

Senate File 2016 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2016

BY ZAUN

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to special interest motor vehicle registration
2 plates, and providing penalties.

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

1 Section 1. Section 321.34, Code 2018, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 11C. *Special interest plates.*

4 a. Upon application and payment of the proper fees, the
5 director may issue a special interest plate to the owner of a
6 motor vehicle subject to registration under section 321.109,
7 subsection 1, motor truck, motor home, or multipurpose vehicle,
8 if the vehicle is collected, preserved, restored, or maintained
9 by the owner as a leisure pursuit and the vehicle is not used
10 for general transportation of persons or property.

11 b. Special interest plates shall be designed by the
12 department. The plates shall contain the words "special
13 interest" and shall not include on the plate the name of the
14 county where the vehicle is registered.

15 c. The special fee for a letter-number designated special
16 interest plate is fifty dollars. The fee for a personalized
17 special interest plate is twenty-five dollars which shall be
18 paid in addition to the special fee of fifty dollars. The fees
19 collected by the director under this subsection shall be paid
20 monthly to the treasurer of state and deposited in the road use
21 tax fund.

22 d. Upon receipt of the special interest plate, the applicant
23 shall surrender the applicant's current registration plates
24 to the county treasurer. The county treasurer shall validate
25 the special interest plate in the same manner as regular
26 registration plates are validated under this section. The
27 annual special fee for a letter-number designated special
28 interest plate is fifty dollars, which shall be paid in
29 addition to the regular annual registration fee. The annual
30 fee for a personalized special interest plate is five dollars,
31 which shall be paid in addition to the annual special fee and
32 the regular annual registration fee. The annual special fees
33 shall be credited as provided under paragraph "c".

34 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 321.36 **Vehicles displaying special**
35 **interest plate.**

1 A person shall not operate a motor vehicle displaying a
2 special interest plate issued pursuant to section 321.34,
3 subsection 11C, on the public streets or highways of this state
4 other than for public displays, parades, related pleasure or
5 hobby activities, or occasional transportation not related to
6 the person's business or occupation.

7 Sec. 3. Section 321.37, subsection 1, Code 2018, is amended
8 to read as follows:

9 1. Registration plates issued for a motor vehicle other
10 than an autocycle, motorcycle, motorized bicycle, motor vehicle
11 issued a special interest plate pursuant to section 321.34,
12 subsection 11C, or truck tractor shall be attached to the
13 motor vehicle, one in the front and the other in the rear.
14 The registration plate issued for an autocycle, motorcycle,
15 motor vehicle issued a special interest plate pursuant to
16 section 321.34, subsection 11C, or other vehicle required to
17 be registered hereunder shall be attached to the rear of the
18 vehicle. The registration plate issued for a truck tractor
19 shall be attached to the front of the truck tractor. The
20 special plate issued to a dealer shall be attached on the rear
21 of the vehicle when operated on the highways of this state.

22 Sec. 4. Section 321.166, subsections 2 and 9, Code 2018, are
23 amended to read as follows:

24 2. Every registration plate or pair of plates shall display
25 a registration plate number which shall consist of alphabetical
26 or numerical characters or a combination thereof and the name
27 of this state, which may be abbreviated. Every registration
28 plate issued by the county treasurer shall display the name
29 of the county, including any plate issued pursuant to section
30 321.34, except Pearl Harbor and purple heart registration
31 plates issued prior to January 1, 1997; special interest plates
32 issued pursuant to section 321.34, subsection 11C; registration
33 plates issued pursuant to section 321.34, subsection 13,
34 paragraph "d"; and collegiate, fire fighter, and medal of honor
35 registration plates. Special truck registration plates shall

1 display the word "special". The department may adopt rules to
2 implement [this subsection](#).

3 9. Special registration plates issued pursuant to section
4 321.34, other than gold star, medal of honor, collegiate, fire
5 fighter, special interest, and natural resources registration
6 plates, shall be consistent with the design and color of
7 regular registration plates but shall provide a space on a
8 portion of the plate for the purpose of allowing the placement
9 of a distinguishing processed emblem or an organization
10 decal. Special registration plates shall also comply with
11 the requirements for regular registration plates as provided
12 in [this section](#) to the extent the requirements are consistent
13 with the section authorizing a particular special vehicle
14 registration plate.

15 EXPLANATION

16 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
17 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

18 This bill provides that the department of transportation
19 (DOT) may issue a special interest motor vehicle registration
20 plate to the owner of a motor vehicle subject to registration
21 under Code section 321.109(1), motor truck, motor home, or
22 multipurpose vehicle, if the vehicle is collected, preserved,
23 restored, or maintained by the owner as a leisure pursuit and
24 the vehicle is not used for general transportation of persons
25 or property. The bill requires special interest plates to be
26 designed by the DOT, to contain the words "special interest",
27 and to exclude from the plate the name of the county where the
28 vehicle is registered.

29 The special fee for a letter-number designated special
30 interest plate is \$50. The fee for a personalized special
31 interest plate is \$25 which must be paid in addition to the
32 special fee of \$50. The annual special fee for a letter-number
33 designated special interest plate is \$50, which must be paid in
34 addition to the regular annual registration fee. The annual
35 fee for a personalized special interest plate is \$5, which must

1 be paid in addition to the annual special fee and the regular
2 annual registration fee. The bill requires the special fees
3 collected by the DOT under the bill to be paid monthly to the
4 treasurer of state and deposited in the road use tax fund.

5 The bill provides that upon receipt of the special interest
6 plate, the applicant must surrender the applicant's current
7 registration plates to the county treasurer. The county
8 treasurer must validate the special interest plate in the same
9 manner as regular registration plates are validated.

10 The bill prohibits a person from operating a motor vehicle
11 displaying a special interest plate on the public streets
12 or highways of this state other than for public displays,
13 parades, related pleasure or hobby activities, or occasional
14 transportation not related to the person's business or
15 occupation. By operation of law, a violation of this provision
16 is a simple misdemeanor (Code section 321.482). A simple
17 misdemeanor is punishable by a fine of at least \$65 but not to
18 exceed \$625 and imprisonment not to exceed 30 days.

19 The bill requires the special interest plate issued for a
20 vehicle to be displayed on the rear of the vehicle.

21 The bill also provides that special interest plates need not
22 be consistent with the design and color of regular registration
23 plates.