

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 225

Introduced by Haar, 21; Stuthman, 22.

Read first time January 13, 2009

Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; to amend sections 60-301,
2 60-3,104, and 60-3,130.04, Revised Statutes Cumulative
3 Supplement, 2008; to provide for volunteer firefighter
4 license plates; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal
5 the original sections.
6 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 60-301, Revised Statutes Cumulative
2 Supplement, 2008, is amended to read:

3 60-301 Sections 60-301 to 60-3,221 and sections 3 and 4
4 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Motor Vehicle
5 Registration Act.

6 Sec. 2. Section 60-3,104, Revised Statutes Cumulative
7 Supplement, 2008, is amended to read:

8 60-3,104 The department shall issue the following types
9 of license plates:

10 (1) Amateur radio station license plates issued pursuant
11 to section 60-3,126;

12 (2) Apportionable vehicle license plates issued pursuant
13 to section 60-3,203;

14 (3) Boat dealer license plates issued pursuant to section
15 60-379;

16 (4) Bus license plates issued pursuant to section
17 60-3,144;

18 (5) Commercial motor vehicle license plates issued
19 pursuant to section 60-3,147;

20 (6) Dealer or manufacturer license plates issued pursuant
21 to sections 60-3,114 and 60-3,115;

22 (7) Disabled veteran license plates issued pursuant to
23 section 60-3,124;

24 (8) Farm trailer license plates issued pursuant to
25 section 60-3,151;

- 1 (9) Farm truck license plates issued pursuant to section
2 60-3,146;
- 3 (10) Farm trucks with a gross weight of over sixteen tons
4 license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,146;
- 5 (11) Fertilizer trailer license plates issued pursuant to
6 section 60-3,151;
- 7 (12) Film vehicle license plates issued pursuant to
8 section 60-383;
- 9 (13) Gold Star Family license plates issued pursuant to
10 sections 60-3,122.01 and 60-3,122.02;
- 11 (14) Handicapped or disabled person license plates issued
12 pursuant to section 60-3,113;
- 13 (15) Historical vehicle license plates issued pursuant to
14 sections 60-3,130 to 60-3,134;
- 15 (16) Local truck license plates issued pursuant to
16 section 60-3,145;
- 17 (17) Motor vehicle license plates for motor vehicles
18 owned or operated by the state, counties, municipalities, or school
19 districts issued pursuant to section 60-3,105;
- 20 (18) Motor vehicles exempt pursuant to section 60-3,107;
- 21 (19) Motorcycle license plates issued pursuant to section
22 60-3,100;
- 23 (20) Nebraska Cornhusker Spirit Plates issued pursuant to
24 sections 60-3,127 to 60-3,129;
- 25 (21) Nonresident owner thirty-day license plates issued

1 pursuant to section 60-382;

2 (22) Passenger car having a seating capacity of ten
3 persons or less and not used for hire issued pursuant to section
4 60-3,143;

5 (23) Passenger car having a seating capacity of ten
6 persons or less and used for hire issued pursuant to section
7 60-3,143;

8 (24) Pearl Harbor license plates issued pursuant to
9 section 60-3,122;

10 (25) Personal-use dealer license plates issued pursuant
11 to section 60-3,116;

12 (26) Personalized message license plates for motor
13 vehicles and cabin trailers, except commercial motor vehicles
14 registered for over ten tons gross weight, issued pursuant to
15 sections 60-3,118 to 60-3,121;

16 (27) Prisoner-of-war license plates issued pursuant to
17 section 60-3,123;

18 (28) Purple Heart license plates issued pursuant to
19 section 60-3,125;

20 (29) Recreational vehicle license plates issued pursuant
21 to section 60-3,151;

22 (30) Repossession license plates issued pursuant to
23 section 60-375;

24 (31) Trailer license plates issued for trailers owned
25 or operated by the state, counties, municipalities, or school

1 districts issued pursuant to section 60-3,106;

2 (32) Trailer license plates issued pursuant to section
3 60-3,100;

4 (33) Trailers exempt pursuant to section 60-3,108;

5 (34) Transporter license plates issued pursuant to
6 section 60-378;

7 (35) Trucks or combinations of trucks, truck-tractors,
8 or trailers which are not for hire and engaged in soil and water
9 conservation work and used for the purpose of transporting pipe and
10 equipment exclusively used by such contractors for soil and water
11 conservation construction license plates issued pursuant to section
12 60-3,149;

13 (36) Utility trailer license plates issued pursuant to
14 section 60-3,151; and

15 (37) Volunteer firefighter license plates issued pursuant
16 to sections 3 and 4 of this act; and

17 ~~(37)~~ (38) Well-boring apparatus and well-servicing
18 equipment license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,109.

19 Sec. 3. (1) The department shall design license plates to
20 be known as volunteer firefighter license plates. The department
21 shall, in designing the plates:

22 (a) Use a design, background, and printing as the
23 department determines to best represent volunteer firefighters
24 and to provide suitable reflection and contrast; and

25 (b) Create the design to reflect support for volunteer

1 firefighters. The design shall be selected on the basis of limiting
2 the manufacturing cost of each plate to an amount less than or
3 equal to the amount charged for license plates pursuant to section
4 60-3,102.

5 (2) One type of plate shall be consecutively numbered
6 plates. The department shall:

7 (a) Number the plates consecutively beginning with the
8 number one, using numerals the size of which maximizes legibility;
9 and

10 (b) Not use a county designation or any characters other
11 than numbers on the plates.

12 (3) One type of plate shall be personalized message
13 plates. Such plates shall be issued subject to the same conditions
14 specified for personalized message license plates in subsection (2)
15 of section 60-3,118. The characters used shall consist only of
16 letters and numerals of the same size and design and shall comply
17 with the requirements of subdivision (1)(a) of section 60-3,100. A
18 maximum of seven characters may be used.

19 Sec. 4. (1) Beginning January 1, 2010, a volunteer
20 firefighter may apply to the department for volunteer firefighter
21 license plates in lieu of regular license plates on an application
22 prescribed and provided by the department for any motor vehicle,
23 trailer, semitrailer, or cabin trailer, except for a motor
24 vehicle or trailer registered under section 60-3,198. An applicant
25 receiving a volunteer firefighter license plate for a farm truck

1 with a gross weight of over sixteen tons or for a commercial motor
2 vehicle registered for a gross weight of five tons or over shall
3 affix the appropriate tonnage decal to the plate. The department
4 shall make forms available for applications for the plates when
5 they are designed. The license plates shall be issued upon payment
6 of the license fee described in subsection (3) of this section.

7 (2) A volunteer firefighter shall submit a letter from
8 the chief of his or her volunteer department as proof of current
9 service as a volunteer firefighter. The letter shall be submitted
10 to the department with the application for initial issuance,
11 renewal, replacement, or transfer of volunteer firefighter license
12 plates.

13 (3) Each application for initial issuance or renewal of
14 volunteer firefighter license plates shall be accompanied by the
15 regular license fee for regular license plates or personalized
16 message plates, as applicable, and an additional fee of five
17 dollars. The additional fee collected pursuant to this subsection
18 shall be remitted to the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall
19 credit forty-three percent of the fees for initial issuance and
20 renewal of volunteer firefighter license plates to the Department
21 of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund and fifty-seven percent of the fees to
22 the Highway Trust Fund.

23 (4) When the department receives an application for
24 volunteer firefighter license plates, the department shall
25 deliver the plates to the county treasurer or designated county

1 official of the county in which the motor vehicle, trailer,
2 semitrailer, or cabin trailer is registered. The county treasurer
3 or designated county official shall issue the volunteer firefighter
4 license plates in lieu of regular license plates when the
5 applicant complies with the other provisions of the Motor Vehicle
6 Registration Act for registration of the motor vehicle, trailer,
7 semitrailer, or cabin trailer. If volunteer firefighter license
8 plates are lost, stolen, or mutilated, the licensee shall be issued
9 replacement license plates pursuant to section 60-3,157.

10 (5) The owner of a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer,
11 or cabin trailer bearing the volunteer firefighter license plates
12 may apply to the county treasurer or designated county official
13 to have such plates transferred to a motor vehicle, trailer,
14 semitrailer, or cabin trailer other than the motor vehicle,
15 trailer, semitrailer, or cabin trailer for which such plates were
16 originally purchased if such motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer,
17 or cabin trailer is owned by the owner of the plates. The
18 owner may have the unused portion of the fee for the volunteer
19 firefighter license plates credited to the other motor vehicle,
20 trailer, semitrailer, or cabin trailer which will bear the plates
21 at the rate of eight and one-third percent per month for each
22 full month left in the registration period. Application for such
23 transfer shall be accompanied by a fee of three dollars. Fees
24 collected pursuant to this subsection shall be remitted to the
25 State Treasurer for credit to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash

1 Fund.

2 Sec. 5. Section 60-3,130.04, Revised Statutes Cumulative
3 Supplement, 2008, is amended to read:

4 60-3,130.04 (1) An owner of a historical vehicle eligible
5 for registration under section 60-3,130 may use a license plate
6 or plates designed by this state in the year corresponding to the
7 model year when the vehicle was manufactured in lieu of the plates
8 designed pursuant to section 60-3,130.03 subject to the approval of
9 the department. The department shall inspect the plate or plates
10 and may approve the plate or plates if it is determined that the
11 model-year license plate or plates are legible and serviceable and
12 that the license plate numbers do not conflict with or duplicate
13 other numbers assigned and in use. An original-issued license plate
14 or plates that have been restored to original condition may be used
15 when approved by the department.

16 (2) The department may consult with a recognized car club
17 in determining whether the year of the license plate or plates
18 to be used corresponds to the model year when the vehicle was
19 manufactured.

20 (3) If only one license plate is used on the vehicle, the
21 license plate shall be placed on the rear of the vehicle. The owner
22 of a historical vehicle may use only one plate on the vehicle even
23 for years in which two license plates were issued for vehicles in
24 general.

25 (4) License plates used pursuant to this section

1 corresponding to the year of manufacture of the vehicle shall
2 not be personalized message license plates, Pearl Harbor license
3 plates, prisoner-of-war license plates, disabled veteran license
4 plates, Purple Heart license plates, amateur radio station license
5 plates, Nebraska Cornhusker Spirit Plates, ~~or~~ handicapped or
6 disabled person license plates, or volunteer firefighter license
7 plates.

8 Sec. 6. Original sections 60-301, 60-3,104, and
9 60-3,130.04, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2008, are
10 repealed.