

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 204

BY TRANSPORTATION AND DEFENSE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE PLATES; AMENDING SECTION 49-402, IDAHO  
2 CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN FEES AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS;  
3 AMENDING SECTION 49-402D, IDAHO CODE, TO ESTABLISH CERTAIN EXEMPTIONS  
4 FROM SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE PROCEDURES; AMENDING CHAPTER 4, TITLE 49,  
5 IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 49-417E, IDAHO CODE, TO  
6 ESTABLISH IDAHO WORLD FAMOUS POTATOES BLACK AND WHITE LICENSE PLATES;  
7 AMENDING CHAPTER 4, TITLE 49, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SEC-  
8 TION 49-417F, IDAHO CODE, TO ESTABLISH IDAHO WORLD FAMOUS POTATOES  
9 WHITE AND TEAL LICENSE PLATES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING  
10 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
11

12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

13 SECTION 1. That Section 49-402, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 49-402. ANNUAL REGISTRATION. (1) The annual fee for operating each  
16 pickup truck, each neighborhood electric vehicle and each other motor ve-  
17 hicle having a maximum gross weight not in excess of eight thousand (8,000)  
18 pounds and that complies with the federal motor vehicle safety standards as  
19 defined in section 49-107, Idaho Code, shall be:

Vehicles one (1) and two (2) years old .....	\$69.00
Vehicles three (3) and four (4) years old .....	\$57.00
Vehicles five (5) and six (6) years old .....	\$57.00
Vehicles seven (7) and eight (8) years old .....	\$45.00
Vehicles over eight (8) years old .....	\$45.00

25 There shall be twelve (12) registration periods, starting in January  
26 for holders of validation registration stickers numbered 1, and proceed-  
27 ing consecutively through December for holders of validation registration  
28 stickers numbered 12, each of which shall start on the first day of a calen-  
29 dar month and end on the last day of the twelfth month from the first day of  
30 the beginning month. Registration periods shall expire at midnight on the  
31 last day of the registration period in the year designated by the validation  
32 registration sticker. The numeral digit on the validation registration  
33 stickers shall, as does the registration card, fix the registration period  
34 under the staggered registration system for the purpose of reregistration  
35 and notice of expiration.

36 A vehicle that has once been registered for any of the above-designated  
37 periods shall, upon reregistration, be registered for the period bearing the  
38 same number, and the registration card shall show and be the exclusive proof  
39 of the expiration date of registration and licensing. Vehicles may be ini-  
40 tially registered for less than a twelve (12) month period, or for more than a  
41 twelve (12) month period, and the fee prorated on a monthly basis if the frac-

1 tional registration tends to fulfill the purpose of the monthly series reg-  
2 istration system.

3 (2) For all school buses operated either by a nonprofit, nonpublic  
4 school or operated pursuant to a service contract with a school district for  
5 transporting children to or from school or in connection with school-ap-  
6 proved activities, the annual fee shall be twenty-four dollars (\$24.00) and  
7 shall be subject to staggered registration for the purpose of reregistration  
8 and notice of expiration.

9 (3) For all motorcycles and motor-driven cycles that comply with the  
10 federal motor vehicle safety standards, operated ~~upon~~ on the public high-  
11 ways, the annual fee shall be nineteen dollars (\$19.00) and shall be subject  
12 to staggered registration for the purpose of reregistration and notice of  
13 expiration.

14 (4) For operation of an all-terrain vehicle, utility type vehicle or  
15 motorbike, excluding a motorbike with an engine displacement of fifty (50)  
16 cubic centimeters or less, on city, county or highway district roads or  
17 highways open to such use, a restricted vehicle license plate fee pursuant  
18 to section 49-450, Idaho Code, shall be paid. In addition, the certifi-  
19 cate of number fee specified in section 67-7122, Idaho Code, shall be paid  
20 as provided in section 67-7122, Idaho Code. The certificate of number and  
21 restricted vehicle license plate exemption provided in section 49-426(2),  
22 Idaho Code, applies to all-terrain vehicles, utility type vehicles, motor-  
23 bikes and motorcycles used for the purposes described in section 49-426(2),  
24 Idaho Code. Nonresidents shall be allowed to purchase a restricted vehicle  
25 license plate and validation sticker pursuant to section 67-7124, Idaho  
26 Code, for an all-terrain vehicle, utility type vehicle, or motorbike.

27 (5) For all motor homes, the fee shall be as specified in subsection (1)  
28 of this section and shall be in addition to the fees provided for in section  
29 49-445, Idaho Code.

30 (6) Registration fees shall not be subject to refund.

31 (7) A financial institution or repossession service contracted to  
32 a financial institution repossessing vehicles under the terms of a secu-  
33 rity agreement shall move the vehicle from the place of repossession to the  
34 financial institution's place of business on a repossession plate. The  
35 repossession plate shall also be used for demonstrating the vehicle to a  
36 prospective purchaser for a period not to exceed ninety-six (96) hours. The  
37 registration fees for repossession plates shall be as required in subsection  
38 (1) of this section for a vehicle one (1) and two (2) years old. All other  
39 fees required under chapter 4, title 49, Idaho Code, shall be in addition to  
40 the registration fee. The repossession plate shall be subject to staggered  
41 registration for the purpose of reregistration and notice of expiration.

42 (8) A wrecker or towing business engaged in the process of towing motor-  
43 ized vehicles that have been wrecked, abandoned, salvaged or may be disabled  
44 may apply for a wrecker plate to be displayed on those vehicles being towed,  
45 provided the power unit is properly registered under this chapter. The reg-  
46 istration fees for wrecker plates shall be as required in subsection (1) of  
47 this section for a vehicle one (1) and two (2) years old. All other fees re-  
48 quired under chapter 4, title 49, Idaho Code, shall be in addition to the reg-  
49 istration fee and shall be subject to staggered registration for the purpose  
50 of reregistration and notice of expiration.

1 (9) In addition to the annual registration fee in this section, there  
 2 shall be an initial program fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) and an an-  
 3 nual program fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) for all special license plate  
 4 programs for those license plates issued pursuant to sections 49-404A,  
 5 49-407, 49-408, 49-409, 49-414, 49-416, 49-418 and 49-418D, Idaho Code. For  
 6 special plates issued pursuant to section 49-417E, Idaho Code, there shall  
 7 be an initial program fee of seventy dollars (\$70.00) and an annual program  
 8 fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00). For special plates issued pursuant to sec-  
 9 tions 49-406 and 49-406A, Idaho Code, there shall be an initial program fee  
 10 of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) but there shall be no annual renewal fee.  
 11 For special plates issued pursuant to sections 49-415D, 49-417, 49-417A,  
 12 49-417B, 49-417C, 49-417D, 49-418A, 49-418B, 49-418C, 49-419, 49-419A,  
 13 49-419C, 49-419E, 49-420, 49-420A, 49-420B, 49-420C, 49-420D, 49-420E,  
 14 49-420J, 49-420K, 49-420L, 49-420M, 49-420N, 49-420O, 49-420P, 49-420Q,  
 15 49-420R, and 49-420S, Idaho Code, and unless otherwise expressly provided  
 16 for in this chapter, any new special plate program effective on and after  
 17 January 1, 2013, pursuant to section 49-402D, Idaho Code, there shall be an  
 18 initial program fee of thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) and an annual program  
 19 fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). The fees contained in this subsection  
 20 shall be applicable to all new special plate programs and shall be subject  
 21 to staggered registration for the purpose of reregistration and notice of  
 22 expiration. The initial program fee and the annual program fee shall be  
 23 deposited in the state highway account and shall be used to fund the cost of  
 24 administration of special license plate programs, unless otherwise speci-  
 25 fied by law.

26 (10) Any vehicle that does not meet federal motor vehicle safety stan-  
 27 dards shall not be registered and shall not be permitted to operate on public  
 28 highways of the state, as defined in section 40-117, Idaho Code, unless oth-  
 29 erwise specifically authorized.

30 (11) In addition to annual registration fees as provided in this sec-  
 31 tion, registrants may pay a fee to purchase an Idaho state parks passport  
 32 authorizing resident motor vehicle entry into all Idaho state parks. Reg-  
 33 istrants may pay the fee for a one (1) year or two (2) year period of time.  
 34 The fee shall be ten dollars (\$10.00) for one (1) year and twenty dollars  
 35 (\$20.00) for two (2) years. All fees collected pursuant to this subsection  
 36 shall be deposited into the park and recreation fund and shall be subject to  
 37 appropriation. Fees collected pursuant to this subsection shall not be con-  
 38 sidered a motor vehicle registration fee as provided in section 17, article  
 39 VII~~7~~, of the constitution of the state of Idaho.

40 SECTION 2. That Section 49-402D, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby  
 41 amended to read as follows:

42 49-402D. SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE PREQUALIFICATION PROCESS.

43 (1) (a) For any new special license plate program approved by the legis-  
 44 lature, the program sponsor shall, before issuance of any such special  
 45 license plate, meet the prequalification process outlined in this sec-  
 46 tion. The program sponsor for any special plate program shall:

- 47 (i) Submit a financial plan for the use of the proceeds from the  
 48 special license plate sales and certify that all such proceeds  
 49 shall be deposited in the highway distribution account, except

1 ~~with respect to~~ for military license plates and any new special  
2 plate that may be established for the benefit of the state of Idaho  
3 or any department, division, bureau, or agency thereof, including  
4 an Idaho college or university pursuant to section 49-418A, Idaho  
5 Code, a military license plate, or a license plate for the benefit  
6 ~~of~~ the Idaho state board of education or specific education pro-  
7 grams, grant funds, or initiatives administered by the Idaho state  
8 board of education; and

9 (ii) Designate an individual who shall be deemed responsible by  
10 the agency for certifying compliance with the requirements of this  
11 section and working with the department.

12 (b) The department is authorized and shall adopt and promulgate rules  
13 to carry out the provisions of this section.

14 (2) If the request for a special license plate is approved by the de-  
15 partment, the following requirements, in addition to those set out in sub-  
16 section (1) of this section, shall be met by September 1 prior to the next  
17 legislative session and prior to the issuance of any special license plates  
18 approved by the legislature.

19 (a) The applicant shall deposit estimated programming and administra-  
20 tive costs with the department to be utilized for programming costs of  
21 the specialty plate. Administrative costs in the amount of one thousand  
22 dollars (\$1,000) shall be nonrefundable.

23 (b) In addition to the requirements provided for in section 49-402C,  
24 Idaho Code, the applicant requesting a special license plate program  
25 shall provide to the department an acceptable plate design.

26 (c) The applicant shall transmit to the department a list of two hundred  
27 fifty (250) applicants, whose vehicles are currently registered in the  
28 state of Idaho, who intend to purchase the specialty plate when avail-  
29 able, as evidenced by completing forms provided by the department.

30 (3) The department shall submit the completed applications for special  
31 license plate programs that meet the requirements of this section to the  
32 chairmen of the senate transportation committee and the house of representa-  
33 tives transportation and defense committee each year on behalf of the agency  
34 to be included for consideration in the next legislative session.

35 (4) On an annual basis, by December 1 of each calendar year, the sponsor  
36 of a special license plate program shall prepare an annual report, which  
37 shall be made available on request and shall be forwarded to the department.  
38 Such report shall include an accounting of revenues and expenditures associ-  
39 ated with the funds collected for the special license plate program. The de-  
40 partment shall compile and forward such reports to the chairmen of the senate  
41 transportation committee and the house of representatives transportation  
42 and defense committee by January 15 of each year. Failure of the agency to  
43 provide such report by the due date shall result in the discontinuation of  
44 the special license plate program sales on January 1. The provisions of this  
45 section shall exclude special plates established for the highway distri-  
46 bution account, the state of Idaho or any department, division, bureau, or  
47 agency thereof, an Idaho college or university pursuant to section 49-418A,  
48 Idaho Code, and military license plate programs.

49 (5) Any decision by the department that the special license plate pro-  
50 gram application does not meet the provisions of this section may be appealed

1 to the director of the department. Such notice of appeal shall be made in  
2 writing within twenty (20) days of the notice of denial. For all denied ap-  
3 plications, the department shall, at the next legislative session, report  
4 to the senate and house of representatives transportation committees on such  
5 denied applications and the reason for the denials.

6 SECTION 3. That Chapter 4, Title 49, Idaho Code, be, and the same is  
7 hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and des-  
8 ignated as Section 49-417E, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

9 49-417E. IDAHO WORLD FAMOUS POTATOES BLACK AND WHITE LICENSE  
10 PLATE. (1) On and after July 1, 2025, any person who is the owner of a vehicle  
11 registered under the provisions of section 49-402, Idaho Code, or registered  
12 under any other section of law for which the purchase of special plates is  
13 allowed, may apply for and, upon department approval, receive special Idaho  
14 world famous potatoes black and white license plates in lieu of regular li-  
15 cense plates.

16 (2) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any vehicle with  
17 a registered maximum gross weight over twenty-six thousand (26,000) pounds.  
18 Availability of Idaho world famous potatoes black and white license plates  
19 for other vehicles shall be subject to the rules, policies, and procedures of  
20 the department.

21 (3) In addition to the regular registration fee required pursuant  
22 to this chapter, the applicant shall be charged a fee of seventy dollars  
23 (\$70.00) for the initial issuance of plates and fifty dollars (\$50.00) for  
24 each succeeding annual registration. Forty-five dollars (\$45.00) of the  
25 initial fee and thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) of the renewal fee shall be  
26 deposited in the state highway account and shall be used to fund the cost of  
27 administration of this special license plate program. Twenty-five dollars  
28 (\$25.00) of each initial fee and fifteen dollars (\$15.00) of each renewal fee  
29 shall be transferred by the state treasurer to the Idaho potato commission  
30 created in chapter 12, title 22, Idaho Code, and shall be used exclusively  
31 for the purposes described in section 22-1207(17), Idaho Code.

32 (4) Whenever title or interest in a vehicle registered under the pro-  
33 visions of this section is transferred or assigned, the owner may transfer  
34 the special plates to another vehicle upon payment of the required transfer  
35 fees. The owner may only display the plates on another vehicle upon receipt  
36 of the new registration from the department.

37 (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 49-402C, Idaho Code,  
38 the Idaho world famous potatoes black and white license plate shall have a  
39 black background, white characters, and display the words "Idaho World Fa-  
40 mous Potatoes." The design shall be approved by the department, utilizing a  
41 numbering system as determined by the department. Initial costs of the plate  
42 program, including costs of plate design, shall be paid by the Idaho potato  
43 commission.

44 (6) Sample Idaho world famous potatoes black and white license plates  
45 may be purchased for a fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00), ten dollars (\$10.00)  
46 of which shall be deposited in the state highway account and twenty dollars  
47 (\$20.00) of which shall be transferred to the Idaho potato commission. No  
48 additional fee shall be charged for personalizing sample plates.

1 SECTION 4. That Chapter 4, Title 49, Idaho Code, be, and the same is  
2 hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and des-  
3 ignated as Section 49-417F, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

4 49-417F. IDAHO WORLD FAMOUS POTATOES WHITE AND TEAL LICENSE PLATE. (1)  
5 On and after July 1, 2025, any person who is the owner of a vehicle registered  
6 under the provisions of section 49-402, Idaho Code, may apply for and, upon  
7 department approval, receive Idaho world famous potatoes white and teal li-  
8 cense plates.

9 (2) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any vehicle with  
10 a registered maximum gross weight over twenty-six thousand (26,000) pounds.  
11 Availability of Idaho world famous potatoes white and teal license plates  
12 for other vehicles shall be subject to the rules, policies, and procedures of  
13 the department.

14 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 49-450, Idaho Code, the  
15 plate fee for the license plate created by this section shall be two dol-  
16 lars and seventy-five cents (\$2.75) per license plate. Such fee shall be  
17 deposited into the plate manufacturing account created in section 49-450A,  
18 Idaho Code. Regular registration fees shall be charged pursuant to the re-  
19 quirements of this chapter. There shall be no special plate program fee.

20 (4) Whenever title or interest in a vehicle registered under the pro-  
21 visions of this section is transferred or assigned, the owner may transfer  
22 the special plates to another vehicle upon payment of the required transfer  
23 fees. The owner may only display the plates on another vehicle upon receipt  
24 of the new registration from the department.

25 (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 49-402C, Idaho Code, the  
26 Idaho world famous potatoes white and teal license plate shall have a white  
27 background, teal green characters, and display the words "Idaho World Famous  
28 Potatoes." The design shall be approved by the department, utilizing a num-  
29 bering system as determined by the department.

30 (6) Sample Idaho world famous potatoes white and teal license plates  
31 may be purchased for a fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00), ten dollars (\$10.00)  
32 of which shall be deposited in the state highway account and twenty dollars  
33 (\$20.00) of which shall be transferred to the Idaho potato commission. No  
34 additional fee shall be charged for personalizing sample plates.

35 SECTION 5. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby  
36 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after  
37 July 1, 2025.