

ASSEMBLY, No. 1370

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Assemblyman STUHLTRAGER

1 AN ACT establishing farmland preservation license plates and
2 supplementing chapter 3 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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7 1. a. The director may issue farmland preservation license plates
8 for a motor vehicle owned or leased and registered in the State. In
9 addition to the registration number and other markings or
10 identification otherwise prescribed by law, the license plate shall
11 display words or an emblem indicating support for, or interest in, the
12 preservation of farmlands and open space. The director shall choose
13 the license plate design after soliciting input from the general public on
14 the design.

15 b. The director shall collect a \$50 application fee for the farmland
16 preservation license plate in addition to the fees otherwise prescribed
17 by law for registration of a motor vehicle. The director shall collect
18 annually, subsequent to the year of issuance of the license plate, a \$10
19 fee for the license plate in addition to the fees otherwise prescribed by
20 law for the registration of a motor vehicle.

21 c. In the event that the average cost per license plate as certified by
22 the director and approved by the Joint Budget Oversight Committee,
23 or its successor, is greater than the \$50 application fee established in
24 subsection b. of this act in two consecutive fiscal years, the director
25 may discontinue the issuance of the farmland preservation license
26 plates.

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28 2. a. There is created in the Department of Treasury a non-lapsing,
29 interest bearing fund to be known as the "Garden State Preservation
30 Fund." The fund shall be the depository of the fees collected pursuant
31 to subsection b. of section 1. of P.L. , c. (C.) (now pending before
32 the Legislature as this bill), after reimbursement to the division for
33 costs reasonably and actually incurred in producing and issuing the
34 special license plates, including the cost of any initial computer
35 programming changes.

1 b. Moneys in the Garden State Preservation Fund shall be
2 appropriated and distributed for farmland and open space preservation
3 projects in a manner consistent with section 5 of P.L.1992, c.88, the
4 "Green Acres, Clean Water, Farmland and Historic Preservation Bond
5 Act of 1992." The director shall annually certify to the State
6 Treasurer the average cost per license plate incurred in the
7 immediately preceding year by the Division of Motor Vehicles in
8 producing and issuing the farmland preservation license plates.
9 Interest or other income earned on moneys deposited pursuant to this
10 section shall be credited to the Garden State Preservation Fund.

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12 3. The Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles shall notify
13 eligible motorists of the opportunity to obtain farmland preservation
14 license plates by including a notice with all motor vehicle registration
15 renewals, and by posting appropriate posters or signs in all division
16 facilities and offices, as may be provided by the Director of the
17 Department of Environmental Protection, subject to the approval of
18 the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles. The Director of the
19 Department of Environmental Protection shall supply the Division of
20 Motor Vehicles with the notices, posters and signs to be circulated or
21 posted by the division.

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23 4. This act shall take effect on the 180th day after enactment, but
24 the Director of the Department of Environmental Protection, the State
25 Treasurer and the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles may take
26 such anticipatory acts in advance of that date as may be necessary for
27 the timely implementation thereof.

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STATEMENT

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32 This bill establishes a farmland preservation license plate. The bill
33 also creates the "Garden State Preservation Fund" and dedicates the
34 money raised from the sale of the special license plates to the fund.
35 The special plates would contain markings indicating support for, or
36 an interest in, farmland and open space preservation. The fee for the
37 plates would be \$50, with an additional \$10 fee for each annual
38 renewal, in addition to the fees otherwise prescribed by law for the
39 registration of a motor vehicle. The costs incurred by the Division of
40 Motor Vehicles in the Department of Law and Public Safety (DMV)
41 for producing and issuing the special plates would be reimbursed from
42 the fees collected. The remaining moneys deposited in the fund would
43 be used for projects consistent with the purposes of the Green Acres,
44 Clean Water, Farmland and Historic Preservation Bond Act of 1992,
45 including preserving farmland for agricultural use and production, and

1 acquisition or development of lands for recreation and conservation
2 purposes.

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7 Establishes special license plate to aid farmland, open space
8 preservation.