

P.L. 2025, CHAPTER 378, *approved January 20, 2026*
Assembly, No. 5355

1 **AN ACT** authorizing the creation and issuance of special license
2 plates and supplementing Title 39 of the Revised Statutes.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. a. Upon proper application, the Chief Administrator of the
8 New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission shall issue Phi Beta Sigma
9 and Zeta Phi Beta license plates for any motor vehicle owned or
10 leased and registered in this State. In addition to the registration
11 number and other markings or identification otherwise prescribed
12 by law, the license plates shall display appropriate words or a
13 slogan and emblem honoring both the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity,
14 Inc. and the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated. The chief
15 administrator shall, in consultation with the International First Vice
16 President of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and the
17 International Vice President of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority,
18 Incorporated, select the design and color scheme of the Phi Beta
19 Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta license plates. The Phi Beta Sigma and
20 Zeta Phi Beta license plates shall be subject to the provisions of
21 chapter 3 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes, except as hereinafter
22 otherwise provided.

23 b. Application for issuance of the Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi
24 Beta license plates shall be made to the chief administrator in a
25 form and manner prescribed by the chief administrator. In order to
26 be deemed complete, an application shall be accompanied by a fee
27 of \$50, payable to the commission, which shall be in addition to the
28 fees otherwise prescribed by law for the registration of a motor
29 vehicle. The chief administrator shall collect annually, subsequent
30 to the year of issuance of the Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta
31 license plates, a \$10 fee for the license plates in addition to the fees
32 otherwise prescribed by law for the registration of a motor vehicle.
33 The additional fees required by this subsection shall be deposited in
34 the “Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta License Plate Fund” created
35 pursuant to subsection c. of this section.

36 c. The Department of the Treasury shall create and maintain a
37 special non-lapsing fund to be known as the “Phi Beta Sigma and
38 Zeta Phi Beta License Plate Fund.” There shall be deposited in the
39 fund the amount collected from all license plate fees collected
40 pursuant to subsection b. of this section, less the amounts necessary
41 to reimburse the commission for administrative costs pursuant to
42 subsection d. of this section. Monies deposited in the fund shall be

1 appropriated annually to the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and the
2 Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated to be used to support the
3 mission and programs of both organizations. The monies deposited
4 in the fund shall be held in interest-bearing accounts in public
5 depositories as defined pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1970, c.236
6 (C.17:9-41) and may be invested or reinvested in securities
7 approved by the State Treasurer. Interest or other income earned on
8 monies deposited into the fund, and any monies that may be
9 appropriated or otherwise become available for purposes of the
10 fund, shall be credited to and deposited in the fund for use as set
11 forth in this section.

12 d. Prior to the deposit of the additional fees collected pursuant
13 to subsection b. of this section into the “Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta
14 Phi Beta License Plate Fund,” amounts thereof as are necessary
15 shall be used to reimburse the commission for all costs reasonably
16 and actually incurred, as stipulated by the chief administrator for:

17 (1) designing, producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing the
18 availability of the Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta license plates;
19 and

20 (2) any computer programming changes that may be initially
21 necessary to implement the Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta
22 license plate program in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

23 The chief administrator shall annually certify to the State
24 Treasurer the average cost per license plate incurred in the
25 immediately preceding year by the commission in producing,
26 issuing, renewing, and publicizing the availability of the Phi Beta
27 Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta license plates. The annual certification of
28 the average cost per license plate shall be approved by the Joint
29 Budget Oversight Committee or its successor.

30 In the event that the average cost per license plate, as certified by
31 the chief administrator and approved by the Joint Budget Oversight
32 Committee or its successor, is greater than the \$50 application fee
33 established in subsection b. of this section in two consecutive fiscal
34 years, the chief administrator may discontinue the issuance of the
35 Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta license plates.

36 e. The chief administrator shall notify eligible motorists of the
37 opportunity to obtain the Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta license
38 plates by publicizing the availability of the license plates on the
39 commission’s website. The International First Vice President of the
40 Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and the International Vice President
41 of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated—and any other
42 individual or entity designated by the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity,
43 Inc. and the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated—may publicize
44 the availability of the Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta license
45 plate in any manner that the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and
46 Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated deem appropriate.

47 f. The chief administrator, the International First Vice
48 President of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., and the

1 International Vice President of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority,
2 Incorporated shall develop and enter into a memorandum of
3 agreement setting forth the procedures to be followed in carrying
4 out their respective responsibilities under P.L. , c. (C.)
5 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

6 g. The International First Vice President of the Phi Beta Sigma
7 Fraternity, Inc. and the International Vice President of the Zeta Phi
8 Beta Sorority, Incorporated shall appoint a representative who shall
9 act as a liaison between the two organizations and the commission.
10 The liaison shall represent the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and
11 the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated in any and all
12 communications with the commission regarding the Phi Beta Sigma
13 and Zeta Phi Beta license plates established by
14 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).
15

16 2. a. State or public funds shall not be used by the commission
17 for the initial cost of:

18 (1) designing, producing, issuing, and publicizing the availability
19 of the Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta license plates; or

20 (2) any computer programming changes which may be necessary
21 to implement the Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta license plate
22 program established by P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
23 Legislature as this bill).

24 b. The Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and the Zeta Phi Beta
25 Sorority, Incorporated—or an individual or entity designated by the
26 Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority,
27 Incorporated—shall contribute non-public monies in an amount to
28 be determined by the chief administrator, not to exceed a total of
29 \$25,000, to be used to offset the initial costs incurred by the
30 commission for designing, producing, issuing, and publicizing the
31 availability of the Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta license plates
32 and for any computer programming that may be necessary to
33 implement the program. Concerned organizations and individual
34 donors may contribute monies to the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.
35 or the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated to be used to offset the
36 initial costs incurred by the commission for the Phi Beta Sigma and
37 Zeta Phi Beta license plates authorized by P.L. , c. (C.)
38 (pending before the Legislature as this bill). Any amount remaining
39 after the payment of the initial cost shall be deposited in the “Phi
40 Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta License Plate Fund” established
41 pursuant to subsection c. of section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.)
42 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

43 c. The commission shall not begin designing, producing,
44 issuing, or publicizing the availability of the Phi Beta Sigma and
45 Zeta Phi Beta license plates, or making any necessary programming
46 changes, until the following requirements have been met:

47 (1) the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and the Zeta Phi Beta
48 Sorority, Incorporated—or an individual or entity designated by the

1 Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority,
2 Incorporated—has provided the commission with the non-public
3 monies necessary, as determined by the chief administrator pursuant
4 to subsection b. of this section, to offset the initial costs incurred by
5 the commission in establishing the Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi
6 Beta license plate program; and

7 (2) the liaison appointed by the International First Vice President
8 of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and the International Vice
9 President of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, pursuant to
10 subsection g. of section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
11 the Legislature as this bill), has provided the commission with not
12 less than 500 completed applications for the Phi Beta Sigma and
13 Zeta Phi Beta license plates. These applications shall constitute the
14 initial order for the Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta license plates
15 and shall be accompanied by a fee representing the total cost of the
16 initial order. The fee shall be determined by multiplying the
17 number of sets of license plates being ordered by the applicable
18 initial fee for each set of license plates as set forth in subsection b.
19 of section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
20 Legislature as this bill).

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22 3. This act shall take effect immediately but shall remain
23 inoperative until the first day of the 13th month following the date
24 on which the conditions set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2) of
25 subsection c. of section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
26 the Legislature as this bill) have been satisfied. The chief
27 administrator may take anticipatory actions in advance of that date
28 as may be necessary for the timely implementation of P.L. ,
29 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). P.L. ,
30 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall
31 expire if the conditions set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2) of
32 subsection c. of section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
33 the Legislature as this bill) are not satisfied by the last day of the
34 12th month following enactment.

35 36 37 STATEMENT

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39 This bill authorizes the Chief Administrator (chief administrator)
40 of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (commission) to
41 issue special license plates (plates) honoring both the Phi Beta
42 Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated
43 under the Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta license plate program
44 (program).

45 The bill provides that the plates are to display appropriate words or
46 a slogan and an emblem honoring both organizations. The chief
47 administrator is to select the design and color scheme of the plates in
48 consultation with the International First Vice President of the Phi Beta

1 Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and the International Vice President of the Zeta
2 Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated.

3 In addition to all fees otherwise required by law for the registration
4 of a motor vehicle, the bill imposes an application fee of \$50 and an
5 annual renewal fee of \$10 for the plates. After the deduction of the
6 cost to implement the program, any additional fee collections are
7 required to be deposited into the special non-lapsing fund known as
8 the “Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta License Plate Fund” (fund). To
9 support the mission and programs of both organizations, the proceeds
10 of the fund are to be annually appropriated to the Phi Beta Sigma
11 Fraternity, Inc. and the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated.

12 The chief administrator is required to annually certify the average
13 cost of producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing the availability
14 of the plates. If the average cost per plate exceeds \$50 in two
15 consecutive fiscal years, the chief administrator may discontinue the
16 program. The bill also requires the International First Vice President
17 of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and the International Vice
18 President of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated to appoint one
19 liaison to represent the two organizations in all communications with
20 the commission regarding the program.

21 The bill prohibits the use of either State or other public funds by
22 the commission to cover the initial cost to implement the program.
23 The bill requires the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and the Zeta Phi
24 Beta Sorority, Incorporated—or an individual or entity designated by
25 the organizations—to contribute non-public monies, not to exceed
26 \$25,000, to offset the initial costs to design, produce, issue, and
27 publicize the plates and for computer programming changes which
28 may be necessary to implement the program. The bill authorizes the
29 Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority,
30 Incorporated to receive funds from private sources to offset the initial
31 costs of the program.

32 The commission is not required to design, produce, issue, or
33 publicize the availability of the plates or make any necessary
34 programming changes, until: (1) the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.
35 and the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated—or the individual or
36 entity designated by the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and the Zeta
37 Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated—has provided the commission with
38 the money necessary to offset the initial costs incurred by the
39 commission in establishing the program; and (2) the liaison of the Phi
40 Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority,
41 Incorporated has provided the commission with a minimum of 500
42 completed applications for the plates.

43 The provisions of the bill will remain inoperative until the first
44 day of the 13th month after the commission receives the appropriate
45 number of applications and amount in fees required to offset the
46 initial cost to implement the program. The bill expires on the last
47 day of the 12th month after the date of enactment if the required

1 number of applications or amount in fees to offset the initial costs is
2 not received.

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7 Authorizes creation of special license plate honoring Phi Beta
8 Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta.