STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 50th Legislature (2005)

SENATE BILL 922 By: Monson

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to motor vehicles; amending Section 14, Chapter 504, O.S.L. 2004 (47 O.S. Supp. 2004, Section 1135.5), which relates to specialty license plates; modifying amount and apportionment of fees for certain plate; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 14, Chapter 504, O.S.L. 2004 (47 O.S. Supp. 2004, Section 1135.5), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1135.5 A. The Oklahoma Tax Commission is hereby authorized to design and issue appropriate official special license plates to persons wishing to demonstrate support and provide financial assistance as provided by this section.

Special license plates shall not be transferred to any other person but shall be removed from the vehicle upon transfer of ownership and retained. The special license plate may then be used on another vehicle but only after such other vehicle has been registered for the current year with a motor license agent.

Special license plates shall be renewed each year by the Tax Commission or a motor license agent. The Tax Commission shall annually notify by mail all persons issued special license plates. The notice shall contain all necessary information and shall contain instructions for the renewal procedure upon presentation to a motor license agent or the Tax Commission. The license plates shall be issued on a staggered system.

The Tax Commission is hereby directed to develop and implement a system whereby motor license agents are permitted to accept applications for special license plates authorized under this section. The motor license agent shall confirm the applicant's eligibility, if applicable, collect and deposit any amount specifically authorized by law, accept and process the necessary information directly into such system and generate a receipt accordingly. For performance of these duties, motor license agents shall retain the fee provided in Section 1141.1 of ~~Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title for registration of a motor vehicle. The motor license agent fees for acceptance of applications and renewals shall be paid out of the Oklahoma Tax Commission Reimbursement Fund.

If fewer than one hundred of any type of special license plates authorized prior to January 1, 2004, are issued prior to January 1, 2006, the Tax Commission shall discontinue issuance and renewal of that type of special license plate. Any such authorized special license plate registrant shall be allowed to display the license plate upon the designated vehicle until the registration expiration date. After such time the expired special license plate shall be removed from the vehicle.

For special license plates authorized on or after July 1, 2004, no special license plates shall be developed or issued by the Tax Commission until the Commission receives one hundred (100) prepaid applications therefor. The prepaid applications must be received by the Tax Commission within one hundred and eighty (180) days of the effective date of the authorization or the authority to issue shall be null and void. In the event one hundred (100) prepaid applications are not received by the Tax Commission within such prescribed time period any payment so received shall be refunded accordingly.

B. The special license plates provided by this section are as follows:

1. University or College Supporter License Plates - such plates shall be designed and issued to any person wishing to demonstrate support to any state-supported or private university or college. As provided in this section, an amount of the fee collected shall be apportioned as provided in Section 1104.1 of ~~Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title;

2. Environmental Awareness License Plates - such plates shall be designed, subject to the criteria to be presented to the Tax Commission by the Department of Environmental Quality in consultation with the Oklahoma Arts Council, and issued to any person wishing to demonstrate support to implement the statewide general public environmental education program created pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Environmental Quality Code. Such plates shall be designed and issued to any person in any combination of numbers and letters from one to a maximum of seven, as for personalized license plates. A dealer's license plate issued pursuant to Section 1116.1 or 1128 of ~~Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title may be designated an Environmental Awareness License Plate upon payment of the fee imposed by this section and any other registration fees required by the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act. As provided in this section, an amount of the fee collected shall be apportioned pursuant to Section 1104.2 of ~~Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title;

3. Firefighter License Plates - such plates shall be designed for any career or retired firefighter, volunteer or paid. Firefighters may apply for firefighter plates for up to four vehicles with a rated capacity of one (1) ton or less or for a motorcycle upon proof of a fire department membership by either an identification card or letter from the chief of the fire department. Retirees who are eligible for such plates shall provide proof of

eligibility upon initial application, but shall not be required to provide proof of eligibility annually. The surviving spouse of any deceased firefighter, if the spouse has not since remarried, may apply for a firefighter license plate for one vehicle with a rated carrying capacity of one (1) ton or less or for a motorcycle upon proof that the deceased firefighter was a member of a fire department by either an identification card or letter from the chief of the fire department.

Except for motorcycles, the license plate shall have the legend "Oklahoma" in the color Pantone 186C Red and shall contain no more than three letters and three numbers in the color Pantone 301C Blue. Between the letters and numbers shall be the Firefighter Maltese Cross Logo in the color Pantone 186C Red outlined in the color Pantone 301C Blue. Below the letters and the logo shall be the word "Firefighter" in the color Pantone 186C Red. The license plate for motorcycles may be of a similar design as space permits or a new design in order to meet the space requirements of a motorcycle license plate. The plates shall not be subject to the design requirements of any other license plates prescribed by law other than the space for the placement of the yearly decals for each succeeding year of registration after the initial issue.

~~As provided in this section, an amount~~ The fee for such license plates shall be Twenty Dollars ($20.00). Fifteen Dollars ($15.00) of the fee collected shall be deposited to the Oklahoma State Firemen's Museum Building & Memorial Fund for support of the Oklahoma Firefighter Fallen and Living Memorial. Five Dollars ($5.00) of the fee collected shall be deposited in the Oklahoma Tax Commission Reimbursement Fund to be used for the administration of the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act;

4. Wildlife Conservation License Plates - such plates shall be designed, subject to the criteria to be presented to the Tax Commission by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation in

consultation with the Oklahoma Arts Council, and issued to any person wishing to demonstrate support for wildlife conservation in this state through the Wildlife Diversity Fund, provided for in Section 3-310 of Title 29 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Such plates may be designed and issued to any person as for personalized license plates.

As provided in this section, an amount of the fee collected shall be apportioned pursuant to subsection D of Section 3-310 of Title 29 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

5. Child Abuse Prevention License Plates - such plates shall be designed, subject to the criteria to be presented to the Tax Commission by the Office of Child Abuse Prevention in the State Department of Health and the Oklahoma Committee to Prevent Child Abuse, and issued to any person wishing to demonstrate support for the prevention of child abuse.

As provided in this section, an amount of the fee collected shall be deposited in the Child Abuse Prevention Fund;

6. United States Olympic Committee Supporter License Plates - such plates shall be designed and issued to any person wishing to demonstrate support for the United States Olympic Committee. The plates shall be issued to any person in any combination of numbers and letters from one to a maximum of seven, as for personalized license plates. The plate shall contain the official United States Olympic Committee logo. The Tax Commission shall be authorized, if necessary, to enter into a licensing agreement with the United States Olympic Committee for any licensing fees which may be required in order to use the United States Olympic Committee logo or design. The licensing agreement shall provide for a payment of not more than Twenty-five Dollars ($25.00) for each license plate issued;

7. Oklahoma History License Plates - such plates shall be designed and issued to any person wishing to demonstrate interest in

Oklahoma history. As provided in this section, an amount of the fee collected shall be deposited to the Oklahoma Historical Society Revolving Fund to be used for educational purposes;

8. Historic Route 66 License Plates - such plates shall be designed to honor historic Route 66, also known as the "Mother Road". As provided in this section, an amount of the fee collected shall be apportioned to the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department Revolving Fund to be distributed to the Route 66 Museum located in Clinton, Oklahoma;

9. Heart of the Heartland License Plates - such plates shall be designed and issued to any person wishing to honor the victims of the terrorist bombing attack on the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in downtown Oklahoma City on April 19, 1995. As provided in this section, an amount of the fee collected shall be deposited in the Heart of the Heartland Scholarship Fund, as established in Section 2282 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

10. Emergency Medical Technician License Plates - such plates shall be designed and issued to any person who is an emergency medical technician. Such persons may apply for an emergency medical technician license plate for each vehicle with a rated carrying capacity of one (1) ton or less upon proof of an emergency medical technician's license. The license plate shall be designed in consultation with the state association of emergency medical technicians. As provided in this section, an amount of the fee collected shall be apportioned to the county of residence of the person purchasing the plates to be equally apportioned by the county to the city and county volunteer fire departments in the county;

11. Fight Breast Cancer License Plates - such plates shall be designed to demonstrate support for the prevention and treatment of breast cancer in this state. As provided in this section, an amount of the fee collected shall be apportioned to the Breast Cancer Act Revolving Fund;

12. Crime Victims Awareness License Plates - such plates shall be designed and issued to any person wishing to demonstrate awareness of and support for victims of crimes. The license plates shall be designed in consultation with the Oklahoma Crime Victims Centre. As provided in this section, an amount of the fee collected shall be apportioned to the Attorney General's Revolving Fund for the Office of the Attorney General, which is hereby directed to use such funds to contract with a statewide nonprofit organization to provide services to crime victims;

13. Oklahoma Safe Kids Association License Plates - such plates shall be designed and issued to any person wishing to demonstrate support and awareness of the Oklahoma Safe Kids Association. The license plate shall be designed in consultation with the Oklahoma Safe Kids Association. As provided in this section, an amount of the fee collected shall be deposited in the Children's Hospital - Oklahoma Safe Kids Association Revolving Fund to be distributed to the Oklahoma Safe Kids Association program;

14. Four-H Club License Plates – such plates shall be designed, subject to criteria to be presented to the Tax Commission by the Four-H Foundation, and issued to any person wishing to demonstrate support of the Four-H Club. Such plates may be designed and issued to any person as for personalized license plates. As provided in this section, an amount of the fee collected shall be apportioned to the OSU Extension Service License Plate Revolving Fund created in Section 1104.4 of ~~Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title;

15. Agricultural Awareness License Plates – such plates shall be designed, subject to criteria to be presented to the Tax Commission, by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry in consultation with the Oklahoma Arts Council, and issued to any person wishing to demonstrate support of the Department’s Ag in the Classroom Education Program. As provided in this section, an

amount of the fee collected shall be apportioned as provided in Section 1104.3 of ~~Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title;

16. Oklahoma Statehood Centennial License Plates – such plates shall be designed and issued to any person wishing to commemorate the centennial of Oklahoma's admission to statehood in 1907. The license plates shall be designed in consultation with the Oklahoma Capitol Complex and Centennial Commemoration Commission. As provided in this section, an amount of the fee collected shall be deposited in the Oklahoma Capitol Complex and Centennial Commemoration Commission Revolving Fund created in Section 98.5 of Title 73 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

17. Support Education License Plates – such plates shall be designed, subject to criteria to be presented to the Tax Commission by the State Department of Education in consultation with the Oklahoma Arts Council, and issued to any person wishing to demonstrate support for education in this state. All motor license agents shall display a sample of the Support Education License plate in the area of the business accessed by the public. Twenty-three dollars ($23.00) of the fee collected shall be apportioned as follows:

a. five percent (5%) shall be deposited to the Education Reform Revolving Fund,

b. five percent (5%) shall be deposited to the Higher Education Revolving Fund,

c. five percent (5%) shall be deposited to the State Career Technology Fund, and

d. eighty-five percent (85%) of the fee shall be deposited to the Teachers' Retirement Benefit Fund as set forth in Section 17-108 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

However, when the Teachers' Retirement Benefit Fund attains a seventy percent (70%) funded ratio based on an annual actuarial

valuation as required by law, the amount of the fee shall be apportioned equally pursuant to subparagraphs a, b and c of this paragraph;

18. Retired Oklahoma Highway Patrol Officers License Plates – such plates shall be designed and issued to any retired officer of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol. The license plate shall have the legend "Oklahoma" and shall contain, in the center of the plate, the Highway Patrol Officers patch using the same colors and pattern as used in the patch. Centered on the bottom of the license plate shall be the word "Retired". The letters "TRP" shall be used in combination with three numbers on either side of the insignia or emblem. The color of the letters and numbers shall be brown. Retirees who are eligible for such plates shall provide proof of eligibility upon initial application, but shall not be required to provide proof of eligibility annually. The surviving spouse of any deceased retired officer of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol, if the spouse has not since remarried, or if remarried, the remarriage is terminated by death, divorce, or annulment, may apply for a Retired Oklahoma Highway Patrol Officers license plate. As provided in this section, an amount of the fee collected shall be deposited into the Law Enforcement Retirement Fund;

19. Boy Scouts of America Supporter License Plates – such plates shall be designed and issued to any person wishing to demonstrate support for the Boy Scouts of America. The plates shall be issued to any person in any combination of numbers and letters from one to a maximum of seven, as for personalized license plates. The plate shall contain the official Boy Scouts of America logo. The Tax Commission shall be authorized, if necessary, to enter into a licensing agreement with the Boy Scouts of America for any licensing fees which may be required in order to use the Boy Scouts of America logo or design. The licensing agreement shall provide

for a payment to the Boy Scouts of America of not more than Twenty Dollars ($20.00) for each license plate issued;

20. Urban Forestry and Beautification License Plates – such plates shall be designed, subject to criteria to be presented to the Tax Commission, by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry in consultation with nonprofit organizations in this state that develop and operate programs to encourage urban forestry and beautification, and issued to any person wishing to demonstrate support of such programs. As provided in this section, an amount of the fee collected shall be apportioned as provided in Section 1104.5 of ~~Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title;

21. Oklahoma State Parks Supporter License Plates – such plates shall be designed, subject to criteria to be presented to the Tax Commission by the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department, and issued to any person wishing to demonstrate support for the Oklahoma state parks system. Twenty-three dollars ($23.00) of the fee collected shall be deposited in the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department Revolving Fund. Such money shall be designated for and may only be expended for the support of Oklahoma state parks;

22. Adoption Creates Families License Plates – such plates shall be issued to any person wishing to demonstrate support of pregnant women who are committed to placing their children for adoption and wishing to provide assistance to guardians, adoptive parents and other created families to assist in the adoption and placement of children in permanent, safe homes. The license plates shall be designed and final terminology delivered in consultation with the Oklahoma Adoption Coalition and the Department of Human Services. Twenty-five dollars ($25.00) of the fee collected shall be deposited in a revolving fund established in the State Treasury for and to be used by the Department of Human Services for the implementation of the Investing in Stronger Oklahoma Families Act specifically for created families;

23. Choose Life License Plates – such plates shall be designed, subject to criteria presented to the Tax Commission, by Choose Life, Inc., and issued to any person who wishes to demonstrate support of organizations that encourage adoption as a positive choice for women with unplanned pregnancies. As provided in this section, an amount of the fee collected shall be deposited in the Choose Life Assistance Program Revolving Fund established in Section 1104.6 of ~~Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title;

24. Future Farmers of America License Plate – such plates shall be designed and issued to persons wishing to demonstrate support for the Oklahoma FFA (formerly known as Future Farmers of America). The license plates shall be designed in consultation with the Oklahoma FFA Foundation Board of Directors. As provided in this section, an amount of the fee collected shall be apportioned as provided in Section 1104.7 of ~~Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title;

25. Lions Club License Plates – such plates shall be designed and issued to persons wishing to demonstrate support for the Lions Club of Oklahoma. The plates shall be issued to any person in any combination of numbers and letters from one to a maximum of seven, as for personalized license plates. The license plates shall be designed in consultation with the Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation and shall contain the official logo of the International Association of Lions Clubs. The Tax Commission shall be authorized to enter into a licensing agreement with the Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation. The licensing agreement shall provide for a payment to the Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation of not more than Ten Dollars ($10.00) for each license plate issued;

26. Color Oklahoma License Plates – such plates shall be designed, subject to criteria to be presented to the Tax Commission by the Oklahoma Native Plant Society, and issued to any person wishing to demonstrate support for preserving and planting wildflowers and native plants in Oklahoma and to promote Oklahoma's

wildflower heritage through education. As provided in this section, an amount of the fee collected shall be apportioned as provided in Section ~~8 of this act~~ 1104.8 of this title;

27. Girl Scouts of the United States of America Supporter License Plates - such plates shall be designed and issued to any person wishing to demonstrate support for the Girl Scouts of the United States of America. The plates shall be issued to any person in any combination of numbers and letters from one to a maximum of seven, as for personalized license plates. The plate shall contain the official Girl Scouts of the United States of America logo. The Tax Commission shall be authorized, if necessary, to enter into a licensing agreement with the Girl Scouts of the United States of America for any licensing fees which may be required in order to use the Girl Scouts of the United States of America logo or design. The licensing agreement shall provide for a payment to the Girl Scouts of Magic Empire Council, acting on behalf of all Oklahoma Girl Scout councils, of not more than Twenty Dollars ($20.00) for each license plate issued;

28. Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon License Plates – such plates shall be designed and issued to any person wishing to demonstrate support for the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon. The plate shall be designed in consultation with the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon. The Tax Commission shall be authorized to enter into a licensing agreement with the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon for any licensing fees which may be required in order to use the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon logo or design. The licensing agreement shall provide for a payment to the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon of not more than Twenty Dollars ($20.00) for each license plate issued;

29. Oklahoma Scenic Rivers License Plate – such plates shall be designed to demonstrate support for the Oklahoma Scenic Rivers. The plates shall be designed in consultation with the Oklahoma Scenic

Rivers Commission. Twenty-five Dollars ($25.00) of the fee shall be apportioned to the Oklahoma Scenic Rivers Commission;

30. Fight Cancer License Plate – such plates shall be designed to demonstrate support for the Oklahoma Central Cancer Registry. The plate shall contain the American Cancer Society logo. The American Cancer Society logo shall be used in accordance with the American Cancer Society's branding guidelines and shall only be utilized to support the Oklahoma Central Cancer Registry. Twenty Dollars ($20.00) of the fee shall be apportioned to the Oklahoma Central Cancer Registry Revolving Fund; and

31. Animal Friendly License Plate – such plates shall be designed and issued to any person wishing to demonstrate support for controlling the overpopulation of dogs and cats through educational and sterilization efforts. The plates shall be designed in consultation with the Veterinary Medical Association. Twenty Dollars ($20.00) of the fee collected shall be designated by the purchaser of the plate to be deposited in the Oklahoma Pet Overpopulation Fund created in Section ~~17 of this act~~ 2368.11 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes or the Animal Friendly Revolving Fund created in Section ~~18 of this act~~ 1104.10 of this title.

C. ~~The~~ Unless otherwise provided, the fee for such plates shall be Thirty-five Dollars ($35.00) and shall be in addition to all other registration fees provided by the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act. The fee shall be apportioned as follows:

1. Twenty Dollars ($20.00) of the fee or any other amount as provided in ~~Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes of the fee~~ this section shall be apportioned as provided or deposited in a fund as specified within the paragraph authorizing the special license plate;

2. Eight Dollars ($8.00) of the fee, or any other amount as provided in this section, shall be deposited in the Oklahoma Tax

Commission Reimbursement Fund to be used for the administration of the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act; and

3. Any remaining amounts of the fee shall be apportioned as provided in Section 1104 of ~~Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2005.

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