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ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 2752

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State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2014 Regular Session

By Representatives Walkinshaw, Clibborn, Tarleton, Riccelli,  
Moscoso, Ortiz-Self, Johnson, and Bergquist

Read first time 01/31/14. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to Washington state tree special license plates;  
2 amending RCW 46.18.200, 46.17.220, and 46.68.420; reenacting and  
3 amending RCW 46.18.060; adding a new section to chapter 46.04 RCW; and  
4 providing an effective date.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.18.200 and 2013 c 286 s 1 are each amended to read  
7 as follows:

8 (1) Special license plate series reviewed and approved by the  
9 department:

10 (a) May be issued in lieu of standard issue or personalized license  
11 plates for vehicles required to display one and two license plates  
12 unless otherwise specified;

13 (b) Must be issued under terms and conditions established by the  
14 department;

15 (c) Must not be issued for vehicles registered under chapter 46.87  
16 RCW; and

17 (d) Must display a symbol or artwork approved by the department.

18 (2) The department approves and shall issue the following special  
19 license plates:

1		
2		
3	LICENSE PLATE	DESCRIPTION, SYMBOL, OR ARTWORK
4	4-H	Displays the "4-H" logo.
5	Armed forces collection	Recognizes the contribution of veterans, active duty
6		military personnel, reservists, and members of the national
7		guard, and includes six separate designs, each containing a
8		symbol representing a different branch of the armed forces
9		to include army, navy, air force, marine corps, coast guard,
10		and national guard.
11	Endangered wildlife	Displays a symbol or artwork symbolizing endangered
12		wildlife in Washington state.
13	Gonzaga University alumni association	Recognizes the Gonzaga University alumni association.
14	Helping kids speak	Recognizes an organization that supports programs that
15		provide no-cost speech pathology programs to children.
16	Keep kids safe	Recognizes efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect.
17	Law enforcement memorial	Honors law enforcement officers in Washington killed in
18		the line of duty.
19	Music matters	Displays the "Music Matters" logo.
20	Professional firefighters and paramedics	Recognizes professional firefighters and paramedics who
21		are members of the Washington state council of
22		firefighters.
23	Seattle Seahawks	Displays the "Seattle Seahawks" logo.
24	Seattle Sounders FC	Displays the "Seattle Sounders FC" logo.
25	Share the road	Recognizes an organization that promotes bicycle safety
26		and awareness education.
27	Ski & ride Washington	Recognizes the Washington snowsports industry.
28	State flower	Recognizes the Washington state flower.
29	<u>State tree</u>	<u>Recognizes the Washington state tree.</u>
30	Volunteer firefighters	Recognizes volunteer firefighters.
31	Washington lighthouses	Recognizes an organization that supports selected
32		Washington state lighthouses and provides environmental
33		education programs.
34	Washington state parks	Recognizes Washington state parks as premier destinations
35		of uncommon quality that preserve significant natural,
36		cultural, historical, and recreational resources.

1	Washington's national park fund	Builds awareness of Washington's national parks and
2		supports priority park programs and projects in
3		Washington's national parks, such as enhancing visitor
4		experience, promoting volunteerism, engaging
5		communities, and providing educational opportunities
6		related to Washington's national parks.
7	Washington's wildlife collection	Recognizes Washington's wildlife.
8	We love our pets	Recognizes an organization that assists local member
9		agencies of the federation of animal welfare and control
10		agencies to promote and perform spay/neuter surgery on
11		Washington state pets to reduce pet overpopulation.
12	Wild on Washington	Symbolizes wildlife viewing in Washington state.

13 (3) Applicants for initial and renewal professional firefighters  
14 and paramedics special license plates must show proof eligibility by  
15 providing a certificate of current membership from the Washington state  
16 council of firefighters.

17 (4) Applicants for initial volunteer firefighters special license  
18 plates must (a) have been a volunteer firefighter for at least ten  
19 years or be a volunteer firefighter for one or more years and (b) have  
20 documentation of service from the district of the appropriate fire  
21 service. If the volunteer firefighter leaves firefighting service  
22 before ten years of service have been completed, the volunteer  
23 firefighter shall surrender the license plates to the department on the  
24 registration renewal date. If the volunteer firefighter stays in  
25 service for at least ten years and then leaves, the license plate may  
26 be retained by the former volunteer firefighter and as long as the  
27 license plate is retained for use the person will continue to pay the  
28 future registration renewals. A qualifying volunteer firefighter may  
29 have no more than one set of license plates per vehicle, and a maximum  
30 of two sets per applicant, for their personal vehicles. If the  
31 volunteer firefighter is convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or  
32 a felony, the license plates must be surrendered upon conviction.

33 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.17.220 and 2013 c 286 s 2 are each amended to read  
34 as follows:

35 (1) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon

1 application for a vehicle registration in chapter 46.16A RCW, the  
 2 holder of a special license plate shall pay the appropriate special  
 3 license plate fee as listed in this section.

4	PLATE TYPE	INITIAL FEE	RENEWAL FEE	DISTRIBUTED UNDER
5	(a) 4-H	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
6	(b) Amateur radio license	\$ 5.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
7	(c) Armed forces	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
8	(d) Baseball stadium	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	Subsection (2) of this
9				section
10	(e) Collector vehicle	\$ 35.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
11	(f) Collegiate	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.430
12	(g) Endangered wildlife	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
13	(h) Gonzaga University	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
14	alumni association			
15	(i) Helping kids speak	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
16	(j) Horseless carriage	\$ 35.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
17	(k) Keep kids safe	\$ 45.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
18	(l) Law enforcement	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
19	memorial			
20	(m) Military affiliate radio	\$ 5.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
21	system			
22	(n) Music matters	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
23	(o) Professional firefighters	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
24	and paramedics			
25	(p) Ride share	\$ 25.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
26	(q) Seattle Seahawks	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
27	(r) Seattle Sounders FC	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
28	(s) Share the road	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
29	(t) Ski & ride Washington	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
30	(u) Square dancer	\$ 40.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
31	(v) State flower	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
32	(w) <u>State tree</u>	<u>\$ 40.00</u>	<u>\$ 30.00</u>	<u>RCW 46.68.420</u>
33	( <u>x</u> ) Volunteer firefighters	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
34	( <del>((x))</del> ) ( <u>y</u> ) Washington	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
35	lighthouses			

1	<del>((y))</del> <u>(z)</u> Washington state	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
2	parks			
3	<del>((z))</del> <u>(aa)</u> Washington's	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
4	national parks			
5	<del>((aa))</del> <u>(bb)</u> Washington's	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
6	wildlife collection			
7	<del>((bb))</del> <u>(cc)</u> We love our	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
8	pets			
9	<del>((ee))</del> <u>(dd)</u> Wild on	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
10	Washington			

11 (2) After deducting administration and collection expenses for the  
12 sale of baseball stadium license plates, the remaining proceeds must be  
13 distributed to a county for the purpose of paying the principal and  
14 interest payments on bonds issued by the county to construct a baseball  
15 stadium, as defined in RCW 82.14.0485, including reasonably necessary  
16 preconstruction costs, while the taxes are being collected under RCW  
17 82.14.360. After this date, the state treasurer shall credit the funds  
18 to the state general fund.

19 **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.68.420 and 2013 c 286 s 3 are each amended to read  
20 as follows:

21 (1) The department shall:

22 (a) Collect special license plate fees established under RCW  
23 46.17.220;

24 (b) Deduct an amount not to exceed twelve dollars for initial issue  
25 and two dollars for renewal issue for administration and collection  
26 expenses incurred by it; and

27 (c) Remit the remaining proceeds to the custody of the state  
28 treasurer with a proper identifying detailed report.

29 (2) The state treasurer shall credit the proceeds to the motor  
30 vehicle account until the department determines that the state has been  
31 reimbursed for the cost of implementing the special license plate.  
32 Upon determination by the department that the state has been  
33 reimbursed, the state treasurer shall credit the remaining special  
34 license plate fee amounts for each special license plate to the  
35 following appropriate account as created in this section in the custody  
36 of the state treasurer:

1	ACCOUNT	CONDITIONS FOR USE OF FUNDS
2	4-H programs	Support Washington 4-H programs
3	Gonzaga University alumni association	Scholarship funds to needy and qualified students
4		attending or planning to attend Gonzaga University
5	Helping kids speak	Provide free diagnostic and therapeutic services to families
6		of children who suffer from a delay in language or speech
7		development
8	Law enforcement memorial	Provide support and assistance to survivors and families of
9		law enforcement officers in Washington killed in the line
10		of duty and to organize, finance, fund, construct, utilize,
11		and maintain a memorial on the state capitol grounds to
12		honor those fallen officers
13	Lighthouse environmental programs	Support selected Washington state lighthouses that are
14		accessible to the public and staffed by volunteers; provide
15		environmental education programs; provide grants for
16		other Washington lighthouses to assist in funding
17		infrastructure preservation and restoration; encourage and
18		support interpretive programs by lighthouse docents
19	Music matters awareness	Promote music education in schools throughout
20		Washington
21	Seattle Seahawks	Provide funds to InvestED to encourage secondary
22		students who have economic needs to stay in school, return
23		to school, or get involved within their learning community

1	Seattle Sounders FC	Provide funds to Washington state mentors and the
2		association of Washington generals created in RCW
3		43.15.030 in the following manner: (a) Seventy percent
4		and the remaining proceeds, if any, to Washington state
5		mentors, to increase the number of mentors in the state by
6		offering mentoring grants throughout Washington state
7		that foster positive youth development and academic
8		success, with up to twenty percent of these proceeds
9		authorized for program administration costs; and (b) up to
10		thirty percent, not to exceed forty-thousand dollars
11		annually as adjusted for inflation by the office of financial
12		management, to the association of Washington generals, to
13		develop Washington state educational, veterans,
14		international relations, and civics projects and to recognize
15		the outstanding public service of individuals or groups in
16		the state of Washington
17	Share the road	Promote bicycle safety and awareness education in
18		communities throughout Washington
19	Ski & ride Washington	Promote winter snowsports, such as skiing and
20		snowboarding, and related programs, such as ski and ride
21		safety programs, underprivileged youth ski and ride
22		programs, and active, healthy lifestyle programs
23	State flower	Support <u>meerkerk rhododendron</u> gardens and provide for
24		grants to other qualified nonprofit organizations' efforts to
25		preserve rhododendrons
26	<u>State tree</u>	<u>Provide funds to support the Washington park arboretum</u>
27		<u>and John A. Finch arboretum in the following manner: (a)</u>
28		<u>Eighty-five percent of the proceeds to the arboretum</u>
29		<u>foundation to support the University of Washington</u>
30		<u>botanic gardens' environmental education programs for</u>
31		<u>children at the Washington park arboretum and to the</u>
32		<u>University of Washington botanic gardens and the city of</u>
33		<u>Seattle for maintenance of the Washington park arboretum;</u>
34		<u>and (b) fifteen percent of the proceeds to the city of</u>
35		<u>Spokane for maintenance of the John A. Finch arboretum</u>

1	Volunteer firefighters	Receive and disseminate funds for purposes on behalf of
2		volunteer firefighters, their families, and others deemed in
3		need
4	Washington state council of firefighters benevolent fund	Receive and disseminate funds for charitable purposes on
5		behalf of members of the Washington state council of
6		firefighters, their families, and others deemed in need
7	Washington's national park fund	Build awareness of Washington's national parks and
8		support priority park programs and projects in
9		Washington's national parks, such as enhancing visitor
10		experience, promoting volunteerism, engaging
11		communities, and providing educational opportunities
12		related to Washington's national parks
13	We love our pets	Support and enable the Washington federation of animal
14		welfare and control agencies to promote and perform
15		spay/neuter surgery of Washington state pets in order to
16		reduce pet population

17 (3) Only the director or the director's designee may authorize  
18 expenditures from the accounts described in subsection (2) of this  
19 section. The accounts are subject to allotment procedures under  
20 chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for  
21 expenditures.

22 (4) Funds in the special license plate accounts described in  
23 subsection (2) of this section must be disbursed subject to the  
24 conditions described in subsection (2) of this section and under  
25 contract between the department and qualified nonprofit organizations  
26 that provide the services described in subsection (2) of this section.

27 (5) For the purposes of this section, a "qualified nonprofit  
28 organization" means a not-for-profit corporation operating in  
29 Washington that has received a determination of tax exempt status under  
30 26 U.S.C. Sec. 501(c)(3). The qualified nonprofit organization must  
31 meet all the requirements under RCW 46.18.100(1).

32 **Sec. 4.** RCW 46.18.060 and 2013 c 306 s 703 and 2013 c 286 s 5 are  
33 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

34 (1) The department must review and either approve or reject special  
35 license plate applications submitted by sponsoring organizations.



1 (2) Duties of the department include, but are not limited to, the  
2 following:

3 (a) Review and approve the annual financial reports submitted by  
4 sponsoring organizations with active special license plate series and  
5 present those annual financial reports to the joint transportation  
6 committee;

7 (b) Report annually to the joint transportation committee on the  
8 special license plate applications that were considered by the  
9 department;

10 (c) Issue approval and rejection notification letters to sponsoring  
11 organizations, the executive committee of the joint transportation  
12 committee, and the legislative sponsors identified in each application.  
13 The letters must be issued within seven days of making a determination  
14 on the status of an application; and

15 (d) Review annually the number of plates sold for each special  
16 license plate series created after January 1, 2003. The department may  
17 submit a recommendation to discontinue a special plate series to the  
18 executive committee of the joint transportation committee.

19 (3) In order to assess the effects and impact of the proliferation  
20 of special license plates, the legislature declares a temporary  
21 moratorium on the issuance of any additional plates until July 1, 2015.  
22 During this period of time, the department is prohibited from  
23 accepting, reviewing, processing, or approving any applications.  
24 Additionally, a special license plate may not be enacted by the  
25 legislature during the moratorium, unless the proposed license plate  
26 has been approved by the former special license plate review board  
27 before February 15, 2005.

28 (4) The limitations under subsection (3) of this section do not  
29 apply to the following special license plates:

30 (a) 4-H license plates created under RCW 46.18.200;

31 (b) Gold star license plates created under RCW 46.18.245;

32 (c) Music Matters license plates created under RCW 46.18.200;

33 (d) Seattle Seahawks license plates created under RCW 46.18.200;

34 (e) Seattle Sounders FC license plates created under RCW 46.18.200;

35 (f) State flower license plates created under RCW 46.18.200;

36 (g) State tree license plates created under RCW 46.18.200;

37 (h) Volunteer firefighter license plates created under RCW  
38 46.18.200.

1        NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 5.**   A new section is added to chapter 46.04 RCW  
2   to read as follows:

3        "State tree license plates" means special license plates issued  
4   under RCW 46.18.200 that display the Washington state tree.

5        NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 6.**   This act takes effect January 1, 2015.

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