

SENATE, No. 210

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Senators CONNORS and BASSANO

1 AN ACT establishing Pinelands preservation license plates and  
2 supplementing chapter 3 of Title 39 and chapter 18A of Title 13 of  
3 the Revised Statutes.

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

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8 1. a. The director may issue for a motor vehicle registered in this  
9 State special license plates bearing, in addition to the registration  
10 number and other markings or identification otherwise prescribed by  
11 law, words and an emblem indicating support for, or an interest in,  
12 Pinelands preservation. The license plate shall be designed by the  
13 director, in consultation with the Pinelands Commission created by  
14 section 4 of P.L.1979, c.111 (C.13:18A-4). Issuance of Pinelands  
15 preservation license plates shall be subject to all applicable  
16 requirements of chapter 3 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes, except  
17 as hereinafter otherwise specifically provided.

18 b. The director shall collect a \$50 application fee for the Pinelands  
19 preservation license plate in addition to the fees otherwise prescribed  
20 by law for the registration of the motor vehicle. The director shall  
21 collect annually subsequent to the year of issuance of the license plate  
22 a \$10 fee for the license plate in addition to the fees otherwise  
23 prescribed by law for the registration of the motor vehicle. The  
24 additional fees required by this subsection shall be deposited into the  
25 Pinelands Preservation Fund, established pursuant to section 2 of  
26 P.L. , c. (C. ) (now pending before the Legislature as this  
27 bill).

28 c. The director shall annually certify to the State Treasurer the  
29 average cost per license plate incurred in the immediately preceding  
30 year by the Division of Motor Vehicles in producing and issuing the  
31 Pinelands preservation license plates. On a quarterly basis, the State  
32 Treasurer shall transfer a sum equal to the division's cost of producing  
33 and issuing the Pinelands preservation license plates from the  
34 Pinelands Preservation Fund, established pursuant to section 2 of  
35 P.L. , c. (C. ) (now before the Legislature as this bill), to the

1 division.

2 d. In the event that the average cost per license plate as certified  
3 by the director and approved by the Joint Budget Oversight  
4 Committee, or its successor, is greater than the \$50 application fee  
5 established in subsection b. of this section in two consecutive fiscal  
6 years, the director may discontinue the issuance of Pinelands  
7 preservation license plates.

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9 2. a. There is created in the Department of the Treasury a  
10 non-lapsing, interest-bearing fund to be known as the "Pinelands  
11 Preservation Fund." The fund shall be the depository of the fees  
12 collected pursuant to subsection b. of section 1 of P.L. , c.  
13 (C. ) (now before the Legislature as this bill). Interest or other  
14 income earned on monies deposited into the Pinelands Preservation  
15 Fund shall be credited to the fund.

16 b. Moneys in the Pinelands Preservation Fund shall be appropriated  
17 and distributed exclusively: (1) to reimburse the Division of Motor  
18 Vehicles for all costs incurred by that division, as stipulated by the  
19 director of that division, in producing and issuing the Pinelands  
20 preservation license plates; (2) to pay for the costs of surveys and  
21 appraisals and other necessary costs incurred by the Department of  
22 Environmental Protection to acquire lands in the Pinelands National  
23 Reserve that have limited practical use because of their location and  
24 that are held by landowners who both own less than 50 acres in the  
25 reserve and have exhausted existing remedies to secure relief; and (3)  
26 to pay for Pinelands acquisition projects approved by the  
27 Commissioner of Environmental Protection in accordance with  
28 applicable State and federal laws relating to the protection of the  
29 Pinelands National Reserve and the pinelands area .

30 Of the initial fees collected from the issuance of Pinelands  
31 preservation license plates, an amount not to exceed \$100,000 shall be  
32 allocated to the Division of Motor Vehicles to pay the cost of any  
33 computer programming changes that may be necessary to implement  
34 the Pinelands protection license plates program established by this act.

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36 3. This act shall take effect on the 180th day after enactment.

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#### STATEMENT

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41 This bill establishes a special Pinelands license plate, with proceeds  
42 dedicated to the preservation of this ecologically sensitive wilderness  
43 area. The plate would bear words and an emblem designed by the  
44 Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles in consultation with the  
45 Pinelands Commission. Motor vehicle owners and lessees would be  
46 able to obtain the plate for an initial fee of \$50 and an annual \$10

1 renewal fee. These fees would be in addition to the registration fees  
2 otherwise prescribed by law.

3 The additional fees would be deposited in the "Pinelands  
4 Preservation Fund," created by the bill, and used exclusively for  
5 license plate costs, approved Pinelands acquisition projects in  
6 accordance with applicable State and federal laws relating to the  
7 protection of the Pinelands National Reserve, and to pay for the costs  
8 of surveys and appraisals and other necessary costs incurred by the  
9 Department of Environmental Protection to acquire lands in the  
10 Pinelands National Reserve that have limited practical use because of  
11 their location and that are held by landowners who both own less than  
12 50 acres in the reserve and have exhausted existing remedies to secure  
13 relief.

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18 Establishes special license plate to aid Pinelands preservation.