

Senate Bill 587

Sponsored by Senator FERRIOLI; Senators BOQUIST, GEORGE, GIROD, KRUSE, STARR, TELFER, WHITSETT
(at the request of Michael Shawn-Chun)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Directs Department of Transportation to establish program to issue active duty military registration plates to qualified owner of motor vehicle.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to active duty military registration plates; creating new provisions; and amending ORS
3 803.535, 805.200 and 805.202.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2009 Act is added to and made a part of the Oregon Vehicle**
6 **Code.**

7 **SECTION 2. (1) The Department of Transportation shall establish an active military duty**
8 **registration plate program to issue registration plates called "active duty military registra-**
9 **tion plates" upon request to an owner of any motor vehicle registered under ORS 803.420 (1)**
10 **or (9)(a) if the owner of the motor vehicle qualifies for the plates.**

11 **(2) To qualify for active military duty registration plates, the owner must provide the**
12 **department with proof that:**

13 **(a) The owner is either an active member of the Armed Forces of the United States or**
14 **the spouse of an active member; and**

15 **(b) The active member of the Armed Forces has at least two years of service to complete**
16 **at the time of application for the active military duty registration plates.**

17 **(3) The following apply to registration plates issued under this section:**

18 **(a) The plates shall be assigned to a specific vehicle.**

19 **(b) The plates may not be transferable from vehicle to vehicle, except as provided by the**
20 **department by rule.**

21 **(c) The plates shall be valid for the length of time that the active member of the Armed**
22 **Forces of the United States is serving. If the term of service of an active member of the**
23 **Armed Forces continues into a new registration period, the department may provide for**
24 **validation of the plates for the subsequent term by means of a sticker or by any other means**
25 **the department determines convenient.**

26 **(4) Registration plates issued under this section may be displayed on the vehicle of an**
27 **active member of the Armed Forces of the United States or on the vehicle of the active**
28 **member's spouse in lieu of regular registration plates issued under the vehicle code.**

29 **(5)(a) In addition to any other fee authorized by law, upon issuance of active military**
30 **duty registration plates under this section and upon renewal of registration for a vehicle that**
31 **has plates issued under this section, the department shall collect a surcharge of \$10 per plate**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 for each year of the registration period for the vehicle as described under ORS 803.415.

2 (b) Net proceeds of the surcharge collected by the department for the active military
3 duty registration plates shall be deposited in the trust fund established under ORS 406.050
4 for paying the expenses of operating the Oregon Veterans' Home.

5 (c) Deposits under this subsection shall be made quarterly.

6 (6)(a) In consultation with the Department of Transportation, the Director of Veterans'
7 Affairs shall design the active duty military registration plate.

8 (b) Except as otherwise required by the design, active military duty registration plates
9 must comply with the requirements of ORS 803.535.

10 (7) The department shall adopt rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

11 **SECTION 3.** ORS 803.535 is amended to read:

12 803.535. Subject to ORS 805.105 and 805.205 and section 2 of this 2009 Act and the following,
13 the Department of Transportation shall select registration plates it issues:

14 (1) Registration plates shall be in the size, form and arrangement and made of materials deter-
15 mined by the department subject to the following:

16 (a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (f) of this subsection, the design of the registra-
17 tion plates shall be that chosen by the commission from entries in the contest held pursuant to
18 chapter 572, Oregon Laws 1987.

19 (b) If registration plates are issued, means shall be provided for identifying the vehicle from the
20 front and rear by means of characters or numerals.

21 (c) All plates shall be made with a reflective material, so as to be a fully reflectorized safety
22 plate. The reflectorized material shall be of such a nature as to provide effective dependable
23 brightness in the promotion of traffic safety during the service period of the plate issued.

24 (d) Except as otherwise authorized under ORS 805.200, all plates shall contain the distinctive
25 number or characters assigned to the vehicle and the word "Oregon."

26 (e) When a pair of registration plates is issued, each plate shall bear the same identification as
27 the other plate of the pair.

28 (f) The department may choose plates for vehicles that are not required to display plates from
29 the series produced as provided in chapter 572, Oregon Laws 1987. Nothing in this paragraph pro-
30 hibits the department from issuing plates from the series produced as provided in chapter 572,
31 Oregon Laws 1987, for vehicles that are not required to display such plates.

32 (2) The department may provide for designation of the registration period for which the regis-
33 tration is issued on the plate by means of stickers described under ORS 803.555 or any other method
34 the department determines appropriate.

35 (3) The department may provide plates that may be used on a vehicle for successive registration
36 periods when validated by one or more stickers described under ORS 803.555.

37 **SECTION 4.** ORS 805.200 is amended to read:

38 805.200. (1) The Department of Transportation by rule:

39 (a) Shall design plates, stickers, plate and sticker combinations or other devices or indicia that
40 distinguish government-owned vehicles registered under the provisions of ORS 805.040 from other
41 vehicles.

42 (b) May design plates, stickers, plate and sticker combinations or other devices or indicia for
43 distinguishing vehicles registered under specific provisions of the Oregon Vehicle Code other than
44 ORS 805.040, 805.105 or 805.205 or section 2 of this 2009 Act. Plates designed under this paragraph
45 shall comply with the requirements of ORS 803.535. The fees for plates or indicia described in this

1 paragraph are provided under ORS 805.250.

2 (2) Unless otherwise provided by statute or by rule of the department, indicia of registration
 3 that distinguish one kind of registration from another may not be transferred unless the new owner
 4 of the vehicle qualifies for that specific kind of registration.

5 (3) The department may adopt rules concerning the disposition of plates, stickers, devices or
 6 other indicia of registration upon transfer of ownership of the vehicle or when the owner or the
 7 vehicle is no longer eligible for the particular indicia. The department may cancel or revoke regis-
 8 tration for failure to comply with rules adopted under this section.

9 **SECTION 5.** ORS 805.202 is amended to read:

10 805.202. (1) As used in this section, “special registration plate” means a registration plate issued
 11 by the Department of Transportation:

12 (a) For which a surcharge is imposed in order to raise money for an entity other than the de-
 13 partment;

14 (b) That is not a plate issued under ORS 805.105 or 805.205 **or section 2 of this 2009 Act;**

15 (c) That is not an elected official plate issued under ORS 805.220; and

16 (d) That is not a customized plate issued under ORS 805.240.

17 (2) The Legislative Assembly may not require the Department of Transportation to offer more
 18 than three kinds of special registration plates at any one time. At any time the department is of-
 19 fering three kinds of special registration plates, any bill enacted by the Legislative Assembly that
 20 requires the department to issue a new kind of special registration plate shall include a provision
 21 requiring the department to eliminate at least one kind of special registration plate.

22 (3) When the department eliminates a kind of special registration plate in accordance with the
 23 provisions of a law described in subsection (2) of this section, the department shall continue to issue
 24 the plate until the new plate is available. When the new plate is available, the department shall
 25 destroy the remaining stock of the eliminated plate.

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