
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SPECIAL NUMBER PLATES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Honolulu Museum
2 of Art, which will celebrate its one hundred year anniversary in
3 2027, should be recognized for serving the people of Hawaii as a
4 public, inclusive, not-for-profit institution and vital part of
5 the State's cultural landscape. Housed in a historic building
6 in the heart of Honolulu, the Honolulu Museum of Art is home to
7 a commendable encyclopedic collection of more than fifty-five
8 thousand artworks, offering the community engagement with global
9 art spanning millennia.

10 The legislature further finds that through educational
11 programs meant to enrich the Honolulu Museum of Art experience
12 for people of all ages, such as school tours and educator
13 resources for arts curricula, including outreach to the neighbor
14 islands, professional development training, semester long
15 courses, artist and curator talks, independent film screenings,
16 and community events, the Honolulu Museum of Art remains
17 committed to nourishing the State's art and culture ecosystem.



1 The Honolulu Museum of Art strives to uphold its vision to
2 inspire and uplift the community through transformative art
3 experiences that celebrate creativity, cultivate wonder, foster
4 empathy, and enhance knowledge in order to deepen the connection
5 with one another and the world everyone shares.

6 The purpose of this Act is to authorize the issuance of
7 special number plates to commemorate the Honolulu Museum of Art.

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

11 "§249- Special number plates; Honolulu Museum of Art
12 authorized. (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the
13 director of finance shall issue to any registered owner of a
14 motor vehicle, who is a resident of the State and has completed
15 the application and paid the required fees, a special number
16 plate for the registered owner's motor vehicle that commemorates
17 the Honolulu Museum of Art and its contribution to Hawaii.

18 (b) The director of finance of the city and county of
19 Honolulu, in consultation with the directors of finance of the
20 counties of Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii; the chiefs of police of the
21 city and county of Honolulu and the counties of Kauai, Maui, and



1 Hawaii; and the director of the Honolulu Museum of Art, shall
2 establish a special number plate design that:

3 (1) Contains words, images, or both, that indicate the
4 special number plate is issued to commemorate the
5 Honolulu Museum of Art;

6 (2) Is similar in shape and size to the uniform state
7 number plate prescribed by law; and

8 (3) Does not obstruct the visibility of the number or
9 letters or any other information that is required by
10 law to be on a number plate and is readily
11 identifiable and distinguishable under actual traffic
12 conditions.

13 (c) The special number plate design shall not:

14 (1) Infringe upon or otherwise violate any trademark,
15 trade name, service mark, copyright, or other
16 proprietary or property right;

17 (2) Represent any obscene or degrading image, idea, word,
18 or phrase;

19 (3) Advertise or endorse a product, brand, or service that
20 is provided for sale;

21 (4) Promote any religious belief; or



1 (5) Promote any philosophy based on prejudice or that is
2 contrary to state civil rights laws.

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

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

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



1 (g) The revenue generated by the fundraising fees, or a
2 portion of the revenue generated by the fundraising fees as
3 determined by the director of finance, shall be deposited in the
4 name of the Honolulu Museum of Art in a separate account. The
5 director of finance shall determine the most efficient means of
6 directing the revenue generated by the fundraising fees to the
7 Honolulu Museum of Art.

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

13 (i) Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to
14 any plates issued pursuant to sections 249-9.2, 249-9.5, 249-
15 9.6, or 249-9.7."

16 SECTION 3. Section 249-9.2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended to read as follows:

18 "**§249-9.2 Special number plates; military service.** (a)
19 In lieu of the number plates contracted on behalf of the
20 counties by the director of finance of the city and county of
21 Honolulu, the director of finance shall provide, for a fee, one



1 set of special number plates upon the receipt of an application
2 together with:

- 3 (1) Specific proof that the applicant was awarded the
4 Purple Heart by the United States Department of
5 Defense for wounds received in military or naval
6 combat against an armed enemy of the United States;
- 7 (2) Certification that the applicant is a veteran;
- 8 (3) Specific proof that the applicant was serving the
9 United States in the military or as a civilian, on
10 Oahu, or offshore at a distance of not more than three
11 miles at the time of the December 7, 1941, attack on
12 Pearl Harbor. Certification from the Hawaii state
13 chairperson of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association
14 shall constitute sufficient proof;
- 15 (4) Specific proof that the applicant was confined as a
16 prisoner of war while providing military service to
17 the United States;
- 18 (5) Certification from the United States Department of
19 Veterans Affairs or the state office of veterans'
20 services that the applicant is a combat veteran or a



1 veteran of the Vietnam conflict, the Korean conflict,
2 World War II, or the Persian Gulf conflict; or
3 (6) Specific proof that the applicant would qualify for a
4 gold star lapel button under the criteria established
5 by title 10 United States Code section 1126; provided
6 that the applicant shall not be disqualified for the
7 special number plates because the applicant is the
8 grandparent of the deceased member of the United
9 States armed forces;
10 provided that applicants, except civilian applicants under
11 paragraph (3) and civilian applicants and applicants who are
12 currently serving the United States in the military under
13 paragraph (6), shall also provide a copy of the applicant's most
14 recent discharge paper or separation document that indicates an
15 honorable discharge or general (under honorable conditions)
16 discharge from active duty.
17 (b) The design of the plates for:
18 (1) Purple heart recipients shall include the words
19 "COMBAT WOUNDED";
20 (2) Veterans shall include the word "VETERAN";



- 1 (3) Pearl Harbor survivors shall include the words "PEARL
2 HARBOR SURVIVOR";
- 3 (4) Former prisoners of war shall include the words
4 "FORMER PRISONER OF WAR";
- 5 (5) Combat veterans shall include the words "COMBAT
6 VETERAN";
- 7 (6) Veterans of the Vietnam conflict shall include the
8 words "VIETNAM VETERAN";
- 9 (7) Veterans of the Korean conflict shall include the
10 words "KOREA VETERAN";
- 11 (8) Veterans of World War II shall include the words
12 "WORLD WAR II VETERAN";
- 13 (9) Veterans of the Persian Gulf conflict shall include
14 the words "PERSIAN GULF VETERAN"; and
- 15 (10) Gold star family members, including grandparents,
16 shall include the words "GOLD STAR FAMILY".

17 These designations shall be imprinted on the left side of
18 the license plates in a manner similar to congressional and
19 honorary consul license plates.

20 (c) Registration certificates and license plates issued
21 under this section shall not be transferable to any other



1 person. Special number plates for military service shall be
2 assigned to a noncommercial passenger motor vehicle, a
3 noncommercial motorcycle, or motor scooter registered in the
4 name of the qualified applicant and shall be available in any
5 category of special number plates for military service. Prior
6 to the transfer of the ownership of the qualified person's
7 vehicle to another party, the special number plates shall be
8 surrendered to the director of finance as a condition to the
9 issuance of replacement special number plates; provided that the
10 director of finance shall allow the survivor of the qualified
11 person, upon request, to retain the front special number plate
12 as a memorial.

13 (d) The director of finance shall authorize the design of
14 a license plate that is readily identifiable and distinguishable
15 under actual traffic conditions and shall adopt rules pursuant
16 to chapter 91 to carry out this section.

17 (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to
18 any plates issued pursuant to section 249-9.5, 249-9.6, 249-9.7,
19 or 249- ."

20 SECTION 4. Section 249-9.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
21 amended by amending subsection (i) to read as follows:



1 "(i) Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply
 2 to any plates issued pursuant to [~~sections~~] section 249-9.2
 3 [~~and~~], 249-9.6 [~~-~~], 249-9.7, or 249- ."

4 SECTION 5. Section 249-9.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
 5 amended as follows:

6 1. By amending its title to read:

7 "~~[§249-9.6]~~ **Special number plates; Polynesian Voyaging**
 8 **Society authorized.**"

9 2. By amending subsection (i) to read:

10 "(i) Nothing in this section shall be construed as to
 11 apply to any plates issued pursuant to [~~sections~~] section 249-
 12 9.2 [~~or~~], 249-9.5 [~~-~~], 249-9.7, or 249- ."

13 SECTION 6. Section 249-9.7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
 14 amended as follows:

15 1. By amending its title to read:

16 "~~[§249-9.7]~~ **Special number plates for environmental**
 17 **conservation; authorized.**"

18 2. By amending subsection (h) to read:

19 "(h) Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply
 20 to any plates issued pursuant to section 249-9.2 [~~-~~], 249-9.5,
 21 249-9.6, or 249- ."



H.B. NO. 477

1 SECTION 7. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

4

INTRODUCED BY:  _____
JAN 20 2023



H.B. NO. 477

Report Title:

Special Number Plates; Honolulu Museum of Art; Commemoration

Description:

Authorizes the issuance of special number plates to commemorate the Honolulu Museum of Art.

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