House Bill 2669

Sponsored by Representative BUCKLEY (Presession filed.)

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 Oregon wildlife conservation registration plate program for issuance of special registration plate.

Imposes surcharge per year of registration. Directs that moneys from surcharge on registration plate be transferred to Nongame Wildlife Fund.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Department of Transportation for purpose of initiating program.

Repeals limitation on number of special registration plates department may issue at one time.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

L	A BILL FOR	AN AC

Relating to the Oregon wildlife conservation registration plate program; creating new provisions; amending ORS 496.385 and section 2, chapter 823, Oregon Laws 2009; repealing ORS 805.202; and declaring an emergency.

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

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OREGON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION REGISTRATION PLATE PROGRAM

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<u>SECTION 1.</u> Sections 2 and 3 of this 2015 Act are added to and made a part of the Oregon Vehicle Code.

SECTION 2. (1) The Department of Transportation shall establish an Oregon wildlife conservation registration plate program to issue special registration plates called "Oregon wildlife conservation registration plates" upon request to owners of motor vehicles registered under ORS 803.420 (1) to observe the importance of conserving nongame wildlife in Oregon. In addition, the department may adopt rules for issuance of Oregon wildlife conservation registration plates for vehicles not registered under ORS 803.420 (1).

- (2) In addition to any other fee authorized by law, for each Oregon wildlife conservation registration plate issued under subsection (1) of this section, the department shall collect a surcharge of \$______ per year of registration, payable when the plate is issued and upon each subsequent renewal of registration of a vehicle bearing the plate. The department shall distribute the surcharge as provided in section 3 of this 2015 Act.
- (3) Notwithstanding ORS 803.530, Oregon wildlife conservation registration plates may be transferred from vehicle to vehicle if the department stops issuing the plates, as long as the plates are not so old, damaged, mutilated or otherwise rendered illegible as to be not useful for purposes of identification.

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FUNDING FOR NONGAME WILDLIFE FUND

SECTION 3. (1) Moneys from the surcharge imposed by section 2 of this 2015 Act shall be transferred to the Nongame Wildlife Fund established under ORS 496.385 after deduction of the cost of administration of the Oregon wildlife conservation registration plate program, including but not limited to the costs of collecting the Oregon wildlife conservation registration plate surcharge and transferring Oregon wildlife conservation registration plates that are above the normal costs of issuing, renewing and transferring registration plates in the normal course of business of the Department of Transportation.

(2) Moneys deposited under subsection (1) of this section are continuously appropriated to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife for the purpose of conserving nongame wildlife in this state.

DESIGN

SECTION 4. (1) The Department of Transportation, after consultation with the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, shall design the Oregon wildlife conservation registration plates issued under section 2 of this 2015 Act, except that the plates must contain an image of a gray wolf.

(2) Except as otherwise required by subsection (1) of this section, Oregon wildlife conservation registration plates shall comply with the requirements of ORS 803.535.

APPROPRIATION

- SECTION 5. (1) There is appropriated to the Department of Transportation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$______ for the purpose of initiating the Oregon wildlife conservation registration plate program established under section 2 of this 2015 Act, including but not limited to the Oregon wildlife conservation registration plate design, computer programming and production setup. Any portion of the appropriation not used for initiating the Oregon wildlife conservation registration plate program shall be transferred to the account described in subsection (2) of this section.
- (2) Notwithstanding section 3 of this 2015 Act, after deduction of the cost of administration of the Oregon wildlife conservation registration plate program, as described in section 3 of this 2015 Act, the department shall transfer the moneys from the surcharge imposed by section 2 of this 2015 Act to an account in the General Fund until sufficient funds have accumulated for the purpose described in subsection (3) of this section.
- (3) When the department determines that moneys in sufficient amount are available in the account described in subsection (2) of this section, but no later than June 30, 2017, the department shall reimburse the General Fund, without interest, in an amount equal to the amount appropriated from the General Fund under subsection (1) of this section. The moneys used to reimburse the General Fund under this subsection may not be considered a budget item on which a limitation is otherwise fixed by law, but shall be in addition to any specific biennial appropriation or amount authorized to be expended from continuously appropriated moneys for any biennial period.
- (4) Any moneys remaining in the account described in subsection (2) of this section after the reimbursement required under subsection (3) of this section shall be transferred to the Nongame Wildlife Fund as provided in section 3 of this 2015 Act.

1	REPEAL
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3	SECTION 6. ORS 805.202 is repealed.
4 5	CONFORMING AMENDMENTS
6	CONFORMING AMENDMENTS
7	SECTION 7. Section 2, chapter 823, Oregon Laws 2009, as amended by section 8, chapter 709
8	Oregon Laws 2011, is amended to read:
9	Sec. 2. (1) The Department of Transportation shall establish a Pacific Wonderland registration
10	plate program to issue special registration plates called "Pacific Wonderland registration plates
11	upon request to owners of motor vehicles registered under the provisions of ORS 803.420 (1). In ad
12	dition, the department may adopt rules for issuance of Pacific Wonderland registration plates for
13	vehicles not registered under the provisions of ORS 803.420 (1).
L 4	(2) In addition to any other fee authorized by law, for each set of Pacific Wonderland registra
15	tion plates issued under subsection (1) of this section, the department shall collect a surcharge o
16	\$100 payable when the plates are issued. The department shall transfer the moneys from the sur
L7	charge as provided in section 3, chapter 823, Oregon Laws 2009.
18	(3) Notwithstanding ORS 803.530, Pacific Wonderland registration plates may be transferred
19	from vehicle to vehicle if the department stops issuing the plates, as long as the plates are not se
20	old, damaged, mutilated or otherwise rendered illegible as to be not useful for purposes of identification
21	cation.
22	(4) The department shall limit the total number of Pacific Wonderland registration plates to
23	40,000 sets of plates.
24	[(5) Notwithstanding ORS 805.202, until the department has issued 40,000 sets of plates under this
25	section, the department may issue five kinds of special registration plates at any one time.]
26	SECTION 8. ORS 496.385 is amended to read:
27	496.385. (1) There is established as a separate and distinct fund in the State Treasury a Non
28	game Wildlife Fund. The Nongame Wildlife Fund shall consist of:
29	(a) An amount credited to the fund under ORS 305.690 to 305.753, which shall be transferred by
30	the Department of Revenue to the fund.
31	(b) Gifts, grants and donations, in money or otherwise, for use as described in subsection (2) o
32	this section, which the State Treasurer may solicit and accept from private and public sources and
33	shall cause to be deposited and credited to the Nongame Wildlife Fund.
34	(c) Moneys deposited into the fund under section 3 of this 2015 Act.
35	[(c)] (d) Interest or other earnings on the amounts described in paragraphs [(a) and (b)] (a) to
36	(c) of this subsection which shall inure to the benefit of the Nongame Wildlife Fund.
37	(2) Moneys contained in the Nongame Wildlife Fund are continuously appropriated for the pur
38	poses specified in ORS 496.390.
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10	CAPTIONS
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12	SECTION 9. The unit captions used in this 2015 Act are provided only for the convenience
13	of the reader and do not become part of the statutory law of this state or express any leg
14 15	islative intent in the enactment of this 2015 Act.

1	EMERGENCY CLAUSE
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3	SECTION 10. This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
4	peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect
5	on its passage.
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