

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1182, As Amended

BY JUDICIARY AND RULES COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION AND LICENSE PLATES;
 2 AMENDING SECTION 49-402, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS
 3 RELATING TO INITIAL PROGRAM FEES AND TO MAKE A TECHNICAL
 4 CORRECTION; AMENDING SECTION 49-402C, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE
 5 PROVISIONS RELATING TO APPLICATION OF LAW; AND AMENDING
 6 CHAPTER 4, TITLE 49, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION
 7 49-402D, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE THAT ANY ORGANIZATION SEEKING
 8 TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE PROGRAM SHALL BE
 9 REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AN APPLICATION PROCESS, TO DEFINE A TERM,
 10 TO PROVIDE FOR AN EXCEPTION, TO PROVIDE REQUIREMENTS, TO PROVIDE
 11 FOR RULES, TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS, TO PROVIDE THAT
 12 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATIONS, TO PROVIDE
 13 FOR A REPORT AND TO PROVIDE FOR AN APPEAL.
 14

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

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

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

| | | |
|----|--|---------|
| 22 | Vehicles one (1) and two (2) years old | \$48.00 |
| 23 | Vehicles three (3) and four (4) years old | \$36.00 |
| 24 | Vehicles five (5) and six (6) years old | \$36.00 |
| 25 | Vehicles seven (7) and eight (8) years old | \$24.00 |
| 26 | Vehicles over eight (8) years old | \$24.00 |

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

36 A vehicle that has once been registered for any of the above designated periods shall,
 37 upon reregistration, be registered for the period bearing the same number, and the registration
 38 card shall show and be the exclusive proof of the expiration date of registration and licensing.

1 Vehicles may be initially registered for less than a twelve (12) month period, or for more than a
2 twelve (12) month period, and the fee prorated on a monthly basis if the fractional registration
3 tends to fulfill the purpose of the monthly series registration system.

4 (2) For all school buses operated either by a nonprofit, nonpublic school or operated
5 pursuant to a service contract with a school district for transporting children to or from school
6 or in connection with school approved activities, the annual fee shall be twenty-four dollars
7 (\$24.00).

8 (3) For all motorcycles and motor-driven cycles which comply with the federal motor
9 vehicle safety standards, operated upon the public highways the annual fee shall be nine dollars
10 (\$9.00).

11 (4) For operation of an all-terrain vehicle, utility type vehicle or motorbike, excluding
12 a motorbike with an engine displacement of fifty (50) cubic centimeters or less, on public
13 lands, a restricted vehicle license plate fee pursuant to section 49-450, Idaho Code, shall be
14 paid. In addition, the registration fee specified in section 67-7122, Idaho Code, shall be paid as
15 provided in section 67-7122, Idaho Code. The registration and restricted vehicle license plate
16 exemption provided in section 49-426(2), Idaho Code, applies to all-terrain vehicles, utility
17 type vehicles, motorbikes and motorcycles used for the purposes described in subsection (2) of
18 section 49-426, Idaho Code.

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

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

22 (7) A financial institution or repossession service contracted to a financial institution
23 repossessing vehicles under the terms of a security agreement shall move the vehicle from
24 the place of repossession to the financial institution's place of business on a repossession
25 plate. The repossession plate shall also be used for demonstrating the vehicle to a prospective
26 purchaser for a period not to exceed ninety-six (96) hours. The registration fees for
27 repossession plates shall be as required in subsection (1) of this section for a vehicle one (1)
28 and two (2) years old. All other fees required under chapter 4, title 49, Idaho Code, shall be in
29 addition to the registration fee. The repossession plate shall be issued on an annual basis by
30 the department.

31 (8) In addition to the annual registration fee in this section, there shall be an initial
32 program fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) and an annual program fee of fifteen dollars
33 (\$15.00) for all special license plate programs for those license plates issued pursuant to
34 sections 49-404A, 49-407, 49-408, 49-409, 49-414, 49-416, 49-418 and 49-418D, Idaho Code.
35 For special plates issued pursuant to sections 49-406 and 49-406A, Idaho Code, there shall be
36 an initial program fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) but there shall be no annual renewal fee.
37 For special plates issued pursuant to sections 49-415C, 49-415D, 49-415E, 49-416A, 49-416B,
38 49-416C, 49-416D, 49-416E, 49-417, 49-417A, 49-417B, 49-417C, 49-417D, 49-417E,
39 49-418A, 49-418B, 49-418C, 49-418E, 49-419, 49-419A, 49-419B, 49-419C, 49-419D, 49-420,
40 49-420A, 49-420B, 49-420C, 49-420D, 49-420E and 49-420G, Idaho Code, and any new
41 special plate program effective on and after January 1, 2010, pursuant to section 49-402D,
42 Idaho Code, there shall be an initial program fee of thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) and an annual
43 program fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). The fees contained in this subsection shall be
44 applicable to all new special plate programs. The initial program fee and the annual program
45 fee shall be deposited in the state highway account and shall be used to fund the cost of
46 administration of special license plate programs, unless otherwise specified by law.

1 (89) Any vehicle that does not meet federal motor vehicle safety standards shall not be
2 registered and shall not be permitted to operate on public highways of the state, as defined in
3 section 40-117, Idaho Code, unless otherwise specifically authorized.

4 SECTION 2. That Section 49-402C, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to
5 read as follows:

6 49-402C. SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE PROGRAMS – STANDARDIZED PLATE
7 COLOR AND DESIGN. (1) It is the intent of the legislature that special license plates issued
8 by the department be readily recognizable as plates from the state of Idaho without losing the
9 uniqueness for which the special plate was designed and purchased. In addition, the legislature
10 finds that the department can operate in a more efficient, cost-effective manner by conforming
11 special plates to a basic color and design.

12 (2) No special license plates and no special license plate programs in existence on or
13 before June 30, 1998, shall be affected by the provisions of this section. On and after July 1,
14 1998, any new special license plate program authorized or any redesign of an existing special
15 license plate, shall use the same red, white and blue background as the standard issue of license
16 plates described in section 49-443, Idaho Code, except that:

17 (a) The identification of county shall be omitted;

18 (b) The word "Idaho" shall appear on every plate;

19 (c) The inscription "Scenic Idaho" may be omitted without legislative consideration and
20 approval; and

21 (d) No slogan shall be used that infringes upon, dilutes or compromises, or could be
22 perceived to infringe upon, dilute or compromise, the trademarks of the state of Idaho,
23 including, but not limited to, "Idaho Potatoes®," "Grown in Idaho™," "Famous Idaho
24 Potatoes™" or "Famous Potatoes®."

25 The provisions of this section shall not apply to the plate designs issued pursuant to the
26 provisions of section 49-417, Idaho Code.

27 (3) Any redesign required for a special plate to conform with legislative intent and the
28 provisions of this section may be done in a manner similar to that used to produce the original
29 design.

30 (4) The special plates shall conform in all other respects with the provisions of section
31 49-443, Idaho Code, relating to visibility requirements, display of registration number, time
32 period for validity of plates, and reservation of plate numbers.

33 (5) Unless otherwise specifically provided, no special license plates shall be issued to
34 motor vehicles with a registered maximum gross weight in excess of twenty-six thousand
35 (26,000) pounds, or any motor vehicle registered under section 49-434(5), Idaho Code, or
36 section 49-435, Idaho Code.

37 (6) Following an introductory period of three (3) years during which the provisions of
38 this subsection shall not apply, if, during both years of any following two (2) consecutive
39 years, fewer than one thousand (1,000) plates are issued in each of those two (2) consecutive
40 years, the department shall discontinue that special license plate program and no new plates
41 shall be issued nor shall any existing plate be renewed upon its expiration. The provisions of
42 this subsection shall apply to sections 49-416, 49-417, 49-417A, 49-417B, 49-417C, 49-418A,
43 49-418B, 49-418C, 49-419, 49-419A, 49-420, 49-420B, Idaho Code, and any other special
44 license plate programs created on and after July 1, 2002, and for any special plate program
45 approved on and after January 1, 2010, pursuant to section 49-402D, Idaho Code.

1 SECTION 3. That Chapter 4, Title 49, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended
2 by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and designated as Section 49-402D,
3 Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

4 49-402D. SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE PREQUALIFICATION PROCESS. (1) On and
5 after January 1, 2010, any group or organization (hereinafter referred to as "organization")
6 seeking special license plate program participation shall meet the provisions of this section
7 prior to such special plate program being proposed to the Idaho legislature. Any such
8 organization shall be required to complete the application process provided for in this section
9 no later than September 1, prior to the legislative session, in which such organization desires
10 consideration by the Idaho legislature.

11 (2) The organization shall be either a state agency or a nonprofit organization that has
12 been approved for tax exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code,
13 and shall provide a letter from the internal revenue service to the organization verifying such
14 organization's tax exempt status to the department. State agencies shall not be required to meet
15 the provisions of subsection (2)(a) through (e) of this section.

16 (a) Each nonprofit organization is required to provide:

17 (i) Proof that it is based, headquartered or has a chapter in Idaho as shown on the
18 records of the secretary of state.

19 (ii) A copy of its articles of incorporation, and if the organization consists of a
20 group of nonprofit corporations, a copy for each organization.

21 (iii) Proof that the primary activity or purpose of the organization serves
22 the community, contributes to the welfare of others, and is not offensive or
23 discriminatory, in its purpose, nature, activity or name.

24 (b) The proposed special plate shall not represent a political party, nor shall it promote a
25 specific political belief.

26 (c) The proposed special plate program shall not have as its purpose the promotion of
27 any specific religion, faith or antireligion.

28 (d) The name and purpose of the proposed special plate program shall not promote any
29 specific product or brand name that is on a product provided for sale.

30 (e) The name of the proposed special plate program shall not be the name of a
31 trademark, or if so, the nonprofit organization shall show that the entity with control of
32 the trademark has provided written authorization to the organization and the department
33 for any name, logo or graphic design suggested for the design of the special plate. No
34 infringement or violation of any property right will result from such use of such name,
35 logo or graphic design. The organization will provide an indemnifying affidavit holding
36 harmless the state of Idaho and its employees and agents for any liability that may result
37 from any infringement or violation of a property right based on the use of such name,
38 logo or graphic design.

39 (f) The organization shall submit a financial plan for the use of the proceeds from the
40 special license plate.

41 (g) The organization shall designate an individual, who shall be deemed responsible
42 by the organization for certifying compliance with the requirements of this section and
43 working with the department.

44 (h) The department is authorized and shall adopt and promulgate rules to carry out the
45 provisions of this section.

1 (3) If the organization's request for a special license plate is approved by the department,
2 the following requirements, in addition to those set out in subsection (2) of this section, shall be
3 met by September 1, prior to the next legislative session.

4 (a) The organization shall deposit estimated programming and administrative costs with
5 the department to be utilized for programming costs of the specialty plate. Administrative
6 costs in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) shall be nonrefundable.

7 (b) In addition to the requirements provided for in section 49-402C, Idaho Code, the
8 organization requesting a special plate program shall provide to the department an
9 acceptable plate design.

10 (c) The organization shall collect the fees provided for in section 49-402(8), Idaho Code,
11 for the initial special plate program, and transmit said fees to the department along with
12 a list of two hundred fifty (250) applicants whose vehicles are currently registered in the
13 state of Idaho, who intend to purchase the specialty plate when available, as evidenced
14 by completing forms provided by the department. Such fees shall be refundable if the
15 proposal is not passed by the Idaho legislature.

16 (d) Upon passage and final approval by the Idaho legislature, the department shall
17 provide two hundred fifty (250) certificates to the organization to distribute to those who
18 prepaid their special plate application fees, as provided for in subsection (3)(c) of this
19 section.

20 (4) The department shall submit the completed applications for special license plate
21 programs that meet the requirements of this section to the chairmen of the senate transportation
22 committee and the house of representatives transportation and defense committee each year on
23 behalf of the organization, to be included for consideration in the next legislative session.

24 (5) On an annual basis, by December 1, of each calendar year, the organization that
25 is a sponsor of a special license plate program, shall prepare an annual report which shall
26 be made available on request, and shall be forwarded to the department. Such report shall
27 include an accounting of revenues and expenditures associated with the funds collected for the
28 special license plate program. The department shall compile and forward such reports to the
29 chairmen of the senate transportation committee and the house of representatives transportation
30 and defense committee by January 15 of each year. Failure of the organization to provide
31 such report by the due date shall result in the suspension of the special plate program sales on
32 January 1, until such report is provided.

33 (6) Any decision by the department that the special plate program application does not
34 meet the provisions of this section, may be appealed to the director of the department. Such
35 notice of appeal shall be made in writing within twenty (20) days of the notice of denial.