

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 419**

Introduced by Erdman, 47; Carlson, 38; Hansen, 42; Harms, 48;  
Langemeier, 23; McDonald, 41;

Read first time January 16, 2007

Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to license plates; to amend sections 60-301  
2 and 60-3,104, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
3 2006; to authorize Nebraska Agriculture specialty and  
4 personalized message license plates; to create a fund;  
5 to direct certain funds as prescribed; to harmonize  
6 provisions; to provide an operative date; and to repeal  
7 the original sections.

8 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           Section 1. Section 60-301, Revised Statutes Cumulative  
2 Supplement, 2006, is amended to read:

3           60-301 Sections 60-301 to 60-3,220 and sections 2 and 3  
4 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Motor Vehicle  
5 Registration Act.

6           Sec. 2. (1) The department shall design license plates  
7 to be known as Nebraska Agriculture plates. The department shall  
8 create a design reflecting support for agriculture in Nebraska  
9 in consultation with the Department of Agriculture. The design  
10 shall be selected on the basis of (a) enhancing the marketability  
11 of the plates to supporters of the state's agricultural history  
12 and livestock and (b) limiting the manufacturing cost of each  
13 plate to an amount less than or equal to the amount charged for  
14 license plates pursuant to section 60-3,102. The Department of  
15 Motor Vehicles shall make applications available for the plate when  
16 it is designed. The department may adopt and promulgate rules and  
17 regulations to carry out this section and section 3 of this act.

18           (2) One type of Nebraska Agriculture plates shall be  
19 numbered plates. The department shall assign a registration number  
20 to be displayed on the plates. The registration number shall  
21 consist of five or fewer letters and numerals.

22           (3) One type of Nebraska Agriculture plates shall be  
23 personalized message plates. Such plates shall be issued subject to  
24 the same conditions specified for message plates in subsection (2)  
25 of section 60-3,118, and a maximum of five characters may be used.

1           Sec. 3. (1) A person may apply to the department for  
2 Nebraska Agriculture plates in lieu of regular license plates on an  
3 application prescribed and provided by the department for any motor  
4 vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or cabin trailer. The department  
5 shall make forms available for such applications through the county  
6 treasurers or designated county officials.

7           (2)(a) Each application for initial issuance of numbered  
8 Nebraska Agriculture plates shall be accompanied by a fee of  
9 fifteen dollars. The department shall remit the fees to the State  
10 Treasurer. An application for renewal of such plates shall be  
11 accompanied by a fee of fifteen dollars. The county treasurer or  
12 designated county official shall remit the renewal fees to the  
13 State Treasurer.

14           (b) The State Treasurer shall credit thirty-three and  
15 one-third percent of the fees for initial issuance and renewal  
16 of such plates collected under subdivision (a) of this subsection  
17 to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund and sixty-six and  
18 two-thirds percent of such fees to the Agricultural Research Fund.

19           (c) Each application for initial issuance of personalized  
20 message Nebraska Agriculture plates shall be accompanied by a fee  
21 of forty dollars. The department shall remit the fees to the  
22 State Treasurer. An application for renewal of such plates shall  
23 be accompanied by a fee of forty dollars. The county treasurer  
24 or designated county official shall remit the renewal fees to the  
25 State Treasurer.

1           (d) The State Treasurer shall credit seventy-five  
2 percent of the fees for initial issuance and renewal of such  
3 plates collected under subdivision (c) of this subsection to the  
4 Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund and twenty-five percent of  
5 such fees to the Agricultural Research Fund.

6           (3) When the department receives an application for  
7 Nebraska Agriculture plates, the department shall deliver the  
8 plates to the county treasurer or designated county official of the  
9 county in which the vehicle is registered. The county treasurer or  
10 designated county official shall issue Nebraska Agriculture plates  
11 in lieu of regular license plates when the applicant complies with  
12 the other provisions of law for registration of the vehicle. If  
13 Nebraska Agriculture plates are lost, stolen, or mutilated, the  
14 licensee shall be issued replacement plates pursuant to section  
15 60-3,157.

16           (4)(a) The owner of a vehicle bearing Nebraska  
17 Agriculture plates may make application to the county treasurer or  
18 designated county official to have such plates transferred to a  
19 motor vehicle other than the vehicle for which such plates were  
20 originally purchased if such vehicle is owned by the owner of the  
21 plates.

22           (b) The owner may have the unused portion of the fee for  
23 the Nebraska Agriculture plates credited to the other vehicle which  
24 will bear the plates at the rate of eight and one-third percent  
25 per month for each full month left in the registration period. Fees

1 collected pursuant to this subdivision shall be remitted to the  
2 State Treasurer for credit to the appropriate fund as provided in  
3 subdivision (2) (b) or (d) of this section.

4 (c) Application for such transfer shall be accompanied by  
5 a fee of three dollars. Fees collected pursuant to this subdivision  
6 shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the  
7 Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund.

8 (5) If the cost of manufacturing Nebraska Agriculture  
9 plates at any time exceeds the amount charged for license plates  
10 pursuant to section 60-3,102, any money to be credited to the  
11 Agricultural Research Fund shall instead be credited first to the  
12 Highway Trust Fund in an amount equal to the difference between the  
13 manufacturing costs of Nebraska Agriculture plates and the amount  
14 charged pursuant to section 60-3,102 with respect to such plates  
15 and the remainder shall be credited to the Agricultural Research  
16 Fund.

17 Sec. 4. Section 60-3,104, Revised Statutes Cumulative  
18 Supplement, 2006, is amended to read:

19 60-3,104 The department shall issue the following types  
20 of license plates:

21 (1) Nebraska Agriculture plates issued pursuant to  
22 sections 2 and 3 of this act;

23 ~~(1)~~ (2) Amateur radio station license plates issued  
24 pursuant to section 60-3,126;

25 ~~(2)~~ (3) Boat dealer license plates issued pursuant to

1 section 60-379;

2 ~~(3)~~ (4) Bus license plates issued pursuant to section

3 60-3,144;

4 ~~(4)~~ (5) Commercial truck and truck-tractor license plates

5 issued pursuant to section 60-3,147;

6 ~~(5)~~ (6) Dealer or manufacturer license plates issued

7 pursuant to sections 60-3,114 and 60-3,115;

8 ~~(6)~~ (7) Disabled veteran license plates issued pursuant

9 to section 60-3,124;

10 ~~(7)~~ (8) Farm trailer license plates issued pursuant to

11 section 60-3,151;

12 ~~(8)~~ (9) Farm truck license plates issued pursuant to

13 section 60-3,146;

14 ~~(9)~~ (10) Farm trucks with a gross weight of over sixteen

15 tons license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,146;

16 ~~(10)~~ (11) Fertilizer trailer license plates issued

17 pursuant to section 60-3,151;

18 ~~(11)~~ (12) Film vehicle license plates issued pursuant to

19 section 60-383;

20 ~~(12)~~ (13) Fleets of apportionable commercial vehicles

21 license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,203;

22 ~~(13)~~ (14) Handicapped or disabled person license plates

23 issued pursuant to section 60-3,113;

24 ~~(14)~~ (15) Historical vehicle license plates issued

25 pursuant to sections 60-3,130 to 60-3,134;

- 1           ~~(15)~~ (16) Local truck license plates issued pursuant to  
2 section 60-3,145;
- 3           ~~(16)~~ (17) Motor vehicle license plates for motor vehicles  
4 owned or operated by the state, counties, municipalities, or school  
5 districts issued pursuant to section 60-3,105;
- 6           ~~(17)~~ (18) Motor vehicles exempt pursuant to section  
7 60-3,107;
- 8           ~~(18)~~ (19) Motorcycle license plates issued pursuant to  
9 section 60-3,100;
- 10          ~~(19)~~ (20) Nebraska Cornhusker Spirit Plates issued  
11 pursuant to sections 60-3,127 to 60-3,129;
- 12          ~~(20)~~ (21) Nonresident owner thirty-day license plates  
13 issued pursuant to section 60-382;
- 14          ~~(21)~~ (22) Passenger car having a seating capacity of ten  
15 persons or less and not used for hire issued pursuant to section  
16 60-3,100;
- 17          ~~(22)~~ (23) Passenger car having a seating capacity of  
18 ten persons or less and used for hire issued pursuant to section  
19 60-3,100;
- 20          ~~(23)~~ (24) Pearl Harbor license plates issued pursuant to  
21 section 60-3,122;
- 22          ~~(24)~~ (25) Personal-use dealer license plates issued  
23 pursuant to section 60-3,116;
- 24          ~~(25)~~ (26) Personalized message license plates for motor  
25 vehicles and cabin trailers, except commercial trucks registered

1 for over ten tons gross weight, issued pursuant to sections  
2 60-3,118 to 60-3,121;

3 ~~(26)~~ (27) Prisoner-of-war license plates issued pursuant  
4 to section 60-3,123;

5 ~~(27)~~ (28) Purple Heart license plates issued pursuant to  
6 section 60-3,125;

7 ~~(28)~~ (29) Recreational vehicle license plates issued  
8 pursuant to section 60-3,151;

9 ~~(29)~~ (30) Repossession license plates issued pursuant to  
10 section 60-375;

11 ~~(30)~~ (31) Trailer license plates issued for trailers  
12 owned or operated by the state, counties, municipalities, or school  
13 districts issued pursuant to section 60-3,106;

14 ~~(31)~~ (32) Trailer license plates issued pursuant to  
15 section 60-3,100;

16 ~~(32)~~ (33) Trailers exempt pursuant to section 60-3,108;

17 ~~(33)~~ (34) Transporter license plates issued pursuant to  
18 section 60-378;

19 ~~(34)~~ (35) Trucks or combinations of trucks,  
20 truck-tractors or trailers which are not for hire and  
21 engaged in soil and water conservation work and used for the  
22 purpose of transporting pipe and equipment exclusively used by such  
23 contractors for soil and water conservation construction license  
24 plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,149;

25 ~~(35)~~ (36) Utility trailer license plates issued pursuant

1 to section 60-3,151; and

2 ~~(36)~~ (37) Well-boring apparatus and well-servicing  
3 equipment license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,109.

4 Sec. 5. (1) The Agricultural Research Fund is created.  
5 The State Treasurer shall credit to the fund money received  
6 pursuant to section 3 of this act, such money as is specifically  
7 appropriated, and funds, fees, donations, gifts, or services, or  
8 devises or bequests of real or personal property, received by  
9 the Department of Agriculture from any federal, state, public, or  
10 private source. Any money in the fund available for investment  
11 shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to  
12 the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds  
13 Investment Act.

14 (2) Money in the Agricultural Research Fund shall be  
15 used for the purpose of funding agricultural research projects and  
16 facilities across Nebraska. The Department of Agriculture may use  
17 its budget authority to request appropriations specifically for the  
18 purposes described in this section. The department shall allocate  
19 money from the fund for use by the department, by any state agency,  
20 board, or commission, or by any political subdivision of the state,  
21 by agreement, or by private organizations or firms as may be  
22 contracted with by the department for the purposes described in  
23 this section.

24 Sec. 6. This act becomes operative on January 1, 2008.

25 Sec. 7. Original sections 60-301 and 60-3,104, Revised

LB 419

LB 419

1 Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2006, are repealed.