

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1989

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SENATE BILL 913

Finance Committee Substitute Adopted 7/6/89

Third Edition Engrossed 7/10/89

House Committee Substitute Favorable 7/28/89

Short Title: Up Vanity Plate Fees.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 18, 1989

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO INCREASE THE FEE FOR VANITY MOTOR VEHICLE
2 REGISTRATION PLATES AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE DISBURSEMENT OF
3 THE ADDITIONAL REVENUES DERIVED.
4

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 Section 1. G.S. 20-81.3(b) and (c) read as rewritten:

7 "(b) An owner who desires personalized registration plates shall make application
8 for such plates on forms which shall be provided by the Division of Motor Vehicles and
9 pay the sum of ~~ten dollars (\$10.00)~~ twenty dollars (\$20.00) annually, which shall be in
10 addition to the regular motor vehicle registration fee. Once an owner has obtained
11 personalized plates, he, where possible, will have first priority on those plates for the
12 following years provided he makes timely and appropriate application; provided,
13 however, that the Commissioner shall not issue a personalized license plate pursuant to
14 this section except upon written application therefor on a form furnished by the
15 Commissioner in which the applicant certifies that his operator's or chauffeur's license
16 has not been revoked or suspended under Article 2 of Chapter 20 of the General Statutes
17 within two years prior to the date of the application; and provided, further, that any
18 personalized license plate issued pursuant to this section shall be cancelled and recalled
19 by the Commissioner and the application fee forfeited in the event that the
20 Commissioner determines that a false application has been submitted.

1 (c) ~~The~~ One-half of the revenue derived from the additional fee shall be deposited
2 in the Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Fund established under G.S. 113-77.7.
3 The remaining one-half of the revenue derived from the additional fee for the special
4 personalized registration plates shall be placed in a separate fund designated the
5 'Personalized Registration Plate Fund'. After deducting the cost of the plates, plus
6 budgetary requirements for handling and issuance to be determined by the
7 Commissioner, any remaining moneys derived from the additional fee for such plates the
8 revenue in the Personalized Registration Plate Fund shall be transferred quarterly;
9 quarterly as follows:

- 10 (1) Thirty-three percent (33%) to the account of the Department of
11 Commerce to aid in financing out-of-state print and other media
12 advertising under the program for the promotion of travel and
13 industrial development in this State.
- 14 (2) Fifty percent (50%) to the Department of Transportation to be used
15 solely for the purpose of beautification of highways other than those
16 designated as interstate. These funds shall be administered by the
17 Department of Transportation for beautification purposes not
18 inconsistent with good landscaping and engineering principles.
- 19 (3) Seventeen percent (17%) to the account of the Department of Human
20 Resources to promote travel accessibility for disabled persons in this
21 State. These funds shall be used: to collect and update site information
22 on travel attractions designated by the Department of Commerce in
23 their publications; to provide technical assistance to travel attraction
24 concerning accommodation of disabled tourists; and to develop, print,
25 and promote the publication ACCESS NORTH CAROLINA. The
26 Department of Human Resources shall make copies of ACCESS
27 NORTH CAROLINA available to the Department of Commerce for
28 their use in Welcome Centers and other appropriate Department of
29 Commerce offices.
- 30 (4) The Department of Commerce shall promote ACCESS NORTH
31 CAROLINA in their publications (including providing a toll-free
32 telephone line and in address for requesting copies of the publication)
33 and provide technical assistance to the Department of Human
34 Resources on travel attractions to be included in ACCESS NORTH
35 CAROLINA. The Department of Commerce shall forward all requests
36 for mailing ACCESS NORTH CAROLINA to the Department of
37 Human Resources.
- 38 (5) Funds allocated by this section for promotion of travel accessibility
39 and ACCESS NORTH CAROLINA which are not spent and are not
40 obligated at the end of the fiscal year shall not revert but shall be
41 transferred to the Department of Administration for removal of man-
42 made barriers to disabled travelers at State-funded travel attractions.
43 Guidelines for the removal of man-made barriers shall be developed in
44 consultation with the Department of Human Resources."

1 Sec. 2. G.S. 20-80.1(a) reads as rewritten:

2 "(a) The Commissioner shall cause to be made a sufficient number of distinctive
3 motor vehicle license plates, in the form hereafter provided, for issuance to eligible
4 members of the reserve components of the armed forces of the United States, upon
5 proper application and under such regulations as he deems appropriate. Upon
6 satisfactory proof of eligibility, the commissioner shall collect ~~fees in accordance with~~
7 ~~G.S. 20-81.3(b) and shall disburse fees in accordance with G.S. 20-81.3(e) a fee in an amount~~
8 equal to the applicable fee under G.S. 20-87 plus ten dollars (\$10.00). Fees collected
9 under this section shall be deposited in the Personalized Registration Plate Fund."

10 Sec. 3. G.S. 20-81.5 reads as rewritten:

11 **"§ 20-81.5. Civil Air Patrol plates.**

12 (a) The Commissioner shall cause to be made each year sufficient number of
13 license plates to furnish each member of the North Carolina Wing of the Civil Air Patrol
14 with not more than two thereof, said license plates to be in the same form and character
15 as other license plates now or hereinafter authorized by law to be used upon private
16 vehicles registered in this State, except that such license plates shall bear on the face
17 thereof the following: the words 'North Carolina,' the year designation, and the words
18 'Civil Air Patrol.' ~~The said license plates shall be issued only to members of the North~~
19 ~~Carolina Wing of the Civil Air Patrol and for each license plate the Commissioner shall~~
20 ~~collect a fee as required by G.S. 20-81.3(b) for special personalized registration plates, in~~
21 ~~addition to the fees in an amount equal to the fees collected for the licensing and registering of~~
22 ~~private vehicles. in an amount equal to the applicable fee under G.S. 20-87 plus ten~~
23 dollars (\$10.00). The Commander of the North Carolina Wing of the Civil Air Patrol
24 shall furnish the Commissioner annually with a list of the number of such distinctive
25 plates required accompanied by the fee referred to hereinabove and such list shall
26 contain the rank of each officer listed in order of his seniority in the North Carolina
27 Civil Air Patrol. The said license plates to be set aside for officer personnel shall be
28 numbered beginning with the number 201 and running in numerical sequence thereafter
29 up to and including the number 500, according to seniority; the senior officer being
30 issued the plate bearing the number 201. Enlisted personnel, senior members and cadet
31 members applying for such distinctive plates shall, upon application and payment of the
32 required fee, receive such plates in numerical sequence beginning with the number 501.
33 Applications for such distinctive license plates shall be on forms as may be agreed upon
34 by the Wing Commander of the North Carolina Civil Air Patrol and the Division of
35 Motor Vehicles. If a holder of such a distinctive license plate shall be discharged from
36 the North Carolina Civil Air Patrol under other than honorable conditions, he shall
37 within 30 days exchange such distinctive plate for a standard plate.

38 ~~(b) The revenue derived from the additional fee for such plates shall be placed in~~
39 ~~a separate fund designated the "Civil Air Patrol Registration Plate Fund." After~~
40 ~~deducting the cost of the plates, plus budgetary requirements for handling and issuance~~
41 ~~to be determined by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, any remaining moneys~~
42 ~~derived from the additional fee for such plates shall be periodically transferred to the~~
43 ~~Department of Transportation as provided in G.S. 20-81.3(e)(2). Fees collected under~~
44 this section shall be deposited in the Personalized Registration Plate Fund."

1 Sec. 4. G.S. 20-81.10(a) reads as rewritten:

2 "(a) The Commissioner shall cause to be made a sufficient number of distinctive
3 motor vehicle license plates for issuance to eligible persons who make application on a
4 form designed by the Division and supply documentation that they were members of the
5 U.S. Military Service and were present at the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7,
6 1941. Upon satisfactory proof of eligibility, the Commissioner shall collect ~~fees in~~
7 ~~accordance with G.S. 20-81.3(b) and shall disburse fees in accordance with G.S. 20-81.3(e). a~~
8 fee in an amount equal to the applicable fee under G.S. 20-87 plus ten dollars (\$10.00).
9 Fees collected under this section shall be deposited in the Personalized Registration
10 Plate Fund."

11 Sec. 5. G.S. 20-81.11(a) reads as rewritten:

12 "(a) The Commissioner shall cause to be made a sufficient number of distinctive
13 motor vehicle license plates for issuance to eligible persons who make application on a
14 form designed by the Division and supply documentation that they were members of the
15 U.S. Military Service and were recipients of the Purple Heart Award. Upon satisfactory
16 proof of eligibility, the Commissioner shall collect ~~fees in accordance with G.S. 20-81.3(b)~~
17 ~~and shall disburse fees in accordance with G.S. 20-81.3(e). a~~ fee in an amount equal to the
18 applicable fee under G.S. 20-87 plus ten dollars (\$10.00). Fees collected under this
19 section shall be deposited in the Personalized Registration Plate Fund."

20 Sec. 6. The Legislative Research Commission is authorized to study the fee
21 structure for personalized license plates and special plates, either as part of a study of
22 the revenue laws or a related topic or as a separate study. The Commission shall
23 consider whether the fees for these two types of plates should be the same. The
24 Commission may report its findings to the 1991 General Assembly.

25 Sec. 7. This act shall become effective October 1, 1989.