

SENATE BILL NO. 257—SENATORS WIENER, O'DONNELL, CARE, CARLTON,
SHAFFER, AMODEI, JACOBSEN, TITUS AND WASHINGTON

FEBRUARY 27, 2001

Referred to Committee on Transportation

SUMMARY—Provides for issuance of special license plates recognizing current or former service as volunteer fire fighter and revises provisions relating to special license plates indicating employment as current or former full-time salaried fire fighter. (BDR 43-505)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: 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; providing for the issuance of special license plates recognizing current or former service as a volunteer fire fighter; imposing a fee for the issuance and renewal of those license plates to pay expenses related to the training of volunteer fire fighters; limiting the issuance of special license plates indicating current or former employment as a full-time salaried fire fighter; imposing a fee for the issuance and renewal of those license plates to be distributed among certain facilities for the treatment of burns which are located within the State of Nevada; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

- 1 **Section 1.** Chapter 482 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a
2 new section to read as follows:
3 *1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the department, in*
4 *cooperation with the Nevada State Firefighters' Association or its*
5 *successor, shall design, prepare and issue license plates that recognize*
6 *current or former service as a volunteer fire fighter using any colors and*
7 *designs which the department deems appropriate. The department shall*
8 *not design, prepare or issue the license plates unless it receives at least*
9 *250 applications for the issuance of those plates.*
10 *2. The department shall issue license plates that recognize current or*
11 *former service as a volunteer fire fighter for a passenger car or a light*
12 *commercial vehicle upon application by a qualified person who is*
13 *entitled to license plates pursuant to NRS 482.265 and who otherwise*
14 *complies with the requirements for registration and licensing pursuant to*
15 *this chapter. A person may request that personalized prestige license*



1 *plates issued pursuant to NRS 482.3667 be combined with license plates*
2 *that recognize current or former service as a volunteer fire fighter if that*
3 *person pays the fees for the personalized prestige license plates in*
4 *addition to the fees for the license plates that recognize current or former*
5 *service as a volunteer fire fighter.*

6 3. *An application for the issuance or renewal of license plates that*
7 *recognize current or former service as a volunteer fire fighter is void*
8 *unless it is accompanied by documentation which, in the determination*
9 *of the department, provides reasonable proof of the identity of the*
10 *applicant and proof of his current service as a volunteer fire fighter or*
11 *his status as a former volunteer fire fighter who retired from service as a*
12 *volunteer fire fighter within this state after completing at least 10 years*
13 *of active service. Proof of an applicant's current or former service as a*
14 *volunteer fire fighter must consist of:*

15 (a) *An identification card which indicates that the applicant currently*
16 *serves as a volunteer fire fighter; or*

17 (b) *A letter from the chief officer of a volunteer or combination fire*
18 *department certifying the applicant's current or former service as a*
19 *volunteer fire fighter.*

20 4. *The fee payable to the department for license plates that recognize*
21 *current or former service as a volunteer fire fighter is \$35, in addition to*
22 *all other applicable registration and license fees and governmental*
23 *services taxes. The license plates are renewable upon the payment to the*
24 *department of \$10 in addition to all other applicable registration and*
25 *license fees and governmental services taxes.*

26 5. *In addition to all other applicable registration and license fees and*
27 *governmental services taxes and the fees prescribed in subsection 4, a*
28 *person who requests a set of license plates that recognize current or*
29 *former service as a volunteer fire fighter must pay for the initial issuance*
30 *of the plates an additional fee of \$25 and for each renewal of the plates*
31 *an additional fee of \$20 to support the training of volunteer fire fighters.*

32 6. *The department shall deposit the fees collected pursuant to*
33 *subsection 5 with the state treasurer for credit to the state general fund.*
34 *The state treasurer shall account separately for the money deposited*
35 *pursuant to this subsection and reserve such money for expenditure by*
36 *the state fire marshal in accordance with this subsection. The state fire*
37 *marshal may expend the money reserved pursuant to this subsection*
38 *solely for the support of, and to pay expenses related to, training for*
39 *volunteer fire fighters provided by or as directed by the board of directors*
40 *of the Nevada State Firefighters' Association or its successor.*

41 7. *If, during a registration year, the holder of license plates issued*
42 *pursuant to the provisions of this section disposes of the vehicle to which*
43 *the plates are affixed, the holder shall:*

44 (a) *Retain the plates and affix them to another vehicle that meets the*
45 *requirements of this section if the transfer and registration fees are paid*
46 *as set out in this chapter; or*

47 (b) *Within 30 days after removing the plates from the vehicle, return*
48 *them to the department.*

49 8. *As used in this section:*



- 1 (a) "Combination fire department" means a fire department that is:
2 (1) Served by both volunteer and full-time salaried fire fighters; and
3 (2) Recognized as such by the state fire marshal.
4 (b) "Volunteer fire department" means a fire department recognized
5 as a bona fide volunteer fire department by the state fire marshal.
6 (c) "Volunteer fire fighter" means a person who serves actively in an
7 unpaid capacity in a volunteer or combination fire department within
8 this state as a fire fighter for the benefit or safety of the public.

9 **Sec. 2.** NRS 482.216 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10 482.216 1. Upon the request of a new vehicle dealer, the department
11 may authorize the new vehicle dealer to:

- 12 (a) Accept applications for the registration of the new motor vehicles he
13 sells and the related fees and taxes;
14 (b) Issue certificates of registration to applicants who satisfy the
15 requirements of this chapter; and
16 (c) Accept applications for the transfer of registration pursuant to NRS
17 482.399 if the applicant purchased from the new vehicle dealer a new
18 vehicle to which the registration is to be transferred.

19 2. A new vehicle dealer who is authorized to issue certificates of
20 registration pursuant to subsection 1 shall:

- 21 (a) Transmit the applications he receives to the department within the
22 period prescribed by the department;
23 (b) Transmit the fees he collects from the applicants and properly
24 account for them within the period prescribed by the department;
25 (c) Comply with the regulations adopted pursuant to subsection 4; and
26 (d) Bear any cost of equipment which is necessary to issue certificates
27 of registration, including any computer hardware or software.

28 3. A new vehicle dealer who is authorized to issue certificates of
29 registration pursuant to subsection 1 shall not:

- 30 (a) Charge any additional fee for the performance of those services;
31 (b) Receive compensation from the department for the performance of
32 those services;
33 (c) Accept applications for the renewal of registration of a motor
34 vehicle; or
35 (d) Accept an application for the registration of a motor vehicle if the
36 applicant wishes to:

37 (1) Obtain special license plates pursuant to NRS 482.3667 to
38 482.3825, inclusive ~~(1)~~, and section 1 of this act; or

39 (2) Claim the exemption from the governmental services tax provided
40 pursuant to NRS 361.1565 to veterans and their relations.

41 4. The director shall adopt such regulations as are necessary to carry
42 out the provisions of this section. The regulations adopted pursuant to this
43 subsection must provide for:

- 44 (a) The expedient and secure issuance of license plates and decals by
45 the department; and
46 (b) The withdrawal of the authority granted to a new vehicle dealer
47 pursuant to subsection 1 if that dealer fails to comply with the regulations
48 adopted by the department.



1 **Sec. 3.** NRS 482.3753 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 482.3753 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the
3 department, in cooperation with ~~professional~~ *full-time salaried* fire
4 fighters in the State of Nevada, shall design, prepare and issue license
5 plates that recognize *current or former* employment as a ~~professional~~
6 *full-time salaried* fire fighter using any colors and designs which the
7 department deems appropriate. The department shall not design, prepare or
8 issue the license plates unless it receives at least 250 applications for the
9 issuance of those plates.

10 2. The department shall issue license plates that recognize *current or*
11 *former* employment as a ~~professional~~ *full-time salaried* fire fighter for a
12 passenger car or a light commercial vehicle upon application by a qualified
13 person who is entitled to license plates pursuant to NRS 482.265 and who
14 otherwise complies with the requirements for registration and licensing
15 pursuant to this chapter. A person may request that personalized prestige
16 license plates issued pursuant to NRS 482.3667 be combined with license
17 plates that recognize *current or former* employment as a ~~professional~~
18 *full-time salaried* fire fighter if that person pays the fees for the
19 personalized prestige license plates in addition to the fees for the license
20 plates that recognize *current or former* employment as a ~~professional~~
21 *full-time salaried* fire fighter.

22 3. An application for the issuance or renewal of license plates that
23 recognize *current or former* employment as a ~~professional~~ *full-time*
24 *salaried* fire fighter is void unless it is accompanied by documentation
25 which, in the determination of the department, provides reasonable proof of
26 the identity of the applicant and proof of his current employment as a
27 ~~professional~~ *full-time salaried* fire fighter or his status as a ~~retired~~
28 ~~professional~~ *former full-time salaried* fire fighter ~~[- Such documentation~~
29 ~~may include, but is not limited to:]~~ *who retired from employment with a*
30 *fire department within this state after completing at least 10 years of*
31 *creditable service as a fire fighter within this state. Proof of an*
32 *applicant's current or former employment as a full-time salaried fire*
33 *fighter must consist of:*

34 (a) An identification card ~~[- which indicates that the applicant is currently~~
35 ~~employed as a professional fire fighter or is currently a member of a fire-~~
36 ~~fighters' union; or~~

37 ~~—(b) Evidence of his~~ *issued by the Professional Fire Fighters of*
38 *Nevada or its successor;*

39 (b) *An identification card issued by the Nevada Fire Chiefs*
40 *Association or its successor; or*

41 (c) *A letter from the Professional Fire Fighters of Nevada or the*
42 *Nevada Fire Chiefs Association or their respective successors certifying*
43 *the applicant's current or former employment as a* ~~professional~~ *full-time*
44 *salaried* fire fighter.

45 4. The fee payable to the department for license plates that recognize
46 *current or former* employment as a ~~professional~~ *full-time salaried* fire
47 fighter is \$35, in addition to all other applicable registration and license
48 fees and governmental services taxes. The license plates are renewable



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1 upon the payment to the department of \$10 in addition to all other
2 applicable registration and license fees and governmental services taxes.

3 5. *In addition to all other applicable registration and license fees and*
4 *governmental services taxes and the fees prescribed in subsection 4, a*
5 *person who requests a set of license plates that recognize current or*
6 *former employment as a full-time salaried fire fighter must pay for the*
7 *initial issuance of the plates an additional fee of \$25 and for each*
8 *renewal of the plates an additional fee of \$20 to support facilities for the*
9 *treatment of burns which are located within this state.*

10 6. *The department shall deposit the fees collected pursuant to*
11 *subsection 5 with the state treasurer for credit to the state general fund.*
12 *The state treasurer shall, on a quarterly basis, distribute the fees*
13 *deposited pursuant to this subsection in equal shares to each facility for*
14 *the treatment of burns that is located within this state.*

15 7. If, during a registration year, the holder of license plates issued
16 pursuant to the provisions of this section disposes of the vehicle to which
17 the plates are affixed, ~~he may retain the plates and:~~

18 ~~—(a) Affix~~ the holder shall:

19 (a) *Retain the plates and affix* them to another vehicle that meets the
20 requirements of this section if the transfer and registration fees are paid as
21 set out in this chapter; or

22 (b) Within 30 days after removing the plates from the vehicle, return
23 them to the department.

24 ~~16-1~~ 8. As used in this section ~~1, “retired professional”~~:

25 (a) *“Facility for the treatment of burns” means a facility that:*

26 (1) *Offers specialized services for the treatment of injuries resulting*
27 *from burns; and*

28 (2) *Is part of or located within a hospital that has a center for the*
29 *treatment of trauma which is designated as a level I center by the*
30 *administrator of the health division of the department of human*
31 *resources.*

32 (b) *“Full-time salaried fire fighter” means a person* ~~1who retired from~~
33 ~~employment with a fire department within this state after completing at~~
34 ~~least 10 years of creditable service as a fire fighter within this state.~~
35 *employed in this state in a full-time salaried occupation of fire fighting*
36 *for the benefit or safety of the public.*

37 **Sec. 4.** NRS 482.500 is hereby amended to read as follows:

38 482.500 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 or 3,
39 whenever upon application any duplicate or substitute certificate of
40 registration, decal or number plate is issued, the following fees must be
41 paid:

42
43 For a certificate of registration \$5.00
44 For every substitute number plate or set of plates 5.00
45 For every duplicate number plate or set of plates..... 10.00
46 For every decal displaying a county name50
47 For every other decal, license plate sticker or tab 5.00



- 1 2. The following fees must be paid for any replacement plate or set of
2 plates issued for the following special license plates:
3 (a) For any special plate issued pursuant to NRS 482.3667, 482.3672,
4 482.3675, 482.370 to 482.376, inclusive, *and section 1 of this act*, or
5 482.379 to 482.3816, inclusive, a fee of \$10.
6 (b) For any special plate issued pursuant to NRS 482.368, 482.3765,
7 482.377 or 482.378, a fee of \$5.
8 (c) For any souvenir license plate issued pursuant to NRS 482.3825 or
9 sample license plate issued pursuant to NRS 482.2703, a fee equal to that
10 established by the director for the issuance of those plates.
11 3. A fee must not be charged for a duplicate or substitute decal
12 requested pursuant to NRS 482.37635.
13 4. The fees which are paid for duplicate number plates and decals
14 displaying county names must be deposited with the state treasurer for
15 credit to the motor vehicle fund and allocated to the department to defray
16 the costs of duplicating the plates and manufacturing the decals.
17 5. As used in this section:
18 (a) "Duplicate number plate" means a license plate or a set of license
19 plates issued to a registered owner which repeat the code of a plate or set of
20 plates previously issued to the owner to maintain his registration using the
21 same code.
22 (b) "Substitute number plate" means a license plate or a set of license
23 plates issued in place of a previously issued and unexpired plate or set of
24 plates. The plate or set of plates does not repeat the code of the previously
25 issued plate or set.
26 **Sec. 5.** For the period beginning July 1, 2001, through July 1, 2002,
27 the provisions of NRS 482.280 to the contrary notwithstanding, the
28 department of motor vehicles and public safety:
29 1. Shall cooperate with a representative of the Professional Fire
30 Fighters of Nevada and of the Nevada Fire Chiefs Association in their
31 efforts to assist the department in:
32 (a) Identifying persons who:
33 (1) Possess license plates issued pursuant to NRS 482.3753; and
34 (2) Do not meet the eligibility requirements set forth in NRS
35 482.3753.
36 (b) Ensuring that ineligible persons do not possess license plates issued
37 pursuant to NRS 482.3753.
38 2. Shall require each person who is applying to renew a license plate
39 issued pursuant to NRS 482.3753 to appear in person and present to an
40 agent or office of the department:
41 (a) The application for renewal;
42 (b) The applicable fees and taxes; and
43 (c) The required proof of eligibility.
44 3. Shall, upon receipt of an application for renewal, suspend the
45 registration of a vehicle for which a license plate has been issued pursuant
46 to NRS 482.3753 to a person who does not meet the eligibility
47 requirements set forth in NRS 482.3753 until the license plates are
48 surrendered to the department.



1 4. Shall not accept an application for the renewal of a license plate
2 issued pursuant to NRS 482.3753 that:

3 (a) Is delivered by mail during the period beginning July 1, 2001,
4 through July 1, 2002; or

5 (b) Is not accompanied by the required proof of eligibility.

6 **Sec. 6.** On or before July 1, 2005, the department of motor vehicles
7 and public safety shall determine and publicly declare the number of
8 applications it has received for the issuance of license plates pursuant to
9 section 1 of this act.

10 **Sec. 7.** 1. This section and sections 1, 4, 5 and 6 of this act become
11 effective on July 1, 2001.

12 2. Sections 2 and 3 of this act become effective at 12:01 a.m. on
13 July 1, 2001.

14 3. The amendatory provisions of sections 1, 2 and 4 of this act expire
15 by limitation on July 1, 2005, if on that date the department of motor
16 vehicles and public safety has received fewer than 250 applications for the
17 issuance of license plates pursuant to section 1 of this act.

