

**SENATE, No. 4133**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**221st LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 13, 2025

**Sponsored by:**  
**Senator TROY SINGLETON**  
**District 7 (Burlington)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Changes current system for creation, issuance, administration, and discontinuance of various types of special license plates.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



S4133 SINGLETON

2

1 AN ACT concerning the issuance of certain license plates, revising  
2 various parts of the statutory law, and supplementing Title 39 of  
3 the Revised Statutes.

4

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

7

8 1. Section 1 of P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-27.35) is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 **[A]** 1. a. As used in P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-27.35 et seq.) and  
11 P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill):

12 "Alumni organization" means a non-profit organization that  
13 requires its members to be graduates, former students, or  
14 benefactors of a specific post-secondary educational institution or  
15 educational organization.

16 "Chief administrator" means the Chief Administrator of the New  
17 Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission.

18 "Commission" means the New Jersey Motor Vehicle  
19 Commission.

20 "Community organization" means a non-profit organization,  
21 other than an alumni or service organization as defined in this  
22 subsection, which performs some type of philanthropic community  
23 service and which, in the discretion of the Chief Administrator of  
24 the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, qualifies for the  
25 issuance of special registration plates.

26 "Dedicated cause plate" means a license plate bearing the name,  
27 initials, logotype, graphic, or identifying phrase of a social cause  
28 that generally impacts New Jersey residents, including but not  
29 limited to, the promotion of public health, education, the arts, sports  
30 and athletics, the environment, the improvement of societal  
31 injustices, or issues that concern the general welfare of all New  
32 Jersey residents.

33 "Organization plate" means a license plate bearing the name,  
34 initials, logotype, graphic, or identifying phrase of a sponsoring  
35 organization, which comprises members of a community, alumni, or  
36 service organization with common or shared professions, interests,  
37 educational backgrounds, or military service and has a method of  
38 determining membership or good standing in the organization.

39 "Service organization" means a non-profit organization which  
40 the Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle  
41 Commission determines to have as its primary purpose the  
42 advancement of United States military veterans' causes and interests  
43 or the honoring of all or some veterans of any branch of the United  
44 States military.

45 "Special registration plates" shall collectively refer to dedicated  
46 cause plates and organization plates.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 “Sponsoring organization” means a community organization,  
2 alumni organization, service organization, or government entity that  
3 is seeking approval from the commission for a special registration  
4 plate or that has been approved for the issuance of special  
5 registration plates pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1987, c.374  
6 (C.39:3-27.35 et seq.).

7 b. Upon proper application and payment of a \$50 fee, in  
8 addition to the fees otherwise prescribed by law for the registration  
9 of a motor vehicle, the commission may issue a set of organization  
10 plates to any person who is a member in good standing of a  
11 【nonprofit community, alumni or service】 sponsoring organization  
12 in the State, which has been approved by the 【director】 board of the  
13 commission pursuant to the provisions of 【this act may be issued  
14 special organization vehicle registration plates】 P.L.1987, c.374  
15 (C.39:3-27.35 et seq.), to be displayed on a motor 【vehicles】  
16 vehicle owned or leased by that person in place of standard  
17 registration plates.

18 c. Upon proper application and payment of a \$50 fee, in  
19 addition to the fees otherwise prescribed by law for the registration  
20 of a motor vehicle, the commission may issue a set of dedicated  
21 cause plates to any person to be displayed on a motor vehicle owned  
22 or leased by that person in place of standard registration plates.

23 The chief administrator shall collect annually, subsequent to the  
24 year of issuance, a \$10 fee for the dedicated cause plates in addition  
25 to the fees otherwise prescribed by law for the registration of a  
26 motor vehicle. The additional fees shall be deposited into a special  
27 non-lapsing fund created, pursuant to subsection f. of section 2 of  
28 P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-27.36), to support the approved social  
29 cause for which the dedicated cause plates were created.

30 d. A person who receives special registration plates pursuant to  
31 this section shall be subject to the same laws and regulations  
32 governing standard registration plates.

33 (cf: P.L.1989, c.49, s.1)

34  
35 2. Section 2 of P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-27.36) is amended to  
36 read as follows:

37 【Special organization vehicle registration plates shall be issued  
38 subject to】 2. a. The board of the commission shall meet no less  
39 than twice annually at a regularly scheduled meeting of the board to  
40 consider the request of any sponsoring organization which has  
41 applied for approval of the issuance of special registration plates.

42 b. A sponsoring organization, which seeks the approval for the  
43 issuance of an organization plate, shall provide prior to the meeting  
44 of the board of the commission, in a form and following a  
45 procedure prescribed by the chief administrator, proof that the  
46 sponsoring organization has met the following conditions:

47 【a. Each】 (1) The sponsoring organization 【shall appoint an  
48 organization】 has appointed a representative who will act as a

1 liaison between the sponsoring organization and the **[division]**  
2 commission**[.]** ;

3 **[b. The representative shall, upon]** (2) The application, on  
4 behalf of **[any member, provide]** the sponsoring organization,  
5 includes a copy of the charter of the sponsoring organization **[to the**  
6 division] , which shall indicate the organization's lawful purpose  
7 and a copy of the approval letter issued to the sponsoring  
8 organization by the United States Internal Revenue Service, which  
9 shall **[also]** provide proof of its nonprofit status**[.]** ;

10 **[c. The representative shall submit an organization]** (3) The  
11 application, on behalf of the sponsoring organization, includes a  
12 Certification of Membership **[when requested by the division and,**  
13 once the organization and a registration plate arrangement under  
14 subsection d. are approved, forward a fee of no more than \$75.00 as  
15 determined by the director for each set of special organization  
16 vehicle registration plates, in addition to fees otherwise prescribed  
17 by law, for these plates. The Certification of Membership] , which  
18 shall be printed at the organization's expense and contain the  
19 organization's official letterhead, the location of the sponsoring  
20 organization's headquarters or base of operations in this State, the  
21 signature of the organization's representative, the total number of  
22 members in good standing residing in the State, the names and  
23 addresses of organization members requesting **[special organization**  
24 vehicle registration] sets of organization plates as a part of the  
25 initial order, and the present registration plate numbers of the  
26 vehicles of the members requesting organization plates as a part of  
27 the initial order**[.]** ; and

28 **[d. The representative also shall submit to the division]** (4)  
29 The application includes the name or initials the organization  
30 wishes to be placed at the bottom of the plate and a logotype,  
31 graphic, or identifying phrase of the sponsoring organization. **[The]**  
32 If the sponsoring organization is a chapter or branch of an  
33 international, national, or regional organization, the chapter or  
34 branch shall obtain written authorization from the parent  
35 organization to use the name, initials, logotype, graphic, or  
36 identifying phrase of the parent organization; except that the use  
37 and arrangement of the name, initials, [or] logotype, graphic, or  
38 identifying phrase of the sponsoring organization on the registration  
39 plates shall be in the sole discretion of the [director] chief  
40 administrator.

41 c. A sponsoring organization, which seeks the approval for the  
42 issuance of a dedicated cause plate, shall provide prior to the  
43 meeting of the board of the commission, in a form and following a  
44 procedure prescribed by the chief administrator, proof that the  
45 sponsoring organization has met the following conditions:

1       (1) The sponsoring organization has appointed a representative  
2 who will act as a liaison between the sponsoring organization and  
3 the commission;

4       (2) The application, on behalf of the sponsoring organization,  
5 includes a copy of the charter of the sponsoring organization, which  
6 shall indicate the organization's lawful purpose and a copy of the  
7 approval letter issued to the sponsoring organization by the United  
8 States Internal Revenue Service, which shall provide proof of its  
9 nonprofit status, or, if the sponsoring organization is a government  
10 entity, the legal citation for the statute pursuant to which the  
11 government entity was established;

12       (3) The application, on behalf of the sponsoring organization,  
13 includes an Explanation of Social Impact, which shall be printed at  
14 the organization's expense and contain the organization's official  
15 letterhead, the location of the sponsoring organization's  
16 headquarters or base of operations in this State, the signature of the  
17 organization's representative, the social cause for which the  
18 dedicated cause plate shall be used to promote, the ways in which  
19 the revenue from the dedicated cause plates shall be utilized, the  
20 names and addresses of members of the public requesting sets of  
21 dedicated cause plates as a part of the initial order, and the present  
22 registration plate numbers of the vehicles of the members of the  
23 public requesting the dedicated cause plates as a part of the initial  
24 order.

25       Dedicated cause plates shall only be approved for a sponsoring  
26 organization which has as its primary purpose service to the general  
27 public or the promotion of a social cause that generally impacts  
28 New Jersey residents, including but not limited to, the promotion of  
29 public health, education, the arts, sports and athletics, the  
30 environment, the improvement of societal injustices, or issues that  
31 concern the general welfare of all New Jersey residents; and

32       (4) The application includes the name or initials the  
33 organization wishes to be placed at the bottom of the plate and a  
34 logotype, graphic, or identifying phrase that identifies the social  
35 cause that the dedicated cause plate shall promote. If the  
36 sponsoring organization is a chapter or branch of an international,  
37 national, or regional organization, the chapter or branch shall obtain  
38 written authorization from the parent organization to use the name,  
39 initials, logotype, graphic, or identifying phrase of the parent  
40 organization; except that the use and arrangement of the name,  
41 initials, logotype, graphic, or identifying phrase of the social cause  
42 on the registration plates shall be in the sole discretion of the chief  
43 administrator.

44       d. The chief administrator and the sponsoring organization  
45 which has been approved for the issuance of a special registration  
46 plate shall develop and enter into a memorandum of agreement  
47 setting forth the procedures to be followed in carrying out their  
48 respective responsibilities in the creation of the special registration  
49 plates.

1     The number of the special registration plates to establish the  
2 initial order for the special registration plates and the fees, which  
3 shall offset the initial costs incurred by the commission for  
4 designing, producing, issuing, and publicizing the availability of the  
5 special registration plates, to accompany the initial order shall be  
6 prescribed by the chief administrator and set forth in the  
7 memorandum of agreement.

8     The fee prescribed by the chief administrator pursuant to this  
9 subsection for the initial order of special registration plates shall be  
10 paid to the commission prior to the manufacture of the special  
11 registration plates.

12     A sponsoring organization which has been approved for a special  
13 registration plate may solicit and collect a donation from  
14 individuals applying for a set of the special registration plates,  
15 except that the minimum required donation shall be the same for all  
16 applicants; shall be posted for public viewing wherever information  
17 regarding the availability of the special registration plates is  
18 advertised, listed, or communicated by the sponsoring organization,  
19 and may not be demanded of individuals by the sponsoring  
20 organization as a condition for the continued display of the plates.

21     e. **【Special organization vehicle】** Special registration plates  
22 shall not be provided to any commercially registered vehicle or any  
23 motorcycle, unless approved by law or by the chief administrator  
24 prior to the effective date of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before  
25 the Legislature as this bill).

26     f. **【The initial order for plates shall be for no less than 500**  
27 **members of the organization in good standing and shall be**  
28 **accompanied by the fees prescribed by the director, except that the**  
29 **initial order for plates submitted by a service organization shall be**  
30 **for no less than 175 members】** Prior to the manufacture of a  
31 dedicated cause plate approved by the board of the commission, the  
32 chief administrator shall, in conjunction with the State Treasurer,  
33 create within the Department of the Treasury a special non-lapsing  
34 fund to support the approved social cause for which the dedicated  
35 cause plate was created.

36     Monies collected and deposited in the fund created for the  
37 approved social cause, pursuant to subsection c. of section 1 of  
38 P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-27.35), shall be held in interest-bearing  
39 accounts in a public depository as defined pursuant to section 1 of  
40 P.L.1970, c.236 (C.17:9-41), and may be invested or reinvested in  
41 securities approved by the State Treasurer. Interest or other income  
42 earned on monies deposited into the fund, and any monies which  
43 may be appropriated or otherwise become available for the purposes  
44 of the fund, shall be credited to and deposited in the fund for use as  
45 determined by the sponsoring organization, which has been  
46 approved by the board of the commission pursuant to the provisions  
47 of P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-27.35 et seq.).

48 (cf: P.L.1989, c.49, s.2)

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7

1 3. Section 3 of P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-27.37) is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 3. a. The **director** board of the commission shall have the sole  
4 authority to make the final decision as to whether or not [an] a  
5 sponsoring organization is approved for the issuance of [special  
6 organization vehicle] special registration plates [to its members],  
7 notwithstanding the sponsoring organization's compliance with  
8 section 2 of P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-27.36).

9 The board of the commission shall also have the sole discretion  
10 to determine the number of sponsoring organizations that will be  
11 approved for issuance of special registration plates in any fiscal  
12 year.

13 b. The chief administrator shall have the sole discretion to  
14 determine which special registration plates shall be made available  
15 at commission field offices. The chief administrator shall also have  
16 the sole discretion to determine which special registration plates  
17 shall be made available at motor vehicle dealerships or on the  
18 premises of approved third parties performing the vehicle  
19 registration process. The determination shall be based on sales  
20 volume, administrative costs, available storage space, and any other  
21 factors which the chief administrator deems appropriate.

22 (cf: P.L.1987, c.374, s.3)

23

24 4. Section 4 of P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-27.38) is amended to  
25 read as follows:

26 **[The director shall have the right to suspend approval of any**  
27 **organization granted permission to obtain special organization**  
28 **vehicle registration plates on behalf of its members if the**  
29 **organization:]**

30 4. a. **[No longer qualifies according to the provisions of this**  
31 **act; or]** The board of the commission may, upon the chief  
32 administrator's recommendation, discontinue the production of,  
33 prohibit new sales of, and suspend any annual renewal fees of any  
34 special registration plate approved pursuant to P.L.1987, c.374  
35 (C.39:3-27.35 et seq.) if, following the effective date of P.L. ,  
36 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill):

37 (1) fewer than 500 sets of the special registration plates have  
38 been sold in the first full State fiscal year of sales after the effective  
39 date of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this  
40 bill);

41 (2) in the most recent full State fiscal year, the revenue derived  
42 from the annual renewal fees, which is dedicated to the support of  
43 the particular fund or cause, is less than \$7,500;

44 (3) after a fiscal analysis conducted by the commission, the  
45 chief administrator determines that it is no longer cost effective to  
46 produce the special registration plate and offer it for sale;

47 (4) the commission determines that the sponsoring organization  
48 is no longer qualified, under the provisions of P.L.1987, c.374

1 (C.39:3-27.35 et seq.), for the type of special registration plate for  
2 which the sponsoring organization has applied; or

3 (5) the sponsoring organization has perpetrated fraud against the  
4 commission in obtaining a special registration plate.

5 b. **【Has perpetrated a fraud against the Division of Motor**  
6 **Vehicles in obtaining special plates for its members】** Upon  
7 discontinuance of the issuance of an organization plate or a  
8 dedicated cause plate issued pursuant to P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-  
9 27.35 et seq.), the special registration plate shall no longer be  
10 offered for sale or advertised by the commission and the sponsoring  
11 organization shall not advertise the sale of the plate. A person who  
12 owns a motor vehicle displaying valid special registration plates  
13 which have been discontinued, may continue to display those plates  
14 on the person's motor vehicle until the plates are recalled by the  
15 chief administrator, as long as the motor vehicle's registration is  
16 properly renewed, the special registration plates remain legible, and  
17 the person is eligible to display the special registration plates  
18 pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1959, c.56 (C.39:3-33.5).

19 The chief administrator shall have the sole discretion to  
20 determine whether replacement or duplicate registration plates shall  
21 be issued for any special registration plate which has been  
22 discontinued, if the plates are destroyed, lost, stolen, or mutilated.

23 c. Upon the discontinuance of a dedicated cause plate issued  
24 pursuant to P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-27.35 et seq.), the commission  
25 shall cease to collect any renewal fee established for the dedicated  
26 cause plate. The commission shall remit any remaining revenue  
27 generated through the annual renewal fees of the dedicated cause  
28 plates to the funds established pursuant to section 2 of  
29 P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-27.36) or the causes that the dedicated  
30 cause plates support in the first full State fiscal year after  
31 discontinuance of the dedicated cause plates.

32 An entity or organization which receives revenues generated  
33 through the issuance or renewal fees of a dedicated cause plate  
34 issued pursuant to P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-27.35 et seq.) which has  
35 been discontinued under this section may, if approved by the chief  
36 administrator, solicit and collect voluntary donations from any  
37 registrant displaying discontinued plates, in accordance with any  
38 guidelines established by the chief administrator permitting  
39 solicitation and collection.

40 (cf: P.L.1987, c.374, s.4)

41

42 5. (New section) a. All special registration plates issued  
43 pursuant to the following shall be known and referred to as  
44 organization plates for the purposes of P.L. c. (C. )  
45 (pending before the Legislature as this bill):

46 (1) Amateur radio call letter registration plates issued pursuant  
47 to section 1 of P.L.1968, c.247 (C.39:3-27.5); and

48 (2) Street rod registration plates issued pursuant to section 1 of  
49 P.L.1981, c.240 (C.39:3-27.27).



1       b. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law, rule, regulation,  
2 or order to the contrary, the board of the commission may, upon the  
3 chief administrator's recommendation, discontinue the production  
4 of and prohibit new sales of any organization plate established  
5 pursuant to the sections of law enumerated in subsection a. of this  
6 section if:

7       (1) the sponsoring organization of the organization plate fails to  
8 comply with the provisions of State law governing the use of  
9 special registration plates;

10       (2) fewer than 500 sets of the organization plates have been sold  
11 in the first full State fiscal year of sales after the effective date of  
12 P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill);

13       (3) after a fiscal analysis conducted by the commission, the  
14 chief administrator determines that it is no longer cost effective to  
15 produce the organization plate and offer it for sale;

16       (4) the commission determines that the sponsoring organization  
17 is no longer qualified for an organization plate under the provisions  
18 of P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-27.35 et seq.); or

19       (5) the sponsoring organization has perpetrated fraud against the  
20 commission in obtaining organization plates for its members.

21       c. Upon discontinuance of an organization plate established  
22 pursuant to the sections of law enumerated in subsection a. of this  
23 section, the organization plate shall no longer be offered for sale or  
24 advertised by the commission and the sponsoring organization shall  
25 not advertise the sale of the plate. A person who owns a motor  
26 vehicle displaying valid organization plates for which the  
27 commission has discontinued, may continue to display those plates  
28 on the person's motor vehicle until the plates are recalled by the  
29 chief administrator as long as the motor vehicle's registration is  
30 properly renewed, the special registration plates remain legible, and  
31 the person is eligible to display the special registration plates  
32 pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1959, c.56 (C.39:3-33.5).

33       The chief administrator shall have the sole discretion to  
34 determine whether replacement or duplicate registration plates shall  
35 be issued for any organization plate for which the commission has  
36 discontinued, if the plates are destroyed, lost, stolen, or mutilated.

37

38       6. (New section) a. All special registration plates issued  
39 pursuant to the following shall be known and referred to as  
40 dedicated cause plates for the purposes of P.L. c. (C. )  
41 (pending before the Legislature as this bill):

42       (1) coastal protection registration plates issued pursuant to  
43 section 2 of P.L.1993, c.168 (C.39:3-27.48);

44       (2) animal welfare registration plates issued pursuant to section  
45 1 of P.L.1993, c.184 (C.39:3-27.55);

46       (3) United States Olympic registration plates issued pursuant to  
47 section 2 of P.L.1995, c.176 (C.39:3-27.62);

48       (4) Battleship U.S.S. New Jersey registration plates issued  
49 pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1995, c.252 (C.39:3-27.67);

- 1 (5) historic preservation registration plates issued pursuant to  
2 section 2 of P.L.1995, c.368 (C.39:3-27.73);
  - 3 (6) shade tree and community forest preservation registration  
4 plates issued pursuant to section 10 of P.L.1996, c.135 (C.39:3-  
5 27.79);
  - 6 (7) Pinelands preservation registration plates issued pursuant to  
7 section 1 of P.L.1996, c.147 (C.39:3-27.85);
  - 8 (8) Barnegat Bay Decoy and Baymen's Museum registration  
9 plates or other maritime history or marine life preservation project  
10 registration plates issued pursuant to section 3 of  
11 P.L.1997, c.74 (C.39:3-27.86);
  - 12 (9) "Conquer Cancer" registration plates issued pursuant to  
13 section 1 of P.L.1997, c.92 (C.39:3-27.90);
  - 14 (10) Liberty State Park registration plates issued pursuant to  
15 section 2 of P.L.1997, c.195 (C.39:3-27.92);
  - 16 (11) Meadowlands conservation registration plates issued  
17 pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1999, c.31 (C.39:3-27.100);
  - 18 (12) Deborah Heart and Lung Center registration plates issued  
19 pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1999, c.354 (C.39:3-27.107);
  - 20 (13) "Promote Agriculture" registration plates issued pursuant to  
21 section 1 of P.L.2001, c.13 (C.39:3-27.116);
  - 22 (14) law enforcement officer memorial registration plates issued  
23 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.2001, c.41 (C.39:3-27.123);
  - 24 (15) "Be An Organ Donor" registration plates issued pursuant to  
25 section 1 of P.L.2001, c.164 (C.39:3-27.127);
  - 26 (16) "United We Stand" registration plates issued pursuant to  
27 section 2 of P.L.2002, c.52 (C.39:3-27.132);
  - 28 (17) Omega Psi Phi registration plates issued pursuant to section  
29 1 of P.L.2013, c.273 (C.39:3-27.144);
  - 30 (18) Alpha Kappa Alpha registration plates issued pursuant to  
31 section 1 of P.L.2014, c.90 (C.39:3-27.146);
  - 32 (19) military veteran motorcycle registration plates issued  
33 pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2017, c.193 (C.39:3-27.148);
  - 34 (20) "Equality" registration plates issued pursuant to section 1  
35 of P.L.2017, c.279 (C.39:3-27.150);
  - 36 (21) Delta Sigma Theta registration plates issued pursuant to  
37 section 1 of P.L.2018, c.109 (C.39:3-27.152);
  - 38 (22) "Humane State" registration plates issued pursuant to  
39 section 1 of P.L.2018, c.134 (C.39:3-27.154);
  - 40 (23) breast cancer awareness registration plates issued pursuant  
41 to section 1 of P.L.2019, c.281 (C.39:3-27.156);
  - 42 (24) "Support Recovery" license plates issued pursuant to  
43 section 1 of P.L.2019, c.325 (C.39:3-27.158); and
  - 44 (25) wildlife conservation registration plates issued pursuant to  
45 section 1 of P.L.1993, c.119 (C.39:3-33.10).
- 46 b. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law, rule, regulation,  
47 or order to the contrary, the board of the commission may, upon the  
48 chief administrator's recommendation, discontinue the production  
49 of, prohibit new sales of, and suspend the annual renewal fees for

1 any dedicated cause plate established pursuant to the sections of law  
2 enumerated in subsection a. of this section if, following the  
3 effective date of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the  
4 Legislature as this bill):

5 (1) fewer than 500 sets of the dedicated cause plates have been  
6 sold in the first full State fiscal year of sales after the effective date  
7 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this  
8 bill);

9 (2) in the most recent full State fiscal year, the revenue derived  
10 from the initial or annual renewal fees, which is dedicated to the  
11 support of the particular fund or cause, is less than \$7,500;

12 (3) after a fiscal analysis conducted by the commission, the  
13 chief administrator determines that it is no longer cost effective to  
14 produce the dedicated cause plate and offer it for sale;

15 (4) the commission determines that the sponsoring organization  
16 is no longer qualified for a dedicated cause plate under the  
17 provisions of P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-27.35 et seq.); or

18 (5) the sponsoring organization has perpetrated fraud against the  
19 commission in obtaining a dedicated cause plate.

20 c. Prior to the discontinuance of any dedicated cause plate  
21 enumerated in subsection a. of this section, the chief administrator  
22 shall notify the sponsoring organization of the commission's  
23 decision to discontinue the dedicated cause plate. Not later than the  
24 first day of the sixth month following the receipt of the  
25 commission's notice to discontinue, an eligible sponsoring  
26 organization may apply, in accordance with the provisions of  
27 P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-27.35 et seq.), to be approved by the board  
28 of the commission to have the special registration plate reissued as  
29 an organization plate.

30 d. Upon discontinuance of the issuance of a dedicated cause  
31 plate established pursuant to the sections of law enumerated in  
32 subsection a. of this section, the dedicated cause plate shall no  
33 longer be offered for sale or advertised by the commission and the  
34 sponsoring organization shall not advertise the sale of the plate. A  
35 person who owns a motor vehicle displaying valid dedicated cause  
36 plates which have been discontinued, may continue to display those  
37 plates on the person's motor vehicle until the plates are recalled by  
38 the chief administrator, provided the motor vehicle's registration is  
39 properly renewed, the registration plates remain legible, and the  
40 person is eligible to display the special registration plates pursuant  
41 to section 3 of P.L.1959, c.56 (C.39:3-33.5).

42 The chief administrator shall have the sole discretion to  
43 determine whether replacement or duplicate registration plates shall  
44 be issued for any dedicated cause plate for which the commission  
45 has discontinued, if the plates are destroyed, lost, stolen, or  
46 mutilated.

47 e. Upon the discontinuance of a dedicated cause plate  
48 established pursuant to the sections of law enumerated in subsection  
49 a. of this section, the commission shall cease to collect any fee

1 established by law for the renewal of the dedicated cause plate.  
2 The commission shall remit any remaining revenue generated  
3 through the annual renewal fees of the dedicated cause plates to the  
4 statutorily established funds or the causes those plates support in  
5 the first full State fiscal year after discontinuance of the dedicated  
6 cause plates.

7 An entity or organization which receives revenues generated  
8 through the issuance or renewal fees of a dedicated cause plate  
9 which has been discontinued under this section may, if approved by  
10 the chief administrator, solicit and collect voluntary donations from  
11 any registrant displaying discontinued plates, in accordance with  
12 any guidelines established by the chief administrator permitting  
13 solicitation and collection.

14

15 7. Section 5 of P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-27.39) is amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 5. Pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"  
18 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), the **【director】** chief  
19 administrator may adopt rules and regulations governing the design,  
20 issuance, and use of **【these vehicle】** special registration plates and  
21 any other rules and regulations which may be necessary to  
22 effectuate the purposes of P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-27.35 et seq.)  
23 and P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this  
24 bill) including, but not limited to, the nature of the documentation  
25 to be used as proof of nonprofit status, definitions or classifications  
26 of community, alumni, and service organizations, and procedures  
27 for the return of special **【organization vehicle】** registration plates  
28 from persons who are no longer members in the approved  
29 sponsoring organization or who have been convicted of any  
30 violation pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1959, c.56 (C.39:3-33.5).  
31 (cf: P.L.1987, c.374, s.5)

32

33 8. Section 1 of P.L.1999, c.192 (C.39:3-33a) is amended to  
34 read as follows:

35 1. Whenever the **【Division of Motor Vehicles】** New Jersey  
36 Motor Vehicle Commission is authorized to charge an additional  
37 application fee for the issuance of a personalized, courtesy, or  
38 special **【license】** registration plate, the **【division】** commission shall  
39 charge that additional application fee only upon the initial issuance  
40 of the plate. If a personalized, courtesy, or special registration plate  
41 is issued to a lessee in a motor vehicle leasing agreement, upon  
42 termination of the lease, the lessee may apply to the **【director】** chief  
43 administrator to have the plate reissued to another motor vehicle  
44 leased or owned by the lessee upon payment of a fee **【of \$4.50】** to  
45 be determined by the chief administrator. If a personalized,  
46 courtesy, or special **【license】** registration plate is issued to an  
47 owner of a motor vehicle, the owner may apply to the **【director】**  
48 chief administrator to have the plate reissued to another motor

1 vehicle leased or owned by the owner upon payment of a fee [of  
2 \$4.50] to be determined by the chief administrator. Nothing in this  
3 section shall be construed as prohibiting the [division] commission  
4 from charging, at the time of annual registration renewal, the  
5 payment of the additional fee which has been required under any  
6 other section of law for a special [license] registration plate.  
7 (cf: P.L.1999, c.192, s.1)

8  
9 9. Section 1 of P.L.2001, c.35 (C.39:3-33b) is amended to read  
10 as follows:

11 1. a. The lessee in a motor vehicle leasing agreement or the  
12 owner of a motor vehicle who obtains a base set of personalized,  
13 courtesy, or special [license] registration plates with special  
14 identifying marks may obtain and use subsequent sets in a series for  
15 use upon other motor vehicles if [they] the motor vehicles are  
16 owned or leased from the same or different lessor by that person,  
17 provided that there is sufficient space for the series' subscript.

18 b. The fees for the subsequent sets in a series shall be  
19 prescribed by the [director] chief administrator.

20 c. The chief administrator may promulgate rules and  
21 regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act.

22 (cf: P.L.2004, c.91, s.1)

23  
24 10. Section 3 of P.L.1959, c.56 (C.39:3-33.5) is amended to read  
25 as follows:

26 3. Except as provided for courtesy marks in section 2 of  
27 P.L.2000, c.15 (C.39:3-33.5a), [no] a particular identifying mark,  
28 personalized license plate, or special [organization license]  
29 registration plate issued pursuant to P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-27.35  
30 et seq.) [may] shall not be issued to any applicant who:

31 (a) for the 10-year period [next preceding] prior to the date of  
32 application for a particular identifying mark or special organization  
33 license plate, has been convicted of a violation of [either section]  
34 R.S.39:4-50, [or section] R.S.39:4-96 [of this Title] , or section 2  
35 of P.L.1966, c.142 (C.39:4-50.2), or who has been convicted of a  
36 violation of a law of a substantially similar nature in another  
37 jurisdiction; or

38 (b) has been convicted of a violation of N.J.S.2C:11-5 or section  
39 1 of P.L.2017, c.165 (C.2C:11-5.3); or

40 (c) for the two-year period [next preceding his] prior to the date  
41 of application for a particular identifying mark, personalized license  
42 plate, or a special [organization license] registration plate, has had  
43 [his] driving privileges in this State or in another jurisdiction  
44 revoked or suspended for any reason whatsoever.

45 (cf: P.L.2017, c.165, s.14)

1 11. The following sections of law are repealed:  
2 Section 1 of P.L.1958, c.120 (C.39:3-27.2); and  
3 Section 6 of P.L.1987, c.374 (C.39:3-27.40).

4

5 12. This act shall take effect on the first day of the thirteenth  
6 month following the date of enactment, but the chief administrator  
7 may take anticipatory action in advance of that date as may be  
8 necessary for the timely implementation of this act.

9

10

11

STATEMENT

12

13 This bill restructures the current system for issuance of special  
14 license plates, which may be issued to New Jersey drivers in place  
15 of standard license plates.

16 Under existing law, the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission  
17 (MVC) is authorized to issue three main types of special  
18 registration plates:

19 1) statutorily-established special license plates, which honor or  
20 recognize a person's affiliation with a certain group or organization;

21 2) statutorily-established dedicated cause special license plates,  
22 which support statutorily-established funds or social causes; and

23 3) special organizational vehicle registration plates, which are  
24 approved by the MVC for certain nonprofit alumni, community, or  
25 service organizations upon application to the MVC.

26 The bill collectively refers to special license plates as "special  
27 registration plates," and divides the plates into two categories:  
28 "organization plates"; and "dedicated cause plates." The bill  
29 maintains elements of the current system by permitting a sponsoring  
30 organization to apply for and seek approval from the MVC for the  
31 issuance of an organization plate, but now also permits a sponsoring  
32 organization to apply directly to the MVC for the issuance of a  
33 dedicated cause plate and permits the MVC to phase out statutorily-  
34 established and MVC-established special registration plates that no  
35 longer meet certain criteria.

36

37 Organization Plates

38 The bill defines "organization plate" to mean a license plate  
39 bearing the name, initials, logotype, graphic, or identifying phrase  
40 of a sponsoring organization, which comprises members of a  
41 community, alumni, or service organization with common or shared  
42 professions, interests, educational backgrounds, or military service  
43 and has a method of determining membership or good standing in  
44 the organization.

45 A sponsoring organization that seeks the approval for the  
46 issuance of an organization plate is required to provide proof that  
47 the sponsoring organization has met the following conditions:

1 (1) the sponsoring organization has appointed a representative  
2 who will act as a liaison between the sponsoring organization and  
3 the MVC;

4 (2) the application includes a copy of the charter of the  
5 sponsoring organization that indicates the organization's lawful  
6 purpose and a copy of the approval letter issued to the sponsoring  
7 organization by the IRS to provide proof of its nonprofit status;

8 (3) the application includes a Certification of Membership; and

9 (4) the application includes the name or initials the organization  
10 wishes to be placed at the bottom of the plate and a logotype,  
11 graphic, or identifying phrase of the sponsoring organization.

12 Any person who is a member in good standing of a sponsoring  
13 organization that has been approved for an organization plate may  
14 apply to receive a set of organization plates after the payment of a  
15 \$50 fee.

16  
17 Dedicated Cause Plates

18 The bill defines “dedicated cause plate” to mean a license plate  
19 bearing the name, initials, logotype, graphic, or identifying phrase  
20 of a social cause that generally impacts New Jersey residents,  
21 including but not limited to, the promotion of public health,  
22 education, the arts, sports and athletics, the environment, the  
23 improvement of societal injustices, or issues that concern the  
24 general welfare of all New Jersey residents.

25 A sponsoring organization that seeks approval for the issuance of  
26 a dedicated cause plate is to provide proof that the sponsoring  
27 organization has met the following conditions:

28 (1) the sponsoring organization has appointed a representative  
29 who will act as a liaison between the sponsoring organization and  
30 the MVC;

31 (2) the application includes: a copy of the charter of the  
32 sponsoring organization that indicates the organization's lawful  
33 purpose and a copy of the approval letter issued to the sponsoring  
34 organization by the IRS to provide proof of its nonprofit status; or,  
35 if the sponsoring organization is a government entity, the legal  
36 citation for the statute pursuant to which the government entity was  
37 established;

38 (3) the application includes an Explanation of Social Impact.  
39 Dedicated cause plates are to only be approved for a sponsoring  
40 organization that has as its primary purpose service to the general  
41 public or the promotion of a social cause that generally impacts  
42 New Jersey residents; and

43 (4) the application includes the name or initials the organization  
44 wishes to be placed at the bottom of the plate and a logotype,  
45 graphic, or identifying phrase that identifies the social cause that the  
46 dedicated cause plate will promote.

47 Any person may apply to receive a set of dedicated cause plates  
48 after the payment of a \$50 fee and a \$10 annual renewal fee. The  
49 fees are to be deposited into a special non-lapsing fund created to

1 support the approved social cause for which the dedicated cause  
2 plates were created.

3  
4 Discontinuance of Special Registration Plates

5 Under existing law, the chief administrator has the authority to  
6 suspend previous approval of a special organization vehicle  
7 registration plate only if the organization no longer qualifies for a  
8 special plate under the law or has perpetrated fraud against the  
9 MVC in obtaining plates for its members.

10 The bill expands this authority by permitting the MVC to  
11 discontinue, prohibit new sales of, and suspend any annual renewal  
12 fees of any special registration plates established by the MVC and  
13 certain statutorily-established special registration plates enumerated  
14 in the bill, if:

15 (1) for certain organization plates, the sponsoring organization of  
16 the organization plate fails to comply with the provisions of State  
17 law governing the use of special registration plates;

18 (2) fewer than 500 sets of the special registration plates have  
19 been sold in the first full fiscal year of sales after the effective date  
20 of the bill;

21 (3) the revenue derived from the fees, which are dedicated to the  
22 support of the particular fund or cause, is less than \$7,500;

23 (4) after a fiscal analysis conducted by the MVC, the chief  
24 administrator determines that it is no longer cost effective to  
25 produce and sell the special registration plate;

26 (5) the MVC determines that the sponsoring organization is no  
27 longer qualified for the type of special registration plate for which  
28 the sponsoring organization has applied; or

29 (6) the sponsoring organization has perpetrated fraud against the  
30 MVC in obtaining a special registration plate.

31 A person who owns a motor vehicle displaying valid, yet  
32 discontinued, special registration plates may continue to display  
33 those plates on the person's motor vehicle until the plates are  
34 recalled by the chief administrator, provided the motor vehicle's  
35 registration is properly renewed, the special registration plates  
36 remain legible, and the person is eligible to display the special  
37 registration plates pursuant to law.

38  
39 Special Provisions for the Discontinuance of Dedicated Cause  
40 Plates

41 Prior to the discontinuance of any statutorily-established  
42 dedicated cause plate, the chief administrator is required to notify  
43 the sponsoring organization of the MVC's decision to discontinue  
44 the dedicated cause plate. Not later than the first day of the sixth  
45 month following the receipt of the MVC's notice to discontinue, an  
46 eligible sponsoring organization may apply to have the special  
47 registration plate reissued as an organization plate.

48 Upon the discontinuance of a dedicated cause plate, the MVC is  
49 to cease collecting any fee for the renewal of the dedicated cause



1 plate and to remit any remaining revenue generated to the  
2 statutorily established funds or the causes those plates support.

3 The chief administrator may authorize an entity or organization  
4 that receives revenues generated through the issuance or renewal  
5 fees of a discontinued dedicated cause plate to solicit and collect  
6 voluntary donations from any registrant displaying discontinued  
7 plates.

8

9 Other Provisions

10 The bill changes the fee for transferring personalized, courtesy,  
11 or special registration plates to another motor vehicle from \$4.50 to  
12 an amount to be determined by the chief administrator.

13 Under the bill, the chief administrator has the sole authority to  
14 determine which special registration plates are to be made available  
15 at MVC field offices and motor vehicle dealerships.

16 Finally, the bill repeals a statutory provision permitting special  
17 registrations and special registration plates for motor vehicles used  
18 in connection with a convention, conference, meeting, pageant,  
19 parade, celebration, or similar function.