

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2017
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB355

Hearing Date: Tuesday February 07, 2017
Committee On: Transportation and Telecommunications
Introducer: Bolz
One Liner: Provide for Native American Cultural Awareness and History Plates

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:
Aye: 8 Senators Bostelman, Briese, Friesen, Geist, Hilgers, Hughes, Murante, Smith
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents: Senator Kate Bolz Judy gaiashkibos Kent Rogert Georgiana Lee	Representing: District 29 Nebraska Indian Commission Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Vison Maker Media
---	---

Opponents:	Representing:
-------------------	----------------------

Neutral:	Representing:
-----------------	----------------------

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

The committee considered and adopted an amendment which accomplishes the following:

LB 355 would establish a new category of vehicle license plate-the Native American Cultural Awareness and History plates.

The Department of Motor Vehicles is to create designs reflecting the unique culture and history of Native American tribes historically and currently located in Nebraska.

The plate shall consist of two types:

- 1) Alphanumeric with up to five characters and no county designation number; and
- 2) Personalized message plates with up to five characters allowed.

In addition to all other fees required for vehicle registration the following fees shall be collected upon the issuance of the Native American Cultural Awareness and History license plate:

- 1) Issuance of an alphanumeric plate shall include payment of a \$5 fee. The fee is directed to the Native American

Scholarship and Leadership Fund.

2) Issuance of the personalized message plate shall include payment of a \$40 fee. The fee is to be distributed as follows: \$10 to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund; and \$30 to the Native American Cultural Awareness and History Cash Fund.

Section 9 of the bill creates the Native American Scholarship and Leadership Fund. The fund is to be administered by the Commission on Indian Affairs. The fund is to be used to provide post-secondary educational scholarships to Native Americans and to provide for other leadership opportunities to Native Americans as determined by the commission.

Explanation of amendments:

The committee considered and adopted an amendment which substitutes for the bill makes the following changes to LB 355 as introduced:

- 1) The date Native American Cultural Awareness and History Plates shall be made available to the public is changed from October 1, 2017 to January 1, 2018;
- 2) Directs the Department of Motor Vehicles to design the the license plate in consultation with the Commission on Indian Affairs;
- 3) Strikes language providing that the Department of Motor Vehicles shall produce and issue multiple designs of the Native American Cultural Awareness and History Plate and provides that there shall be one design produced and issued; and
- 4) Provides that the Department of Motor Vehicles may deliver the license plate and registration certificate to the applicant or to the county treasurer by United States mail through a secure process.

Curt Friesen, Chairperson