

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 1—COMMITTEE
ON GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE

(ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS)

PREFILED OCTOBER 26, 2026

Referred to Committee on Growth and Infrastructure

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to certain vehicles used by the Department of Corrections. (BDR 43-156)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.
Effect on the State Highway Fund: 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 corrections; revising provisions governing the use of license plates without distinguishing marks for certain vehicles of the Department of Corrections; authorizing the Department to operate emergency vehicles under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law provides for the issuance of special license plates without distinguishing marks to certain vehicles of governmental entities, including one vehicle of the Department of Corrections. (NRS 482.368) **Section 1** of this bill makes various changes to provide for the issuance of such special license plates to the following vehicles of the Department: (1) two vehicles maintained for and used by the Director of the Department; and (2) those vehicles maintained for and used for investigations and undercover investigations by investigators of the Office of the Inspector General of the Department.

Existing law designates certain vehicles as authorized emergency vehicles, including certain vehicles that are publicly owned and operated in the performance of the duty of various law enforcement agencies, fire departments and other enforcement or lifesaving agencies. (NRS 484A.480) **Section 2** of this bill additionally designates as authorized emergency vehicles certain vehicles of the Department that are operated in the performance of a duty of the Inspector General of the Department or otherwise designated as an emergency vehicle by the Director of the Department.



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

Section 1. NRS 482.368 is hereby amended to read as follows:

482.368 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the Department shall provide suitable distinguishing license plates for exempt vehicles. These plates must be displayed on the vehicles in the same manner as provided for privately owned vehicles. The fee for the issuance of the plates is \$5. Any license plates authorized by this section must be immediately returned to the Department when the vehicle for which they were issued ceases to be used exclusively for the purpose for which it was exempted from the governmental services tax.

2. License plates furnished for:

(a) Those vehicles which are maintained for and used by the Governor or under the authority and direction of the Chief Parole and Probation Officer, the State Contractors' Board and auditors, the State Fire Marshal, the Investigation Division of the Department of Public Safety and any authorized federal law enforcement agency or law enforcement agency from another state;

(b) ~~One vehicle~~ **Two vehicles which are maintained for and used by the Director of the Department of Corrections** ~~three~~;

(c) **Three** vehicles used by the Department of Wildlife, two vehicles used by the Caliente Youth Center and four vehicles used by the Nevada Youth Training Center;

~~(e)~~ (d) Vehicles of a city, county or the State, if authorized by the Department for the purposes of law enforcement or work related thereto;

~~(d)~~ (e) Two vehicles used by the office of the county coroner of any county which has created that office pursuant to NRS 244.163; and

~~(e)~~ (f) Vehicles maintained for and used for investigations and undercover investigations by investigators of the following:

- (1) The Nevada Gaming Control Board;
- (2) The State Department of Agriculture;
- (3) The Attorney General;
- (4) City or county juvenile officers;
- (5) District attorneys' offices;
- (6) Public administrators' offices;
- (7) Public guardians' offices;
- (8) Sheriffs' offices;
- (9) Police departments in the State;
- (10) The Securities Division of the Office of the Secretary of

State;



(11) The Investigation Division of the Department of Public Safety; ~~and~~

(12) *The Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Corrections; and*

(13) Any authorized federal law enforcement agency or law enforcement agency from another state,

↪ must not bear any distinguishing mark which would serve to identify the vehicles as owned by the United States, the State of Nevada, any other state or any county or city. The fee to be received by the Department for the initial issuance of these license plates is \$12 per plate or, if issued in sets, per set. Such license plates are renewable annually upon the payment of \$12.

3. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 239.0115, information pertaining to the issuance or renewal of a license plate pursuant to paragraph ~~(e)~~ (f) of subsection 2 is confidential and must be securely maintained by the Department.

4. It is unlawful for a person to use a vehicle furnished with a license plate pursuant to paragraph ~~(e)~~ (f) of subsection 2 for any purpose other than the investigation or undercover investigation for which it was issued. Any license plate issued pursuant to paragraph ~~(e)~~ (f) of subsection 2 must be returned immediately to the Department when the vehicle for which the license plate was issued ceases to be used for the investigation or undercover investigation for which it was issued.

5. The Director may enter into agreements with departments of motor vehicles of other states providing for exchanges of license plates of regular series for vehicles maintained for and used by investigators of the law enforcement agencies enumerated in paragraph ~~(e)~~ (f) of subsection 2, subject to all of the requirements imposed by that paragraph, except that the fee required by that paragraph must not be charged.

6. Applications for the license plates must be made through the head of the agency, division, department, board, bureau, commission, school district or irrigation district, or through the chair of the board of county commissioners of the county or town or through the mayor of the city, owning or controlling the vehicles. No plate or plates may be issued until:

(a) A certificate has been filed with the Department showing that the name of the agency, division, department, board, bureau, commission, county, city, town, school district or irrigation district, as the case may be; and

(b) The words "For Official Use Only" have been permanently and legibly affixed to each side of the vehicle, except those vehicles enumerated in subsection 2.



7. The Department shall adopt regulations governing the use of all license plates provided for in this section. Upon a finding by the Department of any violation of its regulations, it may revoke the violator's privilege of registering vehicles pursuant to this section.

8. As used in this section:

(a) "Exempt vehicle" means a vehicle exempt from the governmental services tax.

(b) "Undercover investigation" means an investigation that requires the use of a fictitious vehicle registration and license plate.

Sec. 2. NRS 484A.480 is hereby amended to read as follows:

484A.480 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 484A.490, authorized emergency vehicles are vehicles publicly owned and operated in the performance of the duty of:

(a) A police or fire department.

(b) A sheriff's office.

(c) The Department of Public Safety, for vehicles that are:

(1) Operated in the performance of the duty of the Capitol Police Division, the Investigation Division, the Nevada Highway Patrol Division, the State Fire Marshal Division, the Training Division and the Office of the Director of the Department of Public Safety; or

(2) Designated an authorized emergency vehicle by the Director of the Department of Public Safety.

(d) *The Department of Corrections, for vehicles that are:*

(1) Operated in the performance of the duty of the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Corrections; or

(2) Designated an authorized emergency vehicle by the Director of the Department of Corrections.

(e) The Office of the Attorney General.

~~(e)~~ (f) The Division of Forestry of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources in responding to a fire.

~~(f)~~ (g) The Section for the Control of Emissions From Vehicles and the Enforcement of Matters Related to the Use of Special Fuel in the Department of Motor Vehicles.

~~(g)~~ (h) A public ambulance agency.

~~(h)~~ (i) A public lifeguard or lifesaving agency.

~~(i)~~ (j) The office of a coroner or medical examiner.

2. A vehicle publicly maintained in whole or in part by the State, or by a city or county, and privately owned and operated by a regularly salaried member of a police department, sheriff's office or traffic law enforcement department, is an authorized emergency vehicle if:

(a) The vehicle has a permit, pursuant to NRS 484A.490, from the Department of Public Safety;



(b) The person operates the vehicle in responding to emergency calls or fire alarms, or at the request of the Nevada Highway Patrol or in the pursuit of actual or suspected violators of the law; and

(c) The State, county or city does not furnish a publicly owned vehicle for the purposes stated in paragraph (b).

3. Every authorized emergency vehicle must be equipped with at least one flashing red warning lamp visible from the front and a siren for use as provided in chapters 484A to 484E, inclusive, of NRS, which lamp and siren must be in compliance with standards approved by the Department of Public Safety. In addition, an authorized emergency vehicle may display revolving, flashing or steady red or blue warning lights to the front, sides or rear of the vehicle.

4. An authorized emergency vehicle may be equipped with a system or device that causes the upper-beam headlamps of the vehicle to continue to flash alternately while the system or device is activated. The driver of a vehicle that is so equipped may use the system or device when responding to an emergency call or fire alarm, while escorting a funeral procession, or when in pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law. As used in this subsection, “upper-beam headlamp” means a headlamp or that part of a headlamp which projects a distribution of light or composite beam meeting the requirements of subsection 1 of NRS 484D.210.

5. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, a person shall not operate a motor vehicle with any system or device that causes the headlamps of the vehicle to continue to flash alternately or simultaneously while the system or device is activated. This subsection does not prohibit the operation of a motorcycle equipped with any system or device that modulates the intensity of light produced by the headlamp of the motorcycle, if the system or device is used only during daylight hours and conforms to the requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 571.108.

6. A person shall not operate a vehicle with any lamp or device displaying a red light visible from directly in front of the center of the vehicle except an authorized emergency vehicle, a school bus, an official vehicle of a regulatory agency or a vehicle operated pursuant to NRS 408.437.

7. A person shall not operate a vehicle with any lamp or device displaying a blue light, except a motorcycle pursuant to NRS 486.261, an authorized emergency vehicle or a vehicle operated pursuant to NRS 408.437.

Sec. 3. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2027.



