

REFERENCE TITLE: gold star family license plates

State of Arizona
Senate
Forty-eighth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2008

SB 1083

Introduced by
Senators Waring, Gould; Representative Saradnik

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 28-2351, 28-2403, 28-2405, 28-6501, 28-6991, 28-6993 AND 41-608, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING TITLE 28, CHAPTER 7, ARTICLE 12, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 28-2429; RELATING TO GOLD STAR FAMILY SPECIAL PLATES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 28-2351, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 28-2351. License plate provided; design

5 A. The department shall provide to every owner one license plate for
6 each vehicle registered. At the request of the owner and on payment of any
7 required fee, the department shall provide either one or two license plates
8 for a vehicle for which a special plate is requested pursuant to this
9 chapter, except that the department shall provide one license plate if the
10 special plate is issued pursuant to section 28-2404, 28-2409 or 28-2416.

11 B. The license plate shall display the number assigned to the vehicle
12 and to the owner of the vehicle and the name of this state, which may be
13 abbreviated. The director shall coat the license plate with a reflective
14 material that is consistent with the determination of the license plate
15 commission established by section 28-2405 regarding the color and design of
16 license plates and special plates as prescribed by section 28-2405. The
17 director shall design the license plate and the letters and numerals on the
18 license plate to be of sufficient size to be plainly readable during daylight
19 from a distance of one hundred feet. In addition to the standard license
20 plate issued for a trailer before August 12, 2005, the director shall issue a
21 license plate for trailers that has a design that is similar to the standard
22 size license plate for trailers but that is the same size as the license
23 plate for motorcycles. The trailer owner shall notify the department which
24 size license plate the owner wants for the trailer.

25 C. Notwithstanding any other law, the department shall not contract
26 with a nongovernmental entity to purchase or secure reflective material for
27 the plates issued by the department unless the department has made a
28 reasonable effort to secure qualified bids or proposals from as many
29 individual responsible respondents as possible.

30 D. The license plate commission established by section 28-2405 shall
31 determine the color and design of the license plate. All other plates issued
32 by the department, except the plates issued pursuant to sections 28-2412,
33 28-2413, 28-2414, 28-2416 through ~~28-2428~~ 28-2429, 28-2452, 28-2453, 28-2454
34 and 28-2455 and article 14 of this chapter, shall be the same color as and
35 similar in design to the license plate as determined by the commission.

36 E. A passenger motor vehicle rented without a driver shall receive the
37 same type of license plate as issued for a private passenger motor vehicle.

38 Sec. 2. Section 28-2403, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:
39 28-2403. Special plates; transfers; violation; classification

40 A. Except as otherwise provided in this article, the department shall
41 issue or renew special plates in lieu of the regular license plates pursuant
42 to the following conditions and procedures and only if the requirements
43 prescribed by this article for the requested special plates are met:

44 1. Except as provided in section 28-2416, a person who is the
45 registered owner of a vehicle registered with the department or who applies

1 for an original or renewal registration of a vehicle may submit to the
2 department a completed application form as prescribed by the department with
3 the fee prescribed by section 28-2402 for special plates in addition to the
4 registration fee prescribed by section 28-2003.

5 2. Except for plates issued pursuant to sections 28-2412, 28-2413,
6 28-2414, 28-2416 through ~~28-2428~~ 28-2429, 28-2452, 28-2453, 28-2454 and
7 28-2455 and article 14 of this chapter, the special plates shall be the same
8 color as and similar to the design of the regular license plates that is
9 determined by the license plate commission pursuant to section 28-2351.

10 3. Except as provided in section 28-2416, the department shall issue
11 special plates only to the owner or lessee of a vehicle that is currently
12 registered, including any vehicle that has a declared gross weight, as
13 defined in section 28-5431, of twenty-six thousand pounds or less.

14 4. Except as provided in section 28-2416, the department shall charge
15 the fee prescribed by section 28-2402 for each annual renewal of special
16 plates in addition to the registration fee prescribed by section 28-2003.

17 B. Except as provided in section 28-2416, on notification to the
18 department and on payment of the transfer fee prescribed by section 28-2402,
19 a person who is issued special plates may transfer the special plates to
20 another vehicle the person owns or leases. Persons who are issued special
21 plates for hearing impaired persons pursuant to section 28-2408 and
22 international symbol of access special plates pursuant to section 28-2409 are
23 exempt from the transfer fee. If a person who is issued special plates
24 sells, trades or otherwise releases ownership of the vehicle on which the
25 plates have been displayed, the person shall immediately report the transfer
26 of the plates to the department or the person shall surrender the plates to
27 the department as prescribed by the director. It is unlawful for a person to
28 whom the plates have been issued to knowingly permit them to be displayed on
29 a vehicle except the vehicle authorized by the department.

30 C. The special plates shall be affixed to the vehicle for which
31 registration is sought in lieu of the regular license plates.

32 D. A person is guilty of a class 3 misdemeanor who:

33 1. Violates subsection B of this section.

34 2. Fraudulently gives false or fictitious information in the
35 application for or renewal of special plates or placards issued pursuant to
36 this article.

37 3. Conceals a material fact or otherwise commits fraud in the
38 application for or renewal of special plates or placards issued pursuant to
39 this article.

40 Sec. 3. Section 28-2405, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:
41 ~~28-2405.~~ License plate commission

42 A. A license plate commission is established. The commission is
43 composed of the following members:

44 1. Two public members who are appointed by the director of the
45 department of transportation.

1 2. A person who is appointed by the governor from the governor's
2 office of highway safety and who serves at the pleasure of the governor.

3 3. The director of the department of public safety or the director's
4 designee.

5 4. The director of the department of transportation or the director's
6 designee.

7 5. The director of the office of tourism or the director's designee.

8 6. The director of the state department of corrections or the
9 director's designee.

10 B. The director of the department of transportation or the director's
11 designee shall serve as chairman of the commission. The chairman shall
12 preside at commission meetings and coordinate the activities of the
13 commission and staff implementation of commission actions.

14 C. All official actions of the commission shall be decided by a
15 majority vote of commission members.

16 D. The commission shall determine the following:

17 1. The color and design of license plates.

18 2. The color of special plates to be the same as and the design of
19 special plates to be similar to the license plates, except for special plates
20 issued pursuant to sections 28-2412, 28-2413, 28-2414, 28-2416 through
21 ~~28-2428~~ 28-2429, 28-2452, 28-2453, 28-2454 and 28-2455 and article 14 of this
22 chapter.

23 3. Whether to authorize special organization plates pursuant to
24 section 28-2404.

25 4. The indicia for special organization plates issued pursuant to
26 section 28-2404.

27 E. The department shall provide the commission with staff and
28 technical assistance as necessary to perform its functions.

29 F. Commission members are not eligible to receive compensation, but
30 the members who are appointed pursuant to subsection A, paragraphs 1 and 2 of
31 this section are eligible for reimbursement of expenses pursuant to title 38,
32 chapter 4, article 2.

33 Sec. 4. Title 28, chapter 7, article 12, Arizona Revised Statutes, is
34 amended by adding section 28-2429, to read:

35 28-2429. Gold star family special plates

36 A. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE GOLD STAR FAMILY SPECIAL PLATES TO A
37 PERSON WHO SUBMITS SATISFACTORY PROOF TO THE DEPARTMENT THAT THE PERSON IS AN
38 IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER OF A PERSON WHO DIED IN WAR WHILE ON ACTIVE DUTY IN
39 THE UNITED STATES MILITARY. THE COSTS OF ISSUING THE GOLD STAR FAMILY
40 SPECIAL PLATES SHALL BE PAID BY THE MONIES IN THE VETERANS' DONATIONS FUND
41 ESTABLISHED BY SECTION 41-608. THE DEPARTMENT IN COOPERATION WITH AN
42 ORGANIZATION FORMED FOR THE SUPPORT OF MOTHERS WHO HAVE HAD CHILDREN DIE IN
43 WAR WHILE ON ACTIVE DUTY IN THE UNITED STATES MILITARY SHALL DESIGN THE GOLD
44 STAR FAMILY SPECIAL PLATE. THE DIRECTOR MAY ALLOW A REQUEST FOR GOLD STAR
45 FAMILY SPECIAL PLATES TO BE COMBINED WITH A REQUEST FOR PERSONALIZED SPECIAL

1 PLATES. IF THE DIRECTOR ALLOWS SUCH A COMBINATION, THE REQUEST SHALL BE IN A
2 FORM PRESCRIBED BY THE DIRECTOR AND IS SUBJECT TO THE FEES FOR THE
3 PERSONALIZED SPECIAL PLATES IN ADDITION TO THE FEES REQUIRED FOR GOLD STAR
4 FAMILY SPECIAL PLATES.

5 B. OF THE TWENTY-FIVE DOLLAR FEE REQUIRED BY SECTION 28-2402 FOR THE
6 ORIGINAL SPECIAL PLATES AND FOR RENEWAL OF SPECIAL PLATES, EIGHT DOLLARS IS A
7 SPECIAL PLATE ADMINISTRATION FEE AND SEVENTEEN DOLLARS IS AN ANNUAL DONATION.

8 C. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEPOSIT, PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 35-146 AND
9 35-147, ALL SPECIAL PLATE ADMINISTRATION FEES IN THE STATE HIGHWAY FUND
10 ESTABLISHED BY SECTION 28-6991 AND ALL DONATIONS COLLECTED PURSUANT TO THIS
11 SECTION IN THE VETERANS' DONATIONS FUND ESTABLISHED BY SECTION 41-608.

12 Sec. 5. Section 28-6501, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:
13 28-6501. Definition of highway user revenues

14 In this article, unless the context otherwise requires or except as
15 otherwise provided by statute, "highway user revenues" means all monies
16 received in this state from licenses, taxes, penalties, interest and fees
17 authorized by the following:

18 1. Chapters 2, 7, 8 and 15 of this title, except for:

19 (a) The special plate administration fees prescribed in sections
20 28-2404, 28-2412 through ~~28-2428~~ 28-2429 and 28-2514.

21 (b) The donations prescribed in sections 28-2404, 28-2412 through
22 28-2415, 28-2417 through ~~28-2428~~ 28-2429, 28-2453, 28-2454 and 28-2455.

23 2. Chapters 10 and 11 of this title.

24 3. Chapter 16, articles 1, 2 and 4 of this title, except as provided
25 in sections 28-5926 and 28-5927.

26 Sec. 6. Section 28-6991, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:
27 28-6991. State highway fund: sources

28 A state highway fund is established that consists of:

29 1. Monies distributed from the Arizona highway user revenue fund
30 pursuant to chapter 18 of this title.

31 2. Monies appropriated by the legislature.

32 3. Monies received from donations for the construction, improvement or
33 maintenance of state highways or bridges. These monies shall be credited to
34 a special account and shall be spent only for the purpose indicated by the
35 donor.

36 4. Monies received from counties under cooperative agreements,
37 including proceeds from bond issues. The state treasurer shall deposit these
38 monies to the credit of the fund in a special account on delivery to the
39 treasurer of a concise written agreement between the department and the
40 county stating the purposes for which the monies are surrendered by the
41 county, and these monies shall be spent only as stated in the agreement.

42 5. Monies received from the United States under an act of Congress to
43 provide aid for the construction of rural post roads, but monies received on
44 projects for which the monies necessary to be provided by this state are
45 wholly derived from sources mentioned in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this section

1 shall be allotted by the department and deposited by the state treasurer in
2 the special account within the fund established for each project. On
3 completion of the project, on the satisfaction and discharge in full of all
4 obligations of any kind created and on request of the department, the
5 treasurer shall transfer the unexpended balance in the special account for
6 the project into the state highway fund, and the unexpended balance and any
7 further federal aid thereafter received on account of the project may be
8 spent under the general provisions of this title.

9 6. Monies in the custody of an officer or agent of this state from any
10 source that is to be used for the construction, improvement or maintenance of
11 state highways or bridges.

12 7. Monies deposited in the state general fund and arising from the
13 disposal of state personal property belonging to the department.

14 8. Receipts from the sale or disposal of any or all other property
15 held by the department and purchased with state highway monies.

16 9. Monies generated pursuant to section 28-410.

17 10. Monies distributed pursuant to section 28-5808, subsection B,
18 paragraph 2, subdivision (d).

19 11. Monies deposited pursuant to sections 28-1143, 28-2353 and 28-3003.

20 12. Except as provided in section 28-5101, the following monies:

21 (a) Monies deposited pursuant to section 28-2206 and section 28-5808,
22 subsection B, paragraph 2, subdivision (e).

23 (b) One dollar of each registration fee and one dollar of each title
24 fee collected pursuant to section 28-2003.

25 (c) Two dollars of each late registration penalty collected by the
26 director pursuant to section 28-2162.

27 (d) The air quality compliance fee collected pursuant to section
28 49-542.

29 (e) The special plate administration fees collected pursuant to
30 sections 28-2404, 28-2412 through ~~28-2428~~ 28-2429 and 28-2514.

31 (f) Monies collected pursuant to sections 28-372, 28-2155 and 28-2156
32 if the director is the registering officer.

33 13. Monies deposited pursuant to chapter 5, article 5 of this title.

34 14. Donations received pursuant to section 28-2269.

35 15. Dealer and registration monies collected pursuant to section
36 28-4304.

37 16. Abandoned vehicle administration monies deposited pursuant to
38 section 28-4804.

39 17. Monies deposited pursuant to section 28-710, subsection D,
40 paragraph 2.

41 Sec. 7. Section 28-6993, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:
42 28-6993. State highway fund; authorized uses

43 A. Except as provided in subsection B of this section and section
44 28-6538, the state highway fund shall be used for any of the following

1 purposes in strict conformity with and subject to the budget as provided by
2 this section and by sections 28-6997 through 28-7003:

3 1. To pay salaries, wages, necessary travel expenses and other
4 expenses of officers and employees of the department and the incidental
5 office expenses, including telegraph, telephone, postal and express charges
6 and printing, stationery and advertising expenses.

7 2. To pay for both:

8 (a) Equipment, supplies, machines, tools, department offices and
9 laboratories established by the department.

10 (b) The construction and repair of buildings or yards of the
11 department.

12 3. To pay the cost of both:

13 (a) Engineering, construction, improvement and maintenance of state
14 highways and parts of highways forming state routes.

15 (b) Highways under cooperative agreements with the United States that
16 are entered into pursuant to this chapter and an act of Congress providing
17 for the construction of rural post roads.

18 4. To pay land damages incurred by reason of establishing, opening,
19 altering, relocating, widening or abandoning portions of a state route or
20 state highway.

21 5. To reimburse the department revolving account.

22 6. To pay premiums on authorized indemnity bonds and on compensation
23 insurance under the workers' compensation act.

24 7. To defray lawful expenses and costs required to administer and
25 carry out the intent, purposes and provisions of this title, including
26 repayment of obligations entered into pursuant to this title, payment of
27 interest on obligations entered into pursuant to this title, repayment of
28 loans and other financial assistance, including repayment of advances and
29 interest on advances made to the department pursuant to section 28-7677, and
30 payment of all other obligations and expenses of the board and department
31 pursuant to chapter 21 of this title.

32 8. To pay lawful bills and charges incurred by the state engineer.

33 9. To acquire, construct or improve entry roads to state parks or
34 roads within state parks.

35 10. To acquire, construct or improve entry roads to state prisons.

36 11. To pay the cost of relocating a utility facility pursuant to
37 section 28-7156.

38 12. For the purposes provided in subsections C, D and E of this section
39 and sections 28-1143, 28-2353 and 28-3003.

40 B. For each fiscal year, the department of transportation shall
41 allocate and transfer monies in the state highway fund to the department of
42 public safety for funding a portion of highway patrol costs in eight
43 installments in each of the first eight months of a fiscal year that do not
44 exceed ten million dollars.

1 C. Subject to legislative appropriation, the department may use the
2 monies in the state highway fund as prescribed in section 28-6991, paragraph
3 12 to carry out the duties imposed by this title for registration or titling
4 of vehicles, to operate joint title, registration and driver licensing
5 offices, to cover the administrative costs of issuing the air quality
6 compliance sticker, modifying the year validating tab and issuing the
7 windshield sticker and to cover expenses and costs in issuing special plates
8 pursuant to sections 28-2404, 28-2412 through ~~28-2428~~ 28-2429 and 28-2514.

9 D. The department shall use monies deposited in the state highway fund
10 pursuant to chapter 5, article 5 of this title only as prescribed by that
11 article.

12 E. Monies deposited in the state highway fund pursuant to section
13 28-2269 shall be used only as prescribed by that section.

14 F. Monies deposited in the state highway fund pursuant to section
15 28-710, subsection D, paragraph 2 shall only be used for state highway work
16 zone traffic control devices.

17 G. The department may exchange monies distributed to the state highway
18 fund pursuant to section 28-6538, subsection A, paragraph 1 for local
19 government surface transportation program federal monies suballocated to
20 councils of government and metropolitan planning organizations if the local
21 government scheduled to receive the federal monies concurs. An exchange of
22 state highway fund monies pursuant to this subsection shall be in an amount
23 that is at least equal to ninety per cent of the federal obligation authority
24 that exists in the project for which the exchange is proposed.

25 Sec. 8. Section 41-608, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:
26 41-608. Veterans' donations fund

27 A. The veterans' donations fund is established consisting of monies,
28 gifts and contributions donated to the department and monies deposited
29 pursuant to sections 28-2414, 28-2428, ~~28-2429~~, 28-2453, 28-2454, 28-2455 and
30 43-620. The department shall administer the fund. Monies in the fund are
31 continuously appropriated. The monies in the fund are exempt from the
32 provisions of section 35-190 relating to lapsing of appropriations.

33 B. The director or the director's designee may solicit and receive
34 donations, including in-kind donations, from the public for veterans. The
35 director shall deposit, pursuant to sections 35-146 and 35-147, the monetary
36 donations in the veterans' donations fund. Monies in the fund are subject to
37 state auditing procedures. The donations may be used for the benefit of the
38 veterans within the state of Arizona at the discretion of the director.

39 C. The director shall inventory and account for the use of any
40 tangible personal property donated to the fund.

41 D. On notice from the director, the state treasurer shall invest and
42 divest monies in the fund as provided by section 35-313, and monies earned
43 from investment shall be credited to the fund.