

JAN 22 2021

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES FOR NATURAL RESOURCES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 249, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§249- Special number plates for state natural resources
5 authorized. (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the
6 director of finance shall issue to any registered owner of a
7 motor vehicle, who is a resident of the State, upon completed
8 application and payment of required fees, a special number plate
9 for the registered owner's motor vehicle commemorating the
10 beauty of the State's natural resources, to observe the
11 importance of the preservation of the State's natural resources
12 in Hawaii.

13 (b) The chairperson of the board of land and natural
14 resources or the chairperson's designee, shall establish a
15 special number plate design that:



- 1 (1) Contains words, images, or both, that indicate the
2 special number plate is issued to recognize the beauty
3 of the State's natural resources;
- 4 (2) Is similar in shape and size to the uniform state
5 number plate prescribed by law; and
- 6 (3) Does not obstruct the visibility of the number or
7 letters or any other information that is required by
8 law to be on a number plate and are readily
9 identifiable and distinguishable under actual traffic
10 conditions.
- 11 (c) The special number plate design shall not:
- 12 (1) Infringe or otherwise violate any trademark, trade
13 name, service mark, copyright, or other proprietary or
14 property right;
- 15 (2) Represent any obscene or degrading image, idea, word,
16 or phrase;
- 17 (3) Advertise or endorse a product, brand, or service that
18 is provided for sale;
- 19 (4) Promote any religious belief; or
- 20 (5) Promote any philosophy based on prejudice or that is
21 contrary to state civil rights laws.



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1 (d) Each special number plate shall be securely fastened
2 to the motor vehicle in lieu of the uniform state number plate.

3 (e) The director of finance shall charge a special number
4 plate fee at least equal to the county's cost of providing the
5 special number plate and administrative costs, if any, plus a
6 fundraising fee to be determined by the director of finance in
7 consultation with the chairperson of the board of land and
8 natural resources or the chairperson's designee. The
9 fundraising fee shall be in addition to any other state or
10 county fees collected for a motor vehicle registration or
11 license plate.

12 (f) The director of finance may charge an additional
13 fundraising fee, of the same or a different amount as the
14 fundraising fee established pursuant to subsection (e), for the
15 renewal of a special number plate. If an additional fundraising
16 fee is implemented pursuant to this subsection, the director of
17 finance shall revoke the special number plate of the registered
18 owner of a motor vehicle who fails to pay the additional
19 fundraising fee imposed by this subsection.

20 (g) The revenue generated by the fundraising fees, or a
21 portion of the revenue generated by the fundraising fees as



1 determined by the director of finance, shall be deposited in the
2 conservation and resources enforcement special fund established
3 under section 199-1.5.

4 (h) The director of finance may revoke all special number
5 plates issued pursuant to this section if the total number of
6 registered owners of motor vehicles that obtain the special
7 number plates is less than one hundred fifty within three years
8 of issuance of the first special number plate.

9 (i) Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to
10 any plates issued pursuant to section 249-9.2.

11 (j) For the purposes of this section, unless a different
12 meaning appears from the context, "special number plate" means a
13 license plate that represents the beauty of the State's natural
14 resources."

15 SECTION 2. Section 199-1.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

17 "(b) The following shall be deposited into the
18 conservation and resources enforcement special fund:

19 (1) Grants, awards, donations, gifts, transfers, or moneys
20 derived from public or private sources for the
21 purposes of enforcing the provisions of title 12;



1 chapters 6D, 6E, and 6K; or any rule adopted
2 thereunder;
3 (2) Fees, reimbursements, administrative charges, and
4 penalties collected for activities related to the
5 enforcement of natural, cultural, and historic
6 resources protection laws and rules, except as
7 otherwise provided by law that provides for deposits
8 into other special funds administered by the
9 department;

10 (3) Moneys derived from interest, dividends, or other
11 income from the above-mentioned sources; ~~and~~

12 (4) Revenues generated from section 249- ; and

13 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) Appropriations by the legislature to the special
14 fund."

15 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
16 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

17 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2021.

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INTRODUCED BY *Spencer H. Housley*

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Report Title:

Special License Plates; Natural Resources; Conservation

Description:

Authorizes the issuance of special license plates for recognition and protection of the State's natural resources.

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