

39:3-27.91 to 39:3-27.97

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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(Liberty State Park--license plates)

NJSA: 39:3-27.91 to 39:3-27.97

LAWS OF: 1997 **CHAPTER:** 195

BILL NO: S54

SPONSOR(S): O'Connor

DATE INTRODUCED: Pre-filed

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** Environment; Appropriations
SENATE: Law & Public Safety

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE: **ASSEMBLY:** June 19, 1997
SENATE: June 20, 1996

DATE OF APPROVAL: August 13, 1997

FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

SPONSOR STATEMENT: Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** Yes 1-23-97 & 6-9-97
SENATE: Yes

FISCAL NOTE: Yes

VETO MESSAGE: No

MESSAGE ON SIGNING: No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

KBP:pp

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.

5

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

8

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.

19

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.

34

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.

12
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.

28
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.

6
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.
15

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.

21
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.

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,
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5 subsection a. of section 3 of this act in two consecutive fiscal years,
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21 the division in carrying out their respective responsibilities under this
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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.

ASSEMBLY ENVIRONMENT, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 54

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 23, 1997

The Assembly Environment, Science and Technology Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 54.

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

The bill creates in the Department of Environmental Protection a special non-lapsing "Liberty State Park License Plate Fund." All license plate fees collected pursuant to the bill, less the amounts necessary to reimburse the DMV for administrative costs, would be deposited in the fund. Monies deposited in the fund would be dedicated for support and funding of projects and programs at Liberty State Park.

Under the provisions of the bill, costs incurred by the DMV in producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing Liberty State Park license plates, as annually certified by the director, would be reimbursed from the fees collected. The bill also authorizes DMV to use a portion of the fees collected to pay for the cost of any computer programming changes that may be necessary to implement the license plate program.

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

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

As reported by the committee, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 2208 of 1996 as also reported by the committee.

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 54

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 9, 1997

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 54.

Senate Bill No. 54 directs the Division of the Motor Vehicles (DMV) to issue special Liberty State Park license plates. The special plates would contain markings or identification expressing the vehicle owner's support for, or interest in, Liberty State Park. The Director of the DMV would select the design of the license plate after soliciting, in conjunction with the Legislature, input from the general public and reviewing those submissions. A \$50 fee will be charged for the issuance of the plates, and an additional \$10 fee will be collected for each annual renewal.

The bill creates in the Department of Environmental Protection a special non-lapsing "Liberty State Park License Plate Fund." All license plate fees collected pursuant to the bill, less the amounts necessary to reimburse the DMV for administrative costs, would be deposited in the fund. Monies deposited in the fund would be dedicated for support and funding of projects and programs at Liberty State Park.

As reported by the committee, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 2208 of 1996 as also reported by the committee.

FISCAL IMPACT:

In the legislative fiscal estimate for this bill, the DMV estimated fixed costs for other license plate bills to be about \$41,000, for reprogramming agency and revenue automated systems, and for one-time die costs. Variable costs are approximately \$8 per set. The DMV did not estimate total revenue expected.

SENATE LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 54

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 6, 1996

The Senate Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No.54.

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

The bill creates in the Department of Environmental Protection a special non-lapsing "Liberty State Park License Plate Fund." All license plate fees collected pursuant to the bill, less the amounts necessary to reimburse the DMV for administrative costs would be deposited in the fund. Monies deposited in the fund would be dedicated for support and funding of projects and programs at Liberty State Park.

Under the provisions of the bill, costs incurred by the DMV in producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing Liberty State Park license plates, as annually certified by the director, would be reimbursed from the fees collected. The bill also authorizes DMV to use a portion of the fees collected to pay for the cost of any computer programming changes that may be necessary to implement the license plate program.

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

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

This bill was prefiled for introduction in the 1996 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review which has been performed.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE TO
SENATE, No. 54
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JULY 5, 1996

Senate Bill No. 54 of 1996 permits the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to issue special Liberty State Park license plates. The director would be authorized to charge an initial application fee of \$50 and a \$10 renewal fee which shall be in addition to all fees otherwise required by law. After reimbursing DMV for expenses associated with plate issuance, the remaining application and renewal fees are to be deposited into the "Liberty State Park License Plate Fund" for the support of projects and programs at Liberty State Park.

In estimates for previous bills authorizing the issuance of special license plates, DMV estimated total fixed costs to be about \$41,000, for reprogramming agency and revenue automated systems, and for one-time die costs. Variable costs would be about \$8 for the issuance of each set of special plates. However, since DMV is generally unable to estimate public interest in new, special license plates, it does not project revenues.

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concurs with previous DMV cost estimates for the issuance of new, special license plates. However, as a possible reference range for potential revenues, OLS would note that DMV has estimated that FY 1996 revenues from special plates for animal welfare would provide about \$433,000, plates for wildlife conservation would provide about \$236,000, and plates for shore conservation would provide about \$899,000.

The legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67.