to in subsection 12 who is a retired  
29 member of the United States armed forces may, upon written  
30 application to the department and upon presentation of  
31 satisfactory proof of membership, order a special registration  
32 ~~plates~~ plate with a United States armed forces retired  
33 processed emblem. The emblem shall be designed by the  
34 department in consultation with service organizations. The  
35 application is subject to approval by the department. For

1 purposes of this subsection, a person is considered to be  
2 retired if the person is recognized by the United States armed  
3 forces as retired from the United States armed forces.

4 20. SILVER OR BRONZE STAR PLATES PLATE. An owner referred  
5 to in subsection 12 who was awarded a silver or a bronze star  
6 by the United States government, may, upon written application  
7 to the department and presentation of satisfactory proof of  
8 the award of the silver or bronze star, order a special  
9 registration plates plate with a silver or bronze star  
10 processed emblem. The emblem shall be designed by the  
11 department in consultation with the adjutant general.

12 21. IOWA HERITAGE SPECIAL PLATES PLATE.

13 a. An owner referred to in subsection 12 may, upon written  
14 application to the department, order a special registration  
15 plates plate with an Iowa heritage emblem. The emblem shall  
16 contain a picture of the American gothic house and the words  
17 "Iowa Heritage" and shall be designed by the department in  
18 consultation with the state historical society of Iowa.

19 b. The special Iowa heritage fee for a letter number  
20 designated plates plate is thirty-five dollars. The special  
21 fee for a personalized Iowa heritage plates plate is twenty-  
22 five dollars which shall be paid in addition to the special  
23 fee of thirty-five dollars. The annual special Iowa heritage  
24 fee is ten dollars for a letter number designated registration  
25 plates plate and is fifteen dollars for a personalized  
26 registration plates plate which shall be paid in addition to  
27 the regular annual registration fee.

28 c. The special fees collected by the director under this  
29 subsection shall be paid monthly to the treasurer of state and  
30 credited to the road use tax fund. Notwithstanding section  
31 423.24, and prior to the crediting of revenues to the road use  
32 tax fund under section 423.24, subsection 1, paragraph "b",  
33 the treasurer of state shall credit monthly to the Iowa  
34 heritage fund created under section 303.9A the amount of the  
35 special fees collected in the previous month for the Iowa

1 heritage plates.

2 22. EDUCATION ~~PLATES~~ PLATE.

3 a. An owner referred to in subsection 12, upon written  
4 application to the department, may order a special  
5 registration ~~plates~~ plate with an education emblem. The  
6 education emblem shall be designed by the department in  
7 cooperation with the department of education.

8 b. The special school transportation fee for a letter  
9 number designated education ~~plates~~ plate is thirty-five  
10 dollars. The fee for a personalized education ~~plates~~ plate is  
11 twenty-five dollars, which shall be paid in addition to the  
12 special school transportation fee of thirty-five dollars. The  
13 annual special school transportation fee is ten dollars for a  
14 letter number designated registration ~~plates~~ plate and is  
15 fifteen dollars for a personalized registration ~~plates~~ plate  
16 which shall be paid in addition to the regular annual  
17 registration fee. The fees collected by the director under  
18 this subsection shall be paid monthly to the treasurer of  
19 state and credited to the road use tax fund. Notwithstanding  
20 section 423.24, and prior to the crediting of revenues to the  
21 road use tax fund under section 423.24, subsection 1,  
22 paragraph "b", the treasurer of state shall transfer monthly  
23 from those revenues to the school budget review committee in  
24 accordance with section 257.31, subsection 17, the amount of  
25 the special school transportation fees collected in the  
26 previous month for the education plates.

27 Sec. 12. Section 321.37, Code Supplement 2001, is amended  
28 to read as follows:

29 321.37 DISPLAY OF ~~PLATES~~ REGISTRATION PLATE.

30 1. Registration-plates A registration plate issued for a  
31 motor vehicle other than a ~~motorcycle, motorized-bicycle-or-a~~  
32 truck tractor shall be attached to the rear of the motor  
33 ~~vehicle, one-in-the-front-and-the-other-in-the-rear.~~ The  
34 ~~registration-plate-issued-for-a-motorcycle-or-other-vehicle~~  
35 ~~required-to-be-registered-hereunder-shall-be-attached-to-the~~

1 ~~rear-of-the-vehicle.~~ The registration plate issued for a  
2 truck tractor shall be attached to the front of the truck  
3 tractor. The special plate issued to a dealer shall be  
4 attached on the rear of the vehicle when operated on the  
5 highways of this state.

6 ~~2.--Registration-plates-issued-for-a-motor-vehicle-which-is~~  
7 ~~model-year-1948-or-older,-and-reconstructed-or-specially~~  
8 ~~constructed-vehicles-built-to-resemble-a-model-year-1948~~  
9 ~~vehicle-or-older,-other-than-a-truck-registered-for-more-than~~  
10 ~~five-tons,-motorcycle,-or-truck-tractor,-may-display-one~~  
11 ~~registration-plate-on-the-rear-of-the-vehicle-if-the-other~~  
12 ~~registration-plate-issued-to-the-vehicle-is-carried-in-the~~  
13 ~~vehicle-at-all-times-when-the-vehicle-is-operated-on-a-public~~  
14 ~~highway.~~

15 3. 2. It is unlawful for the owner of a vehicle to place  
16 any frame around or over the registration plate which does not  
17 permit full view of all numerals and letters printed on the  
18 registration plate.

19 Sec. 13. Section 321.38, Code Supplement 2001, is amended  
20 to read as follows:

21 321.38 PLATES, METHOD OF ATTACHING -- IMITATIONS  
22 PROHIBITED.

23 Every registration plate shall at all times be securely  
24 fastened in a horizontal position to the vehicle for which it  
25 is issued so as to prevent the plate from swinging and at a  
26 height of not less than twelve inches from the ground,  
27 measuring from the bottom of the plate, in a place and  
28 position to be clearly visible and shall be maintained free  
29 from foreign materials and in a condition to be clearly  
30 legible. An imitation plate ~~or-plates~~ imitating or purporting  
31 to imitate the official registration plate of any other state  
32 or territory of the United States or of any foreign government  
33 shall not be fastened to the vehicle.

34 Sec. 14. Section 321.41, subsection 3, Code Supplement  
35 2001, is amended to read as follows:

1 3. A person who has registered a vehicle in a county,  
2 other than the county designated on the vehicle registration  
3 plate, may apply to the county treasurer where the vehicle is  
4 registered for a new registration plates plate upon payment of  
5 a fee of five dollars and the return of the former county  
6 registration ~~plates~~ plate.

7 Sec. 15. Section 321.42, subsection 1, Code Supplement  
8 2001, is amended to read as follows:

9 1. If a registration card, or ~~plate, or pair of plates~~ is  
10 lost or becomes illegible, the owner shall immediately apply  
11 for replacement. The fee for a replacement registration card  
12 shall be three dollars. The fee for a replacement plate ~~or~~  
13 ~~pair of plates~~ shall be five dollars. When the owner has  
14 furnished information required by the department and paid the  
15 proper fee, a duplicate, substitute, or new registration card,  
16 or ~~plate, or pair of plates~~ may be issued.

17 Sec. 16. Section 321.46, subsection 7, Code Supplement  
18 2001, is amended to read as follows:

19 7. If a motor vehicle is leased and the lessee purchases  
20 the vehicle upon termination of the lease, the lessor shall,  
21 upon claim by the lessee with the lessor within fifteen days  
22 of the purchase, assign the registration fee credit and  
23 registration ~~plates~~ plate for the leased motor vehicle to the  
24 lessee. Credit shall be applied as provided in subsection 3.

25 Sec. 17. Section 321.47, unnumbered paragraph 3, Code  
26 Supplement 2001, is amended to read as follows:

27 Whenever ownership of a vehicle is transferred under the  
28 provisions of this section the registration ~~plates~~ plate shall  
29 be removed and forwarded to the county treasurer of the county  
30 where the vehicle is registered or to the department if the  
31 vehicle is owned by a nonresident. Upon transfer the vehicle  
32 shall not be operated upon the highways of this state until  
33 the person entitled to possession of the vehicle applies for  
34 and obtains registration for the vehicle.

35 Sec. 18. Section 321.52, subsection 1, Code Supplement

1 2001, is amended to read as follows:

2 1. When a vehicle is sold outside the state for purposes  
3 other than for junk the owner, dealer or otherwise, shall  
4 detach the registration ~~plates~~ plate and registration card and  
5 shall indicate on the reverse side of such registration card  
6 the name and address of the foreign purchaser or transferee  
7 over the person's signature. The owner shall surrender the  
8 registration ~~plates~~ plate and registration card to the county  
9 treasurer, unless the registration ~~plates-are~~ plate is  
10 properly attached to another vehicle, who shall cancel the  
11 records and shall destroy the registration ~~plates~~ plate and  
12 forward the registration card to the department. The  
13 department shall make a notation on the records of the out-of-  
14 state sale, and, after a reasonable period, may destroy the  
15 files to that particular vehicle. The department is not  
16 authorized to make a refund of license fees on a vehicle sold  
17 out of state unless it receives the registration card  
18 completed as provided in this section.

19 Sec. 19. Section 321.52, subsection 3, unnumbered  
20 paragraph 1, Code Supplement 2001, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 When a vehicle for which a certificate of title is issued  
23 is junked or dismantled by the owner, the owner shall detach  
24 the registration ~~plates~~ plate and surrender the ~~plates~~ plate  
25 to the county treasurer, unless the ~~plates-are~~ plate is  
26 properly assigned to another vehicle. The owner shall also  
27 surrender the certificate of title to the county treasurer.  
28 Upon surrendering the certificate of title and application for  
29 junking certificate, the county treasurer shall issue to the  
30 person, without fee, a junking certificate, which shall  
31 authorize the holder to possess, transport or transfer  
32 ownership of the junked vehicle by endorsement of the junking  
33 certificate. The county treasurer shall hold the surrendered  
34 certificate of title, registration receipt, application for  
35 junking certificate, and, if applicable, the registration

1 ~~plates~~ plate for a period of fourteen days following the  
2 issuance of a junking certificate under this subsection.  
3 Within the fourteen-day period the person who was issued the  
4 junking certificate and to whom the vehicle was titled or  
5 assigned may surrender to the county treasurer the junking  
6 certificate, and upon the person's payment of appropriate fees  
7 and taxes and payment of any credit for registration fees  
8 received by the person for the vehicle under section 321.46,  
9 subsection 3, the county treasurer shall issue to the person a  
10 certificate of title for the vehicle. After the expiration of  
11 the fourteen-day period, a county treasurer shall not issue a  
12 certificate of title for a junked vehicle for which a junking  
13 certificate is issued. The county treasurer shall cancel the  
14 record of the vehicle and forward the certificate of title to  
15 the department.

16 Sec. 20. Section 321.57, subsection 3, Code Supplement  
17 2001, is amended to read as follows:

18 3. Also a transporter may operate or move any vehicle of  
19 like type upon the highways solely for the purpose of delivery  
20 upon likewise displaying ~~thereon~~ on the vehicle a like ~~plates~~  
21 plate issued to the transporter as provided in these sections.

22 Sec. 21. Section 321.89, subsection 1, paragraph a,  
23 subparagraph (1), Code 2001, is amended to read as follows:

24 (1) A vehicle that has been left unattended on public  
25 property for more than twenty-four hours and lacks a current  
26 registration ~~plates~~ plate or two or more wheels or other parts  
27 which renders the vehicle totally inoperable.

28 Sec. 22. Section 321.96, Code 2001, is amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 321.96 PROHIBITED PLATES -- CERTIFICATES.

31 A person shall not display or cause or permit to be  
32 displayed, or have in the person's possession, a vehicle  
33 identification number or component part number except as  
34 provided in this chapter, or a canceled, revoked, altered, or  
35 fictitious registration number ~~plates~~ plate, registration

1 receipt, or certificate of title, as the same are respectively  
2 provided for in this chapter.

3 Sec. 23. Section 321.98, Code Supplement 2001, is amended  
4 to read as follows:

5 321.98 OPERATION WITHOUT REGISTRATION.

6 A person shall not operate, and an owner shall not  
7 knowingly permit to be operated upon any highway any vehicle  
8 required to be registered and titled hereunder unless there  
9 shall be attached thereto and displayed thereon when and as  
10 required by this chapter a valid registration card and  
11 registration plate ~~or-plates~~ issued therefor for the current  
12 registration year and unless a certificate of title has been  
13 issued for such vehicle except as otherwise expressly  
14 permitted in this chapter. Any violation of this section is a  
15 simple misdemeanor punishable as a scheduled violation under  
16 section 805.8A, subsection 2, paragraph "b".

17 Sec. 24. Section 321.101A, Code 2001, is amended to read  
18 as follows:

19 321.101A REVOCATION OF REGISTRATION BY COUNTY TREASURER.

20 The county treasurer may revoke the registration and  
21 registration ~~plates~~ plate of a vehicle if the registration  
22 fees are paid by check and the check is not honored by the  
23 payer's financial institution upon reasonable notice and  
24 demand. The owner of the vehicle or person in possession of  
25 the registration and registration ~~plates~~ plate for the vehicle  
26 shall immediately return the revoked registration and  
27 registration ~~plates~~ plate to the appropriate county  
28 treasurer's office.

29 Sec. 25. Section 321.103, Code 2001, is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 321.103 OWNER TO RETURN EVIDENCES OF REGISTRATION AND  
32 TITLE.

33 Whenever If the department as authorized hereunder under  
34 this chapter cancels, suspends, or revokes the registration of  
35 a vehicle, or certificate of title, or registration card, or

1 registration plate ~~or-plates~~, or any nonresident or other  
2 permit or the registration of any dealer, the owner or person  
3 in possession of the same shall immediately return the  
4 evidences of registration, certificate of title, or ~~plates~~  
5 plate so canceled, suspended, or revoked to the department.

6 Sec. 26. Section 321.104, subsection 3, Code Supplement  
7 2001, is amended to read as follows:

8 3. To fail to surrender a certificate of title,  
9 registration card, or registration ~~plates~~ plate upon  
10 cancellation, suspension, or revocation of the certificate or  
11 registration by the department and notice as prescribed in  
12 this chapter.

13 Sec. 27. Section 321.105, unnumbered paragraph 2, Code  
14 2001, is amended to read as follows:

15 The registration fee shall be paid to the county treasurer  
16 at the same time the application is made for the registration  
17 or reregistration of the motor vehicle or trailer. An owner  
18 may, when applying for registration or reregistration of a  
19 motor vehicle or trailer, request that the ~~plates~~ plate be  
20 mailed to the owner's post-office address. The owner's  
21 request shall be accompanied by a mailing fee as determined  
22 annually by the director in consultation with the Iowa county  
23 treasurers association.

24 Sec. 28. Section 321.109, subsection 1, unnumbered  
25 paragraph 1, Code 2001, is amended to read as follows:

26 The annual fee for all motor vehicles, including vehicles  
27 designated by manufacturers as station wagons, and 1993 and  
28 subsequent model years for multipurpose vehicles, except motor  
29 trucks, motor homes, ambulances, hearses, motorcycles, motor  
30 bicycles, and 1992 and older model years for multipurpose  
31 vehicles, shall be equal to one percent of the value as fixed  
32 by the department plus forty cents for each one hundred pounds  
33 or fraction thereof of weight of vehicle, as fixed by the  
34 department. The weight of a motor vehicle, fixed by the  
35 department for registration purposes, shall include the weight

1 of a battery, heater, bumpers, spare tire, and wheel.  
2 ~~Provided, however, that for any~~ A nonresident who purchases a  
3 new vehicle purchased in this state ~~by a nonresident~~ for  
4 removal to the nonresident's state of residence ~~the purchaser~~  
5 may make application to the county treasurer in the county of  
6 purchase for a transit plate for which a fee of ten dollars  
7 shall be paid. ~~And provided, however, that for any~~ A  
8 nonresident who purchases a used vehicle held by a registered  
9 dealer, and which is not currently registered in this state,  
10 or ~~for any~~ a vehicle held by an individual and which is  
11 currently registered in this state, ~~when purchased in this~~  
12 ~~state by a nonresident~~ for removal to the nonresident's state  
13 of residence, ~~the purchaser~~ may make application to the county  
14 treasurer in the county of purchase for a transit plate for  
15 which a fee of three dollars shall be paid. The county  
16 treasurer shall issue a nontransferable certificate of  
17 registration for which ~~no~~ a refund shall not be allowed, and  
18 the transit ~~plates~~ plate shall be void thirty days after  
19 issuance. Such purchaser may apply for a certificate of title  
20 by surrendering the manufacturer's or importer's certificate  
21 or certificate of title, duly assigned as provided in this  
22 chapter. In this event, the treasurer in the county of  
23 purchase shall, when satisfied with the genuineness and  
24 regularity of the application, and upon payment of a fee of  
25 ten dollars, issue a certificate of title in the name and  
26 address of the nonresident purchaser delivering the same to  
27 the person entitled to the title as provided in this chapter.  
28 The provisions of this subsection relating to multipurpose  
29 vehicles are effective January 1, 1993, for all 1993 and  
30 subsequent model years. The annual registration fee for  
31 multipurpose vehicles that are 1992 model years and older  
32 shall be in accordance with section 321.124.

33 Sec. 29. Section 321.126, subsections 1, 3, and 4, Code  
34 2001, are amended to read as follows:

35 1. If the motor vehicle is destroyed by fire or accident,

1 or junked and its identity as a motor vehicle entirely  
2 eliminated, the owner in whose name the motor vehicle was  
3 registered at the time of destruction or dismantling shall  
4 return the plates plate to the department and within thirty  
5 days thereafter make a statement of such destruction or  
6 dismantling and make claim for refund. With reference to the  
7 destruction or dismantling of a vehicle, no a refund shall not  
8 be allowed unless a junking certificate has been issued, as  
9 provided in section 321.52.

10 3. If the motor vehicle is placed in storage by the owner  
11 upon the owner's entry into the military service of the United  
12 States, the owner shall return the plates plate to the county  
13 treasurer or the department and make a statement regarding the  
14 storage and military service and make claim for refund.  
15 Whenever the owner of a motor vehicle so placed in storage  
16 desires to again register the vehicle, the county treasurer or  
17 department shall compute and collect the fees for registration  
18 for the registration year commencing in the month the vehicle  
19 is removed from storage.

20 4. If the motor vehicle is registered by the county  
21 treasurer during the current registration year and the owner  
22 or lessee registers the vehicle for proportional registration  
23 under chapter 326, the owner of the registered vehicle shall  
24 surrender the registration plates plate to the county  
25 treasurer and may file a claim for refund. In lieu of a  
26 refund, a credit for the registration fees paid to the county  
27 treasurer may be applied by the department to the owner or  
28 lessee's proportional registration fees upon the surrender of  
29 the county plates plate and registration.

30 Sec. 30. Section 321.134, subsection 1, Code 2001, is  
31 amended to read as follows:

32 1. On the first day of the second month following the  
33 beginning of each registration year a penalty of five percent  
34 of the annual registration fee shall be added to the  
35 registration fees not paid by that date and an additional

1 penalty of five percent shall be added the first day of each  
2 succeeding month, until the fee is paid. A penalty shall not  
3 be less than five dollars. If the owner of a vehicle  
4 surrenders the registration ~~plates~~ plate for a vehicle prior  
5 to the ~~plates~~ plate becoming delinquent, to the county  
6 treasurer of the county where the vehicle is registered, or to  
7 the department if the vehicle is registered under chapter 326,  
8 the owner may register the vehicle any time thereafter upon  
9 payment of the registration fee for the registration year  
10 without penalty. The penalty on vehicles registered under  
11 chapter 326 shall accrue February 1 of each year.

12 Sec. 31. Section 321.166, subsections 2, 6, and 8, Code  
13 2001, are amended to read as follows:

14 2. Every registration plate ~~or-pair-of-plates~~ shall  
15 display a registration plate number which shall consist of  
16 alphabetical or numerical characters or a combination thereof  
17 and the name of this state, which may be abbreviated. Every  
18 registration plate issued by the county treasurer shall  
19 display the name of the county, including any plate issued  
20 pursuant to section 321.34, except Pearl Harbor and purple  
21 heart registration plates issued prior to January 1, 1997, and  
22 collegiate, fire fighter, and congressional medal of honor  
23 registration plates. Special truck registration plates shall  
24 display the word "special".

25 6. ~~Registration-plates~~ A registration plate issued to a  
26 disabled veteran under the provisions of section 321.105 shall  
27 display the alphabetical characters "DV" which shall precede  
28 the registration plate number. The ~~plates~~ plate may also  
29 display a persons with disabilities parking sticker if issued  
30 to the disabled veteran by the department under section  
31 321L.2.

32 8. The owner of a trailer with an empty weight of two  
33 thousand pounds or less shall receive a registration plates  
34 plate for the trailer smaller than plates regularly issued for  
35 automobiles pursuant to rules adopted by the department in

1 accordance with this section unless the owner requests a  
2 regular-sized ~~plates~~ plate.

3 Sec. 32. Section 321.388, Code Supplement 2001, is amended  
4 to read as follows:

5 321.388 ILLUMINATING PLATES.

6 Either the rear lamp or a separate lamp on a vehicle shall  
7 be so constructed and placed as to illuminate with a white  
8 light the ~~rear~~ registration plate and render it clearly  
9 legible from a distance of fifty feet to the rear. When the  
10 ~~rear~~ registration plate is illuminated by an electric lamp  
11 other than the required rear lamp, the two lamps shall be  
12 turned on or off only by the same control switch at all times  
13 when head lamps are lighted.

14 Sec. 33. Section 321J.4B, subsection 5, paragraph f,  
15 unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2001, is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 If the vehicle subject to the court order is not in the  
18 custody of a law enforcement agency, the person or agency  
19 designated in the order as the person or agency responsible  
20 for executing the order shall, upon receipt of the order,  
21 promptly locate the vehicle specified in the order, seize the  
22 motor vehicle and the license ~~plates~~ plate, and send or  
23 deliver the vehicle's license ~~plates~~ plate to the department.

24 Sec. 34. Section 321J.4B, subsection 7, Code 2001, is  
25 amended to read as follows:

26 7. a. Upon receipt of a notice of conviction of the  
27 defendant for a violation of subsection 2, the impounding  
28 authority shall seize the motor vehicle's license ~~plates~~ plate  
29 and registration, and shall send or deliver them to the  
30 department.

31 b. The department shall destroy a license plates plate  
32 received under this section and shall not authorize the  
33 release of the vehicle or the issuance of a new license plates  
34 plate for the vehicle until the period of impoundment or  
35 immobilization has expired, and the fee and costs assessed

1 under subsection 10 have been paid. The fee for issuance of a  
2 new license ~~plates~~ plate and ~~certificates~~ certificate of  
3 registration shall be the same as for the replacement of a  
4 lost, mutilated, or destroyed license ~~plates~~ plate and  
5 ~~certificates~~ certificate of registration.

6 Sec. 35. Section 321L.2, subsection 1, paragraph a,  
7 subparagraphs (1) and (2), Code 2001, are amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (1) Persons with disabilities registration ~~plates~~ plate.  
10 An applicant may order a persons with disabilities  
11 registration ~~plates~~ plate pursuant to section 321.34. An  
12 applicant may order a persons with disabilities registration  
13 plate for a trailer used to transport a wheelchair pursuant to  
14 section 321.34 in addition to a persons with disabilities  
15 registration ~~plates~~ plate ordered by the applicant for a motor  
16 vehicle used to tow such a trailer pursuant to section 321.34.

17 (2) Persons with disabilities parking sticker. An  
18 applicant who owns a motor vehicle for which the applicant has  
19 been issued a registration ~~plates~~ plate under section 321.34  
20 or a registration ~~plates~~ plate as a seriously disabled veteran  
21 under section 321.105 may apply to the department for a  
22 persons with disabilities parking sticker to be affixed to the  
23 ~~plates~~ plate. The persons with disabilities parking stickers  
24 shall bear the international symbol of accessibility.

25 Sec. 36. Section 321L.2A, subsection 1, paragraph e, Code  
26 Supplement 2001, is amended to read as follows:

27 e. The person carries in the motor vehicle a copy of the  
28 statement from a physician, physician's assistant, advanced  
29 registered nurse practitioner, or chiropractor which  
30 accompanied the person's application for a persons with  
31 disabilities registration ~~plates~~ plate under section 321.34 or  
32 other persons with disabilities parking permit under section  
33 321L.2 and which indicates the person is permanently unable to  
34 walk. The person shall show the copy of the statement to any  
35 peace officer upon request.

1     Sec. 37. Section 326.15, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2001,  
2 are amended to read as follows:

3     1. If the motor vehicle is destroyed by fire or accident,  
4 or junked and its identity as a motor vehicle is entirely  
5 eliminated, the owner in whose name the motor vehicle was  
6 registered at the time of destruction or dismantling shall  
7 return the ~~plates~~ plate to the department and make a claim for  
8 refund. A refund is not allowed unless a junking certificate  
9 has been issued, as provided in section 321.52.

10    2. If the motor vehicle is removed from the apportioned  
11 fleet, the owner in whose name the motor vehicle was  
12 registered shall return the ~~plates~~ plate to the department and  
13 make a claim for refund. A refund shall not be allowed  
14 without documentation of the subsequent registration of the  
15 motor vehicle.

16     Sec. 38. CODE EDITOR DIRECTIVE. The Code editor shall  
17 change any other Code section which refers to the issuance of  
18 two rather than one motor vehicle registration plate, when  
19 there appears to be no doubt as to the proper method of making  
20 the corrections and the changes do not appear to require  
21 substantial editing. The Code editor shall footnote the  
22 editorial change in the next edition of the Code or Code  
23 Supplement.

24     Sec. 39. TRANSITION PROVISIONS. The transition from the  
25 use of motor vehicle registration plates on both the front and  
26 rear of certain vehicles to the use of such plates on only the  
27 rear of certain vehicles, as directed by this Act, shall be  
28 accomplished in stages. A person applying for a new or  
29 replacement registration plate on or after the effective date  
30 of this Act shall receive only one registration plate.  
31 Otherwise, the transition shall not be accomplished until a  
32 new series of registration plates is issued to replace a  
33 current series. The state department of transportation shall  
34 adopt rules to implement the transition.

35

EXPLANATION

1 This bill amends Code section 321.37, relating to the  
2 display of motor vehicle registration plates, to provide that  
3 only one registration plate shall be issued for a motor  
4 vehicle. The registration plate is to be attached to the rear  
5 of the motor vehicle, except that the registration plate for a  
6 truck tractor is to be attached to the front of the truck  
7 tractor. Currently, two registration plates are issued for a  
8 motor vehicle other than a motorcycle, motorized bicycle, or  
9 truck tractor, to be attached to the front and rear of the  
10 vehicle. The current provision allows certain antique  
11 vehicles to display only one registration plate on the rear of  
12 the vehicle, but requires the other registration plate to be  
13 carried in the vehicle.

14 The bill also makes numerous corresponding Code language  
15 changes, makes some Code language changes to enhance  
16 readability, makes a technical Code reference change, and  
17 provides for the transition from the use of two registration  
18 plates to the use of one registration plate.

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# Legislative Fiscal Bureau

## Fiscal Note

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SF 2039 – License Plate Change (LSB 5600 XS)

Analyst: Mary Beth Mellick (Phone: (515) 281-8223) (MaryBeth.Mellick@legis.state.ia.us)

Fiscal Note Version – New

Requested by Senator Jeff Lamberti

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### Description

Senate File 2039 amends Iowa Code Section 321.37, relating to the display of motor vehicle registration plates, to provide that only one registration plate be issued for a motor vehicle, which includes autos, buses, motor homes, and trucks.

### Assumptions

1. A single plate costs \$1.82 and a pair of plates costs \$2.59, which is \$1.30 per plate.
2. In calendar year 2000, approximately 3.0 million vehicles had a pair of license plates. During calendar year 2001, approximately 565,000 pair of plates was manufactured for renewal.
3. The Department would not reissue single license plates under SF 2039, but would issue single plates upon renewal only.

### Fiscal Impact

Senate File 2039 would result in a decrease in expenditures of approximately \$435,000 annually to the Road Use Tax Fund (RUTF):

- Current Law        \$1.4 million
- Proposed Law     \$1.0 million

The \$435,000 annual savings would be available for distribution to the State, cities, and counties for highway construction in the following amounts:

- State                \$207,000
- Counties           \$141,000
- Cities                \$87,000

### Sources

Iowa Department of Transportation  
Iowa State Industries

\_\_\_\_\_/s/ Dennis C Prouty\_\_\_\_\_

February 13, 2002

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The fiscal note and correctional impact statement for this bill was prepared pursuant to Joint Rule 17 and pursuant to Section 2.56, Code of Iowa. Data used in developing this fiscal note and correctional impact statement are available from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau to members of the Legislature upon request.

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