SENATE BILL NO. 67-SENATORS WIENER AND TITUS

PREFILED JANUARY 29, 1999

Referred to Committee on Transportation

SUMMARY—Authorizes department of motor vehicles and public safety to design, prepare and issue special license plates upon request. (BDR 43-28)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

Effect on the State or on Industrial Insurance: No.

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EXPLANATION - Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; authorizing the department of motor vehicles and public safety to design, prepare and issue special license plates upon request; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 482 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto

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3 the provisions set forth as sections 2 and 3 of this act.

- Sec. 2. 1. A person may request the department to design, prepare and issue a special license plate by submitting an application to the department. Such an application:
 - (a) Must be on a form prescribed and furnished by the department;
- (b) Must be accompanied by a petition containing the signatures of at least 50 persons who wish to obtain the special license plate;
- 10 (c) Must specify whether the special license plate being requested is 11 intended to generate financial support for a particular cause or 12 charitable organization and, if so, the name of the cause or charitable
- organization; and
 (d) May be accompanied by suggestions for the design and colors to
- be used in the special license plate.
 The department shall not design and prepare a special license plate requested pursuant to subsection 1 if the department:
- (a) Receives less than 250 applications for the issuance of the plate within 4 years after the date on which the department received the initial

application for the design, preparation and issuance of the plate pursuant to subsection 1;

- (b) Determines that the special license plate would promote:
- (1) An activity, interest or organization that is offensive or discriminatory in its purpose, nature or name;
 - (2) A specific product or brand name that is offered for sale; or

(3) A specific religion, faith or antireligious belief; or

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- (c) Determines that the special license plate is inappropriate or not feasible for any other reason.
- 3. The department may issue special license plates that the department has designed and prepared pursuant to this section for any passenger car or light commercial vehicle upon application by a person who is entitled to license plates pursuant to NRS 482.265 and who otherwise complies with the requirements for registration and licensing pursuant to this chapter. A person may request that personalized prestige license plates issued pursuant to NRS 482.3667 be combined with a special license plate issued pursuant to this section if that person pays the fees for personalized prestige license plates in addition to the fees for the special license plate.
- 4. If, during a registration year, the holder of license plates issued pursuant to this section disposes of the vehicle to which the plates are affixed, the holder may retain the plates and:
- 23 (a) Affix the plates to another vehicle that meets the requirements of 24 this section if the transfer and registration fees are paid as set out in this 25 chapter; or
 - (b) Within 30 days after removing the plates from the vehicle, return the plates to the department.
 - Sec. 3. 1. If a special license plate is designed, prepared and issued pursuant to section 2 of this act to generate financial support for a particular cause or charitable organization, the department may charge a fee for the initial issuance or renewal, or both, of a set of such special license plates in addition to the fees authorized pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 482.265 and all other applicable registration and license fees and motor vehicle privilege taxes.
 - 2. The department shall deposit the fees collected pursuant to subsection 1 with the state treasurer for credit to an account created in the state general fund for the benefit of the particular cause or charitable organization for whose financial support the special license plate was created. The department shall designate an appropriate state agency to administer the account.
- 3. Money in an account created pursuant to subsection 2 does not lapse to the state general fund at the end of a fiscal year. The interest and

income earned on money in such an account, after deducting any applicable charges, must be credited to the account.

- **Sec. 4.** NRS 482.216 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 4 482.216 1. Upon the request of a new vehicle dealer, the department may authorize the new vehicle dealer to:
- (a) Accept applications for the registration of the new motor vehicles he sells and the related fees and taxes;
- (b) Issue certificates of registration to applicants who satisfy the requirements of this chapter; and
- 10 (c) Accept applications for the transfer of registration pursuant to NRS 482.399 if the applicant purchased from the new vehicle dealer a new vehicle to which the registration is to be transferred.
 - 2. A new vehicle dealer who is authorized to issue certificates of registration pursuant to subsection 1 shall:

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- (a) Transmit the applications he receives to the department within the period prescribed by the department;
- (b) Transmit the fees he collects from the applicants and properly account for them within the period prescribed by the department;
 - (c) Comply with the regulations adopted pursuant to subsection 4; and
- (d) Bear any cost of equipment which is necessary to issue certificates of registration, including any computer hardware or software.
- 3. A new vehicle dealer who is authorized to issue certificates of registration pursuant to subsection 1 shall not:
 - (a) Charge any additional fee for the performance of those services;
 - (b) Receive compensation from the department for the performance of those services;
 - (c) Accept applications for the renewal of registration of a motor vehicle; or
 - (d) Accept an application for the registration of a motor vehicle if the applicant wishes to:
 - (1) Obtain special license plates pursuant to NRS 482.3667 to 482.3825, inclusive [;], and sections 2 and 3 of this act; or
 - (2) Claim the exemption from the vehicle privilege tax provided pursuant to NRS 361.1565 to veterans and their relations.
 - 4. The director shall adopt such regulations as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this section. The regulations adopted pursuant to this subsection must provide for:
- 38 (a) The expedient and secure issuance of license plates and decals by the department; and

- 1 (b) The withdrawal of the authority granted to a new vehicle dealer pursuant to subsection 1 if that dealer fails to comply with the regulations adopted by the department.