

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 457

BY TRANSPORTATION AND DEFENSE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; AMENDING SECTION 49-402C, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE  
2 PROVISIONS REGARDING CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH SPECIAL PLATE PROGRAMS  
3 SHALL BE DISCONTINUED AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.  
4

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

25 (d) No slogan shall be used that infringes upon, dilutes or compro-  
26 mises, or could be perceived to infringe upon, dilute or compromise, the  
27 trademarks of the state of Idaho, including, but not limited to, "Idaho  
28 Potatoes®," "Grown in Idaho™," "Famous Idaho Potatoes™" or "Famous  
29 Potatoes®."

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

32 (3) Any redesign required for a special plate to conform with legisla-  
33 tive intent and the provisions of this section may be done in a manner similar  
34 to that used to produce the original design.

35 (4) The special plates shall conform in all other respects with the pro-  
36 visions of section 49-443, Idaho Code, relating to visibility requirements,  
37 display of registration number, time period for validity of plates, and  
38 reservation of plate numbers.

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

1           (6) Effective January 1, 2014, ~~f~~Following an introductory period of  
2 three (3) years during which the provisions of this subsection shall not ap-  
3 ply, if, during both years of any following two (2) consecutive years, fewer  
4 than ~~one thousand~~ five hundred (1,0500) plates are issued in each of those  
5 two (2) consecutive years, the department shall discontinue that special  
6 license plate program. Any existing plates may be renewed upon ~~its~~ expira-  
7 tion until the physical license plates must be replaced pursuant to section  
8 49-443(2), Idaho Code. No duplicate or replacement plates will be produced  
9 if such plates are lost or damaged prior to the seven (7) year replacement.  
10 The provisions of this subsection shall apply to sections 49-416, 49-417,  
11 49-417A, 49-417B, 49-417C, 49-418A, 49-418B, 49-418C, 49-419, 49-419A,  
12 49-420, and 49-420B, Idaho Code, and any other special license plate pro-  
13 grams created on and after July 1, 2002.