

SENATE, No. 54

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Senator O'CONNOR

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

1 shall be made to the division on forms and in a manner as may be
2 prescribed by the director. In order to be deemed complete, an
3 application shall be accompanied by a fee of \$50 payable to the
4 division, which fee shall be in addition to all fees otherwise required
5 by law for the registration of the motor vehicle.

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 the Joint Budget Oversight Committee, or its successor.

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

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

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

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

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STATEMENT

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33 This bill directs the Division of the Motor Vehicles (DMV) within
34 the Department of Transportation to establish a special Liberty State
35 Park license plate program. The special plates will contain markings
36 or identification expressing the vehicle owner's support for, or interest
37 in, Liberty State Park. The Director of the DMV will select the design
38 of the license plate, after soliciting, in conjunction with the
39 Legislature, input from the general public and reviewing those
40 submissions. A \$50 fee will be charged for the issuance of the plates,
41 and an additional \$10 fee will be collected for each annual renewal.

42 The bill creates in the Department of Environmental Protection a
43 special non-lapsing "Liberty State Park License Plate Fund." All
44 license plate fees collected pursuant to the bill, less the amounts
45 necessary to reimburse the DMV for administrative costs will be
46 deposited in the fund. Monies deposited in the fund will be dedicated

1 for support and funding of projects and programs at Liberty State
2 Park.

3 Costs incurred by the DMV in producing, issuing, renewing, and
4 publicizing Liberty State Park license plates, as annually certified by
5 the director, will be reimbursed from the fees collected. DMV is
6 authorized to use a portion of the fees collected to pay for the cost of
7 any computer programming changes that may be necessary to
8 implement the license plate program.

9 The bill directs the DMV to include in all mailings of motor vehicle
10 registration renewals a notice of the availability of Liberty State Park
11 license plates.

12 The bill requires the Joint Budget Oversight Committee to approve
13 the DMV's annual certification of the average cost to produce, issue,
14 renew, and publicize the availability of a license plate. If the average
15 annual cost exceeds \$50 for two consecutive fiscal years, the DMV is
16 authorized to discontinue the issuance of these license plates.

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