

P.L. 1997, CHAPTER 195, *approved August 13, 1997*
Senate, No. 54

1 **AN ACT** providing for the issuance of certain license plates for the
2 purpose of assisting in the support and funding of projects and
3 programs at Liberty State Park, and supplementing chapter 3 of
4 Title 39 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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9 1. As used in this act:

10 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Environmental
11 Protection;

12 "Department" means the Department of Environmental Protection;

13 "Director" means the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles in
14 the Department of Transportation;

15 "Division" means the Division of Motor Vehicles in the Department
16 of Transportation;

17 "Fund" means the "Liberty State Park License Plate Fund" created
18 pursuant to section 4 of this act.

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20 2. The Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles shall, upon
21 proper application therefor, issue Liberty State Park license plates for
22 any motor vehicle owned or leased and registered in the State. In
23 addition to the registration number and other markings or
24 identification otherwise prescribed by law, a Liberty State Park license
25 plate shall display words or a slogan and an emblem indicating support
26 for, or an interest in, Liberty State Park. The words or slogan and
27 emblem shall be chosen by the director; however, the director shall
28 solicit, in conjunction with the Legislature, input from the general
29 public on the design of the plate and shall review the submissions prior
30 to choosing the design. Issuance of Liberty State Park license plates
31 in accordance with this section shall be subject to the provisions of
32 chapter 3 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes, except as hereinafter
33 otherwise specifically provided.

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35 3. a. Application for issuance of a Liberty State Park license plate
36 shall be made to the division on forms and in a manner as may be
37 prescribed by the director. In order to be deemed complete, an

1 application shall be accompanied by a fee of \$50 payable to the
2 division, which fee shall be in addition to all fees otherwise required
3 by law for the registration of the motor vehicle.

4 b. The annual fee for the registration certificate of a motor vehicle
5 that has been issued a Liberty State Park license plate pursuant to the
6 provisions of this act shall include in each year subsequent to the year
7 of issuance a fee in the amount of \$10, which fee shall be in addition
8 to all fees otherwise required by law for the renewal of the registration
9 of the motor vehicle and shall be collected by the division and
10 deposited in the Liberty State Park License Plate Fund created
11 pursuant to section 4 of this act.

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13 4. There is created in the Department of Environmental Protection
14 a special non-lapsing fund to be known as the "Liberty State Park
15 License Plate Fund." There shall be deposited in the fund the amount
16 collected from all license plate fees collected pursuant to section 3 of
17 this act, less the amounts necessary to reimburse the division for
18 administrative costs pursuant to section 5 of this act. Monies
19 deposited in the fund shall be dedicated for support and funding of
20 projects and programs at Liberty State Park. Monies deposited in the
21 fund shall be held in interest-bearing accounts in public depositories as
22 defined pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1970, c.236 (C.17:9-41), and may
23 be invested or reinvested in such securities as are approved by the
24 State Treasurer. Interest or other income earned on monies deposited
25 in the fund, and any monies which may be appropriated or otherwise
26 become available for the purposes of the fund, shall be credited to and
27 deposited in the fund for use as set forth in this act.

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29 5. a. Prior to the deposit of license plate fees collected pursuant
30 to section 3 of this act into the fund, amounts thereof as are necessary
31 shall be used to reimburse the division for all costs reasonably and
32 actually incurred, as stipulated by the director, for:

33 (1) producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing the availability of
34 Liberty State Park license plates; and

35 (2) any initial fees, in an amount conferred as necessary to the
36 commissioner, collected from the issuance of Liberty State Park
37 license plates to be allocated to the division to pay the cost of any
38 computer programming changes that may be necessary to implement
39 the Liberty State Park license plate program established by this act.

40 b. The director shall annually certify to the commissioner the
41 average cost per license plate incurred in the immediately preceding
42 year by the division in producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing
43 the availability of Liberty State Park license plates. The annual
44 certification of the average cost per license plate shall be approved by
45 the Joint Budget Oversight Committee, or its successor.

46 c. In the event that the average cost per license plate as certified by

1 the director and approved by the Joint Budget Oversight Committee,
2 or its successor, is greater than the \$50 application fee established in
3 subsection a. of section 3 of this act in two consecutive fiscal years,
4 the director may discontinue the issuance of Liberty State Park license
5 plates.

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7 6. The director shall notify eligible motorists of the opportunity to
8 obtain Liberty State Park license plates by including a notice with all
9 motor vehicle registration renewals, and by posting appropriate
10 posters or signs in all division facilities and offices, as may be provided
11 by the department. The notices, posters, and signs shall be designed
12 by the commissioner. The designs shall be subject to the approval of
13 the director, and the commissioner shall supply the division with the
14 notices, posters, and signs to be circulated or posted by that division.

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16 7. The commissioner, the director, and the State Treasurer shall
17 develop and enter into an interagency memorandum of agreement
18 setting forth the procedures to be followed by the departments and
19 the division in carrying out their respective responsibilities under this
20 act.

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

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31 Establishes Liberty State Park license plate; dedicates fees therefrom
32 to support park projects and programs.