

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009

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HOUSE BILL 677

Short Title: Require a "First in Flight" Background. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Allen, Coates, Cole, Carney (Primary Sponsors); Spear and Wray.

Referred to: Transportation, if favorable, Finance.

March 19, 2009

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE ALL REGISTRATION PLATES THAT ARE ISSUED BY THE
3 DIVISION TO BE "FIRST IN FLIGHT" PLATES, INCLUDING ALL FUTURE
4 SPECIALIZED PLATES.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 20-63(b) reads as rewritten:

7 "(b) Every license plate shall have displayed upon it the registration number assigned to
8 the vehicle for which it is issued, the name of the State of North Carolina, which may be
9 abbreviated, and the year number for which it is issued or the date of expiration. A plate issued
10 for a commercial vehicle, as defined in G.S. 20-4.2(1), and weighing 26,001 pounds or more,
11 must bear the word "commercial," unless the plate is a special registration plate authorized in
12 G.S. 20-79.4 or the commercial vehicle is a trailer or is licensed for 6,000 pounds or less. The
13 plate issued for vehicles licensed for 7,000 pounds through 26,000 pounds must bear the word
14 "weighted".

15 Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a registration plate issued by the Division
16 for a private passenger vehicle or for a private hauler vehicle licensed for 6,000 pounds or less
17 shall be a "First in Flight" plate. A "First in Flight" plate shall have the words "First in Flight"
18 printed at the top of the plate above all other letters and numerals. The background of the plate
19 shall depict the Wright Brothers biplane flying over Kitty Hawk Beach, with the plane flying
20 slightly upward and to the right. ~~The following special registration plates do not have to be a~~
21 ~~"First in Flight" plate. The design of the plates that are not "First in Flight" plates must be~~
22 ~~approved by the Division and the State Highway Patrol for clarity and ease of identification.~~

23 (1) ~~Friends of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.~~

24 (2) ~~Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.~~

25 (3) ~~Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation.~~

26 (4) ~~Friends of the Appalachian Trail.~~

27 (5) ~~NC Coastal Federation.~~

28 (6) ~~In God We Trust.~~

29 (7) ~~Stock Car Racing Theme.~~

30 (8) ~~Buddy Pelletier Surfing Foundation.~~

31 (9) ~~Guilford Battleground Company.~~

32 (10) ~~National Wild Turkey Federation.~~

33 (11) ~~North Carolina Aquarium Society.~~

34 (12) ~~First in Forestry.~~

35 (13) ~~North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation.~~

36 (14) ~~NC Trout Unlimited.~~



- 1 (15) ~~Ducks Unlimited.~~
- 2 (16) ~~Lung Cancer Research.~~
- 3 (17) ~~NC State Parks.~~
- 4 (18) ~~Support Our Troops.~~
- 5 (19) ~~US Equine Rescue League.~~
- 6 (20) ~~Fox Hunting.~~
- 7 (21) ~~Back Country Horsemen of North Carolina.~~
- 8 (22) ~~Hospice Care.~~
- 9 (23) ~~Home Care and Hospice.~~
- 10 (24) ~~NC Tennis Foundation.~~
- 11 (25) ~~AIDS Awareness."~~

12 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2009, and applies to all
13 registration plates issued on or after that date. Any special registration plate that has been
14 authorized by the General Assembly and is in production on the date this act becomes effective
15 may continue to be produced in the same manner as before the effective date of this act.