

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 57th Legislature (2020)

HOUSE BILL 3961

By: Burns

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to motor vehicles; amending 47 O.S. 2011, Sections 1135.4 and 1135.7, as amended by Sections 3 and 5, Chapter 69, O.S.L. 2018 (47 O.S. Supp. 2019, Sections 1135.4 and 1135.7), which relate to license plates; requiring that special and personalized plate be renewed at same time as regular plate; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2011, Section 1135.4, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 69, O.S.L. 2018 (47 O.S. Supp. 2019, Section 1135.4), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1135.4 A. The Oklahoma Tax Commission is hereby authorized to design and issue personalized license plates. The personalized license plates shall be issued on a staggered system except for vintage decals.

Personalized 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 personalized special license plate

1 may then be used on another vehicle but only after such other
2 vehicle has been registered for the current year.

3 Personalized special license plates shall be renewed each year
4 by the Tax Commission or a motor license agent, unless authorized by
5 the Tax Commission to be renewed for a period greater than one (1)
6 year. The Tax Commission shall notify by mail all persons issued
7 special license plates. Personalized license plates shall be
8 scheduled to be renewed on the same month as any regular license
9 plate that may belong to the same vehicle. The notice shall contain
10 all necessary information and shall contain instructions for the
11 renewal procedure upon presentation to a motor license agent or the
12 Tax Commission. The motor license agent fees for renewals shall be
13 paid out of the Oklahoma Tax Commission Reimbursement Fund.

14 B. Such plates shall be designed and issued for the following:

15 1. Any person in any combination of numbers or letters from one
16 to a maximum of seven;

17 2. Persons eligible for two or more of the military decoration
18 special license plates provided for in this title. Such plates may
19 be issued in any combination of emblems. However, such plates shall
20 only display up to three emblems and shall also display any
21 combination of letters or numbers from one to a maximum of three;

22 3. Motorcycles in any combination of numbers or letters from
23 one to a maximum of six;
24

1 4. Persons eligible for Korean War Veteran license plates
2 provided for in this title. Such plates may display any combination
3 of letters or numbers up to three on each side of the insignia or
4 emblem;

5 5. Persons eligible for World War II Veteran license plates
6 provided for in this title. Such plates may display any combination
7 of letters or numbers up to three on each side of the insignia or
8 emblem; and

9 6. Persons owning vehicles which are twenty-one (21) years and
10 older are qualified to submit for approval by the Tax Commission or
11 a motor license agent a vintage but expired official Oklahoma
12 license plate which is twenty-one (21) years and older. Upon
13 approval of such personalized plate, the owner shall be issued the
14 annual registration decal which the Tax Commission or agent shall
15 direct to be affixed.

16 C. The fee for such plates shall be Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) per
17 year of renewal and shall be in addition to all other registration
18 fees provided by the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act.
19 Eight Dollars (\$8.00) per year of renewal of the personalized tag
20 fee shall be deposited in the Oklahoma Tax Commission Reimbursement
21 Fund to be used for the administration of the Oklahoma Vehicle
22 License and Registration Act. Twelve Dollars (\$12.00) per year of
23 renewal of the personalized tag fee shall be apportioned as provided
24 in Section 1104 of this title.

1 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2011, Section 1135.7, as
2 amended by Section 5, Chapter 69, O.S.L. 2018 (47 O.S. Supp. 2019,
3 Section 1135.7), is amended to read as follows:

4 Section 1135.7 A. The Oklahoma Tax Commission or private
5 vendor with whom the Commission has contracted is authorized to
6 design and issue special license plates to any person that applies
7 to the Tax Commission or private vendor for the creation of a
8 special license plate and meets the minimum standards and
9 qualifications specified in this section.

10 B. If the following standards and guidelines are satisfied, the
11 Tax Commission shall authorize the issuance of a special license
12 plate to the person making application for the special license
13 plate:

14 1. The license plate is to:

- 15 a. show membership in or affiliation with an
16 organization, or
17 b. demonstrate support for an organization, group or
18 cause;

19 2. The license plate does not advertise or endorse a product,
20 brand, or service that is provided for sale;

21 3. The license plate does not promote any philosophy based on
22 prejudice or that is contrary to state civil rights laws; and

23 4. Two hundred prepaid applications for the special license
24 plate are received by the Tax Commission or private vendor.

1 C. The fee for special license plates shall be determined in
2 accordance with Section ~~4~~ 1135.9 of this ~~act~~ title. If the special
3 license plate does not provide financial assistance the fee shall be
4 no less than Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) per year of renewal and shall
5 be in addition to all other registration fees provided by the
6 Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act. Unless otherwise
7 provided in this section, Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) of the fee shall
8 be apportioned as follows: Eight Dollars (\$8.00) of the special
9 license plate fee shall be deposited in the Oklahoma Tax Commission
10 Reimbursement Fund to be used for the administration of the Oklahoma
11 Vehicle License and Registration Act and the remaining amounts of
12 the special license plate fee shall be apportioned as provided in
13 Section 1104 of this title.

14 D. The fee for special license plates that provide financial
15 assistance shall be determined in accordance with Section ~~4~~ 1135.9
16 of this ~~act~~ title. Provided, the fee shall be no less than Thirty-
17 five Dollars (\$35.00) and shall be in addition to all other
18 registration fees provided by the Oklahoma Vehicle License and
19 Registration Act. Thirty-five Dollars (\$35.00) per year of renewal
20 of the fee shall be apportioned as follows:

21 1. Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) of the fee shall be apportioned to
22 the License Plate Special Program Assistance Revolving Fund created
23 in Section 1135.8 of this title to be used in the manner detailed in
24 the application for the special license plate;

1 2. Eight Dollars (\$8.00) of the fee shall be deposited in the
2 Oklahoma Tax Commission Reimbursement Fund to be used for the
3 administration of the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act;
4 and

5 3. Any remaining amounts of the fee shall be apportioned as
6 provided in Section 1104 of this title.

7 E. If a person applies for a special license plate that
8 provides financial assistance, the application shall designate a
9 state agency to be responsible for expending the funds generated by
10 the special license plate and the application shall designate a
11 specific public purpose for which the funds are to be used. The
12 application shall include an acknowledgment from the designated
13 state agency of their agreement with acceptance of the designated
14 funds.

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

20 Special license plates shall be renewed each year by the Tax
21 Commission or a motor license agent, unless authorized by the Tax
22 Commission to be renewed for a period greater than one (1) year.
23 The Tax Commission shall notify all persons issued special license
24 plates of the renewal procedures prior to the expiration of the

1 special license plate. Special license plates shall be scheduled to
2 be renewed on the same month as any regular license plate that may
3 belong to the same vehicle. The notice shall contain all necessary
4 information and shall contain instructions for the renewal procedure
5 upon presentation to a motor license agent or the Tax Commission.
6 The license plates shall be issued on a staggered system.

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

19 G. All special plates issued by the Tax Commission prior to the
20 effective date of this act shall not be subject to the requirements
21 and qualifications outlined in this section.

22 H. As used in this section, "person" includes an individual,
23 group, organization or not-for-profit corporation that is recognized
24 as such by the Internal Revenue Service.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2020.

57-2-10661 JW 01/03/20