

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## EHB 1996

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As Passed Senate - Amended, April 13, 2019

**Title:** An act relating to creating a San Juan Islands stewardship special license plate.

**Brief Description:** Creating a San Juan Islands special license plate.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Lekanoff and Shewmake.

**Brief History:** Passed House: 3/13/19, 95-0.

**Committee Activity:** Transportation: 3/26/19, 4/02/19 [DPA].

**Floor Activity:**

Passed Senate - Amended: 4/13/19, 43-1.

### Brief Summary of Bill (As Amended by Senate)

- Create a new special license plate that displays a symbol or artwork recognizing the San Juan Islands.

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## SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

**Majority Report:** Do pass as amended.

Signed by Senators Hobbs, Chair; Saldaña, Vice Chair; King, Ranking Member; Sheldon, Assistant Ranking Member; Cleveland, Das, Lovelett, Nguyen, O'Ban, Padden, Randall, Takko, Wilson, C. and Zeiger.

**Staff:** Bryon Moore (786-7726)

**Background:** The Department of Licensing (DOL) issues special vehicle license plates that may be used in lieu of standard plates. A governmental or nonprofit sponsoring organization seeking to sponsor a special plate either submits an application to DOL or requests legislation to create the special plate.

Under the DOL application method, the application packet must include the design of the special license plate, proof of 3500 signatures in support of the special license plate, and a start-up fee of \$6,300. For special license plates enacted by the Legislature, a sponsoring

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organization must submit prepayment of all start-up costs to DOL within 30 days of enactment.

The sponsoring organization seeking to sponsor the special plate is required to reimburse DOL for the costs of establishing the new special plate. If the sponsoring organization is not able to meet the prepayment requirement, revenues generated from the sale of the special license plate are first used to pay off any costs associated with establishing the new plate. The sponsoring organization must also provide a proposed license plate design to DOL. The sponsoring organization must submit an annual financial report to DOL detailing actual revenues generated from the sale of the special license plate. The reports are reviewed, approved, and presented to the Joint Transportation Committee.

DOL collects special license plate fees, and for administrative expenses, deducts an amount not to exceed \$12 for new plate issuance and \$2 for renewal. After these expenses are paid, the state treasurer deposits the proceeds into the Motor Vehicle Account until DOL determines the start-up costs for a special license plate are paid. After that point, all remaining proceeds go to the sponsoring organization.

**Summary of Amended Bill:** A new special license plate is created that displays a symbol or artwork recognizing the San Juan Islands. The net proceeds will be distributed to the Madrona Institute. A fee of \$40 will be charged for an initial San Juan Islands stewardship special license plate and \$30 for an annual renewal.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members:** No.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect on October 1, 2019.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony on Engrossed House Bill:** *The committee recommended a different version of the bill than what was heard.* PRO: This special license plate is the result of grassroots community effort. The special license plate and the net proceeds going to the Madrona Institute will support environmentally oriented education programs.

**Persons Testifying:** PRO: Representative Lekanoff, Prime Sponsor.

**Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying:** None.