

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1995

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SENATE BILL 44
Second Edition Engrossed 2/22/95
Finance Committee Substitute Adopted 3/7/95
House Committee Substitute Favorable 4/13/95

Short Title: Special License Plates.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

January 26, 1995

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES FOR FESTIVAL
600, FOR MEMBERS OF FOLK DANCE CLUBS, AND FOR SUPPORTERS OF
PROFESSIONAL SPORT TEAMS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 20-79.4(b) reads as rewritten:

"(b) Types. – The Division shall issue the following types of special registration plates:

(1) Administrative Officer of the Courts. – Issuable to the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts. The plate shall bear the phrase 'J-20'.

(2) Amateur Radio Operator. – Issuable to an amateur radio operator who holds an unexpired and unrevoked amateur radio license issued by the Federal Communications Commission and who asserts to the Division that a portable transceiver is carried in the vehicle. The plate shall bear the phrase 'Amateur Radio'. The plate shall bear the operator's official amateur radio call letters, or call letters with

- 1 numerical or letter suffixes so that an owner of more than one
2 vehicle may have the call letters on each.
- 3 (2a) American Legion. – Issuable to a member or a supporter of the
4 American Legion. The plate shall bear the words 'American Legion'
5 and the emblem of the American Legion. The Division may not
6 issue the plate authorized by this subdivision unless it receives at
7 least 300 applications for the plate.
- 8 (3) Civil Air Patrol Member. – Issuable to an active member of the
9 North Carolina Wing of the Civil Air Patrol. The plate shall bear the
10 phrase 'Civil Air Patrol'. A plate issued to an officer member shall
11 begin with the number '201' and the number shall reflect the
12 seniority of the member; a plate issued to an enlisted member, a
13 senior member, or a cadet member shall begin with the number '501'.
- 14 (3a) Civic Club. – Issuable to a member of a nationally recognized civic
15 organization whose member clubs in the State are exempt from State
16 corporate income tax under G.S. 105-130.11(a)(5). Examples of
17 these clubs include Jaycees, Kiwanis, Optimist, Rotary, Ruritan, and
18 Shrine. The plate shall bear a word or phrase identifying the civic
19 club and the emblem of the civic club. The Division may not issue a
20 civic club plate authorized by this subdivision unless it receives at
21 least 300 applications for that civic club plate.
- 22 (4) Class D Citizen's Radio Station Operator. – Issuable to a Class D
23 citizen's radio station operator. For an operator who has been issued
24 Class D citizen's radio station call letters by the Federal
25 Communications Commission, the plate shall bear the operator's
26 official Class D citizen's radio station call letters. For an operator
27 who has not been issued Class D citizen's radio station call letters by
28 the Federal Communications Commission, the plate shall bear the
29 phrase 'Citizen's Band Radio'.
- 30 (5) Clerk of Superior Court. – Issuable to a clerk of superior court. The
31 plate shall bear the phrase 'Clerk Superior Court' and the letter 'C'
32 followed by a number that indicates the county the clerk serves.
- 33 (6) Coast Guard Auxiliary Member. – Issuable to an active member of
34 the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. The plate shall bear the
35 phrase 'Coast Guard Auxiliary'.
- 36 (6a) Collegiate Insignia Plate. – Issuable to the registered owner of a
37 motor vehicle in accordance with G.S. 20-81.12. The plate may bear
38 a phrase or an insignia representing a public or private college or
39 university.
- 40 (7) County Commissioner. – Issuable to a county commissioner of a
41 county in this State. The plate shall bear the words 'County
42 Commissioner' followed first by a number representing the
43 commissioner's county and then by a letter or number that

1 distinguishes plates issued to county commissioners of the same
2 county. The number of a county shall be the order of the county in
3 an alphabetical list of counties that assigns number one to the first
4 county in the list and a letter or number to distinguish different cars
5 owned by the county commissioners in that county. The Division
6 may not issue the plate authorized by this subdivision unless it
7 receives at least 300 applications for the plate.

8 (8) Disabled Veteran. – Issuable to a veteran of the armed forces of the
9 United States who suffered a 100% service-connected disability.

10 (9) District Attorney. – Issuable to a North Carolina or United States
11 District Attorney. The plate issuable to a North Carolina district
12 attorney shall bear the letters 'DA' followed by a number that
13 represents the prosecutorial district the district attorney serves. The
14 plate for a United States attorney shall bear the phrase 'U.S.
15 Attorney' followed by a number that represents the district the
16 attorney serves, with 1 being the Eastern District, 2 being the Middle
17 District, and 3 being the Western District.

18 (9a) Festival 600. – Issuable to the registered owner of a motor vehicle.
19 The plate shall bear the insignia and slogan of Festival 600, the
20 festival held in the month of May in the Charlotte area during the
21 World 600 NASCAR race period. The Division shall not issue the
22 plate authorized by this subdivision unless it receives at least 300
23 applications for the plate.

24 (10) Fire Department or Rescue Squad Member. – Issuable to an active
25 regular member or volunteer member of a fire department, rescue
26 squad, or both a fire department and rescue squad. The plate shall
27 bear the words 'Firefighter', 'Rescue Squad', or 'Firefighter-Rescue
28 Squad'.

29 (10a) Folk Dance Clubs. – Issuable to a member of a recognized folk
30 dance organization exempt from corporate income tax under G.S.
31 105-130.11(a)(5). Examples of these clubs are clogging, round
32 dance, shagging, and square dance clubs. The plate shall bear a
33 word or phrase identifying the club and the emblem of the club. The
34 Division shall not issue a dance club plate authorized by this
35 subdivision unless it receives at least 300 applications for that dance
36 club plate.

37 (10b) ~~(10a)~~ Future Farmers of America. – Issuable to a member or a
38 supporter of the National Future Farmers of America Organization.
39 The plate shall bear the emblem of the organization and the letters
40 'FFA'. The Division may not issue the plate authorized by this
41 subdivision unless it receives at least 300 applications for the plate.

42 (11) Historic Vehicle Owner. – Issuable for a motor vehicle that is at least
43 35 years old measured from the date of manufacture. The plate for

1 an historic vehicle shall bear the word 'Antique' unless the vehicle is
2 a model year 1943 or older. The plate for a vehicle that is a model
3 year 1943 or older shall bear the word 'Antique' or the words
4 'Horseless Carriage', at the option of the vehicle owner.

5 (11a) Historical Attraction Plate. – Issuable to the registered owner of a
6 motor vehicle in accordance with G.S. 20-81.12. The plate may bear
7 a phrase or an insignia representing a publicly owned or nonprofit
8 historical attraction located in North Carolina.

9 (12) Honorary Plate. – Issuable to a member of the Honorary Consular
10 Corps, who has been certified by the U. S. State Department, the
11 plate shall bear the words 'Honorary Consular Corps' and a
12 distinguishing number based on the order of issuance.

13 (13) Judge or Justice. – Issuable to a sitting or retired judge or justice in
14 accordance with G.S. 20-79.6.

15 (13a) Legion of Valor. – Issuable to a recipient of one of the following
16 military decorations: the Congressional Medal of Honor, the
17 Distinguished Service Cross, the Navy Cross, or the Air Force Cross.
18 The plate shall bear the emblem and name of the recipient's
19 decoration.

20 (14) Legislator. – Issuable to a member of the North Carolina General
21 Assembly. The plate shall bear 'The Great Seal of the State of North
22 Carolina' and, as appropriate, the word 'Senate' or 'House' followed
23 by the Senator's or Representative's assigned seat number.

24 (15) Marshal. – Issuable to a United States Marshal. The plate shall bear
25 the phrase 'U.S. Marshal' followed by a number that represents the
26 district the Marshal serves, with 1 being the Eastern District, 2 being
27 the Middle District, and 3 being the Western District.

28 (16) Military Reservist. – Issuable to a member of a reserve component
29 of the armed forces of the United States. The plate shall bear the
30 name and insignia of the appropriate reserve component. Plates
31 shall be numbered sequentially for members of a component with
32 the numbers 1 through 5000 reserved for officers, without regard to
33 rank.

34 (16a) Military Retiree. – Issuable to an individual who has retired from the
35 armed forces of the United States. The plate shall bear the word
36 'Retired' and the name and insignia of the branch of service from
37 which the individual retired. The Division may not issue the plate
38 authorized by this subdivision unless it receives at least 300
39 applications for the plate.

40 (17) National Guard Member. – Issuable to an active or a retired member
41 of the North Carolina National Guard. The plate shall bear the
42 phrase 'National Guard'. A plate issued to an active member shall
43 bear a number that reflects the seniority of the member; a plate

1 issued to a commissioned officer shall begin with the number '1'; a
2 plate issued to a noncommissioned officer with a rank of E7, E8, or
3 E9 shall begin with the number '1601'; a plate issued to an enlisted
4 member with a rank of E6 or below shall begin with the number
5 '3001'. The plate issued to a retired or separated member shall
6 indicate the member's retired status.

7 (18) Partially Disabled Veteran. – Issuable to a veteran of the armed
8 forces of the United States who suffered a service connected
9 disability of less than 100%.

10 (19) Pearl Harbor Survivor. – Issuable to a veteran of the armed forces of
11 the United States who was present at and survived the attack on
12 Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. The plate will bear the phrase
13 'Pearl Harbor Survivor' and the insignia of the Pearl Harbor
14 Survivors' Association.

15 (20) Personalized. – Issuable to the registered owner of a motor vehicle.
16 The plate will bear the letters or letters and numbers requested by the
17 owner. The Division may refuse to issue a plate with a letter
18 combination that is offensive to good taste and decency. The
19 Division may not issue a plate that duplicates another plate.

20 (21) Prisoner of War. – Issuable to the following:

21 a. A member or veteran member of the armed forces of the United
22 States who has been captured and held prisoner by forces hostile
23 to the United States while serving in the armed forces.

24 b. The surviving spouse of a person who had a prisoner of war plate
25 at the time of death so long as the surviving spouse continues to
26 renew the plate and does not remarry.

27 (21a) Professional Sports Fan. – Issuable to the registered owner of a
28 motor vehicle. The plate shall bear the logo of a professional sports
29 team located in North Carolina. The Division shall not issue a
30 professional sports fan plate authorized by this subdivision unless it
31 receives at least 300 applications for that plate. The Division shall
32 not develop a professional sports fan plate unless the professional
33 sports team licenses, without charge, the State to use the official
34 team logo on the plate.

35 (22) Purple Heart Recipient. – Issuable to a recipient of the Purple Heart
36 award. The plate shall bear the phrase 'Purple Heart Veteran,
37 Combat Wounded' and the letters 'PH'.

38 (22a) Register of Deeds. – Issuable to a register of deeds. The plate shall
39 bear the words 'Register of Deeds' and the letter "R" followed by a
40 number representing the county of the register of deeds. The
41 number of a county shall be the order of the county in an
42 alphabetical list of counties that assigns number one to the first
43 county in the list.

- 1 (22b) Special Olympics. – Issuable to the registered owner of a motor
2 vehicle in accordance with G.S. 20-81.12. The plate may bear a
3 phrase or an insignia representing the North Carolina Special
4 Olympics.
- 5 (23) State Government Official. – Issuable to elected and appointed
6 members of State government in accordance with G.S. 20-79.5.
- 7 (23a) State Attraction. – Issuable to the registered owner of a motor
8 vehicle in accordance with G.S. 20-81.12. The plate may bear a
9 phrase or an insignia representing a publicly owned or nonprofit
10 State attraction located in North Carolina.
- 11 (24) Street Rod Owner. – Issuable to the registered owner of a
12 modernized private passenger motor vehicle manufactured prior to
13 the year 1949 or designed to resemble a vehicle manufactured prior
14 to the year 1949. The plate shall bear the phrase 'Street Rod'. The
15 Division may not issue the plate authorized by this subdivision
16 unless it receives at least 300 applications for the plate.
- 17 (25) Transportation Personnel. – Issuable to various members of the
18 Divisions of the Department of Transportation. The plate shall bear
19 the letters 'DOT' followed by a number from 1 to 85, as designated
20 by the Governor.
- 21 (26) U.S. Representative. – Issuable to a United States Representative for
22 North Carolina. The plate shall bear the phrase 'U.S. House' and
23 shall be issued on the basis of Congressional district numbers.
- 24 (27) U.S. Senator. – Issuable to a United States Senator for North
25 Carolina. The plates shall bear the phrase 'U.S. Senate' and shall be
26 issued on the basis of seniority represented by the numbers 1 and 2.
- 27 (28) Veterans of Foreign Wars. – Issuable to a member or a supporter of
28 the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The plate shall bear the words
29 'Veterans of Foreign Wars' or 'VFW' and the emblem of the VFW.
30 The Division may not issue the plate authorized by this subdivision
31 unless it receives at least 300 applications for the plate.
- 32 (29) Wildlife Resources. – Issuable to the registered owner of a motor
33 vehicle in accordance with G.S. 20-81.12. The plate shall bear a
34 picture representing a native wildlife species occurring in North
35 Carolina."

36 Sec. 2. This act is effective upon ratification.