

CHAPTER 2026-30

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 246

An act relating to specialty license plates; amending s. 320.08053, F.S.; requiring certain organizations that have an approved specialty license plate to submit within a specified timeframe certain financial information to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; providing for the deauthorization of certain specialty license plates if the organization receiving the annual use fees does not submit the required financial information to the department within the specified timeframe; requiring the department to submit an annual report to the Governor and Legislature by a specified date; amending s. 320.08056, F.S.; prohibiting specialty license plate annual use fees or interest earned from such fees from being distributed to certain entities; amending s. 320.08058, F.S.; requiring the department to develop an Endless Summer motorcycle specialty license plate; specifying a design requirement for the plate; requiring that the number of valid Endless Summer motor vehicle and motorcycle specialty license plates be added together for purposes of a certain determination; revising provisions relating to the issuance and fee distribution for Fraternal Order of Police license plates; directing the department to develop specified specialty license plates; providing for distribution and use of fees collected from the sale of the plates; amending s. 320.08062, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsections (2), (3), and (4) of section 320.08053, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (4), (5), and (6), respectively, subsection (1) is amended, and new subsections (2) and (3) are added to that section, to read:

320.08053 Establishment of specialty license plates.—

(1) If a specialty license plate requested by an organization is approved by law, the organization must submit ~~the proposed art design for the specialty license plate~~ to the department, as soon as practicable but no later than 60 days after the act approving the specialty license plate becomes a law:

(a) The proposed art design for the specialty license plate.

(b) A 5-year financial projection that:

1. Outlines anticipated revenues and planned expenditures of the revenues to be derived from the sale of the requested specialty license plate.

2. Provides a list of administrative expenses that the approved specialty license plate organization anticipates, if such expenses are authorized by s. 320.08058.

3. Provides a list of third parties to which the approved specialty license plate organization plans to transfer, convey, or otherwise distribute the specialty license plate annual use fees in a medium prescribed by the department, as soon as practicable, but no later than 60 days after the act approving the specialty license plate becomes a law.

(2) If the financial projection required in paragraph (1)(b) is not received by the department from the approved specialty license plate organization within the timeframe specified in subsection (1), then the specialty license plate is deauthorized.

(3) By December 31 of each year, the department must submit a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives summarizing the financial projections submitted to the department pursuant to paragraph (1)(b). The report must also include the department's notification regarding the status of organizations whose revenues have been withheld as provided in s. 320.08062(2)(d).

Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (10) and subsection (12) of section 320.08056, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.08056 Specialty license plates.—

(10)(a) A specialty license plate annual use fee collected and distributed under this chapter, or any interest earned from those fees, may be distributed to either a domestic corporation as defined in s. 617.01401(4) that has filed its articles of incorporation with the Department of State pursuant to chapter 617 or a foreign corporation as defined in s. 617.01401 that has complied with s. 617.1503 and is authorized to conduct its affairs in Florida. Such corporations authorized by law to collect annual use fees from a specialty license plate may not:

1. Transfer, convey, or otherwise distribute the annual use fees or any interest earned from those fees to any third party unless the third party is a domestic corporation as defined in s. 617.01401(4) which has filed its articles of incorporation with the Department of State pursuant to chapter 617 or a foreign corporation as defined in s. 617.01401 which has complied with s. 617.1503 and is authorized to conduct its affairs in Florida.

2. Use the annual use fees or any interest earned from those fees Be used for commercial or for-profit activities nor for general or administrative expenses, except as authorized by s. 320.08058 or to pay the cost of the audit or report required by s. 320.08062(1).

3. Expend the annual use fees or ~~The fees and~~ any interest earned from the fees ~~outside may be expended only for use in~~ this state unless the annual use fee is derived from the sale of United States Armed Forces and veterans-

related specialty license plates pursuant to paragraph (3)(d) for the Support Our Troops, American Legion, and Honor Flight license plates; paragraphs (4)(b), (q), and (v) for the Florida Salutes Veterans, United States Marine Corps, and Military Services license plates, respectively; and s. 320.0891 for the U.S. Paratrooper license plate.

(12) Notwithstanding s. 320.08058(3)(a), the department, in cooperation with the independent colleges or universities as described in s. 1009.89, shall create a standard template specialty license plate with a unique logo or graphic identifying each independent college or university. Each independent college or university may elect to use this standard template specialty license plate in lieu of its own specialty license plate. Annual use fees from the sale of these license plates shall be distributed to the independent college or university for which the logo or graphic is displayed on the license plate and shall be used as provided in s. 320.08058(3). An independent college or university opting to use the standard template specialty license plate shall have the standard template specialty license plate sales added to the total number of remaining current valid registrations under paragraph (8)(a) for the formerly separate independent college and university license plates which were issued before the independent college or university elected to use the standard template specialty license plate for purposes of the standard template specialty license plate meeting the minimum license plate sales threshold in paragraph (8)(a) and for determining the license plate limit in s. 320.08053(5)(b) ~~s. 320.08053(3)(b)~~. Specialty license plates created pursuant to this subsection must be ordered directly from the department. If the independent college or university elects to use the standard template specialty license plate, the department shall discontinue the existing specialty license plate and, notwithstanding paragraph (8)(c), shall continue to collect the applicable specialty license plate annual use fee under paragraph (3)(d) or subsection (4) for the remainder of the 10-year license plate replacement period for the existing plate being discontinued or being replaced with the standard template specialty license plate.

Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3), subsections (66) and (67), paragraph (a) of subsection (71), paragraph (a) of subsection (72), paragraph (a) of subsection (73), paragraph (a) of subsection (74), paragraph (a) of subsection (75), paragraph (a) of subsection (76), paragraph (a) of subsection (77), paragraph (a) of subsection (78), and paragraph (d) of subsection (101) of section 320.08058, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsections (136) through (143) are added to that section, to read:

320.08058 Specialty license plates.—

(3) COLLEGIATE LICENSE PLATES.—

(a) The department shall develop a collegiate license plate as provided in this section for state and independent universities domiciled in this state. However, any collegiate license plate created or established after October 1, 2002, must comply with the requirements of s. 320.08053, other than the presale voucher requirements in s. 320.08053(4)(b) ~~s. 320.08053(2)(b)~~, and

be specifically authorized by an act of the Legislature. Collegiate license plates must bear the colors and design approved by the department as appropriate for each state and independent university. The word “Florida” must be stamped across the bottom of the plate in small letters.

(66) ENDLESS SUMMER LICENSE PLATES.—

(a) The department shall develop an Endless Summer license plate for display on a motor vehicle and for display on a motorcycle as provided in this section. Endless Summer license plates must bear the colors and design approved by the department. The word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate, and the words “Endless Summer” must appear at the bottom of the plate. Any department-approved image must be placed on the far left side of a plate for display on a motorcycle.

(b) The license plate annual use fees shall be distributed to Surfing’s Evolution & Preservation Corporation to fund its activities, programs, and projects aimed at preserving the sport of surfing. Surfing’s Evolution & Preservation Corporation may retain all revenue from the annual use fees until all startup costs for developing and establishing the plate have been recovered. Thereafter, up to 10 percent of the annual use fee revenue may be used for promotion and marketing of the specialty license plate and administrative costs directly associated with the corporation’s programs and the specialty license plate. Surfing’s Evolution & Preservation Corporation shall use the remaining funds as follows:

1. To fund the proposed Surfing’s Evolution & Preservation Experience project.

2. To provide funds for the provision of lifeguards or the building of artificial reefs.

3. To provide funds to organizations that house the history and artifacts of surfing or promote the sport through exhibits, lectures, and events.

4. To support programs and events of other organizations that support beaches and oceans and promote education on beach safety, coastal pollution, and beach ecology.

(c) The number of valid specialty license plates issued for display on a motor vehicle and for display on a motorcycle must be added together to determine whether the specialty license plate must be discontinued pursuant to s. 320.08056(8)(a).

(67) FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE LICENSE PLATES.—

(a)~~1~~. The department shall develop a Fraternal Order of Police license plate as provided in this section. The plate must bear the colors and design approved by the department. The word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate, and the words “Fraternal Order of Police” must appear at the bottom of the plate.

~~2.—The department may issue the plate only to an applicant who submits a notarized letter from the Florida State Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police stating that the applicant is a member of the lodge in good standing or a member of a lodge member’s family, together with other fees and documents required for a specialty plate.~~

~~(b) The annual use fees shall be distributed to the Florida State Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police, which shall retain all proceeds until the startup costs to develop and establish the plate have been recovered. Thereafter, the proceeds shall be distributed to the Florida State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police Memorial Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit corporation under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, which shall distribute funds according to its articles of incorporation of the Fraternal Order of Police and used as follows:~~

~~1.—A maximum of 10 percent of the proceeds may be used to promote and market the plate, to administer the license plate program, and to pay administrative costs directly associated with the state Fraternal Order of Police Law Enforcement Memorial.~~

~~2.—The remaining proceeds shall be used by the foundation to fund projects, programs, or events related to the memorial or to fund improvements, maintenance, or other support for the memorial.~~

(71) FREEMASONRY LICENSE PLATES.—

(a) Notwithstanding s. 45, chapter 2008-176, Laws of Florida, as amended by s. 21, chapter 2010-223, Laws of Florida, the department shall develop a Freemasonry license plate as provided in this section and s. 320.08053(1) and (4) ~~s. 320.08053(1) and (2)~~. The word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate, and the words “In God We Trust” must appear at the bottom of the plate.

(72) AMERICAN LEGION LICENSE PLATES.—

(a) Notwithstanding s. 45, chapter 2008-176, Laws of Florida, as amended by s. 21, chapter 2010-223, Laws of Florida, the department shall develop an American Legion license plate as provided in s. 320.08053(1) and (4) ~~s. 320.08053(1) and (2)~~ and this section. The plate must bear the colors and design approved by the department. The word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate, and the words “American Legion” must appear at the bottom of the plate.

(73) LAUREN’S KIDS LICENSE PLATES.—

(a) Notwithstanding s. 45, chapter 2008-176, Laws of Florida, as amended by s. 21, chapter 2010-223, Laws of Florida, the department shall develop a Lauren’s Kids, Prevent Child Sexual Abuse license plate as provided in s. 320.08053(1) and (4) ~~s. 320.08053(1) and (2)~~ and this section. The plate must bear the colors and design approved by the department. The

word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate, and the words “Lauren’s Kids” must appear at the bottom of the plate.

(74) BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS LICENSE PLATES.—

(a) Notwithstanding s. 45, chapter 2008-176, Laws of Florida, as amended by s. 21, chapter 2010-223, Laws of Florida, the department shall develop a Big Brothers Big Sisters license plate as provided in s. 320.08053(1) and (4) ~~s. 320.08053(1) and (2)~~ and this section. The plate must bear the colors and design approved by the department. The word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate, and the words “Big Brothers Big Sisters” must appear at the bottom of the plate.

(75) FALLEN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS LICENSE PLATES.

(a) Notwithstanding s. 45, chapter 2008-176, Laws of Florida, as amended by s. 21, chapter 2010-223, Laws of Florida, the department shall develop a Fallen Law Enforcement Officers license plate as provided in s. 320.08053(1) and (4) ~~s. 320.08053(1) and (2)~~ and this section. The plate must bear the colors and design approved by the department. The word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate, and the words “A Hero Remembered Never Dies” must appear at the bottom of the plate.

(76) FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION LICENSE PLATES.—

(a) Notwithstanding s. 45, chapter 2008-176, Laws of Florida, as amended by s. 21, chapter 2010-223, Laws of Florida, the department shall develop a Florida Sheriffs Association license plate as provided in s. 320.08053(1) and (4) ~~s. 320.08053(1) and (2)~~ and this section. The plate must bear the colors and design approved by the department. A sheriff’s star must appear on the left side of the plate, the word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate, and the words “Florida Sheriffs Association” must appear at the bottom of the plate.

(77) KEISER UNIVERSITY LICENSE PLATES.—

(a) Notwithstanding s. 45, chapter 2008-176, Laws of Florida, as amended by s. 21, chapter 2010-223, Laws of Florida, the department shall develop a Keiser University license plate as provided in s. 320.08053(1) and (4) ~~s. 320.08053(1) and (2)~~ and this section. The plate must bear the colors and design approved by the department. The word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate, and the words “Keiser University” must appear at the bottom of the plate.

(78) MOFFITT CANCER CENTER LICENSE PLATES.—

(a) Notwithstanding s. 45, chapter 2008-176, Laws of Florida, as amended by s. 21, chapter 2010-223, Laws of Florida, the department shall develop a Moffitt Cancer Center license plate as provided in s. 320.08053(1) and (4) ~~s. 320.08053(1) and (2)~~ and this section. The word

“Florida” must appear at the top of the plate, and the words “Moffitt Cancer Center” must appear at the bottom of the plate.

(101) DIVINE NINE LICENSE PLATES.—

(d) A Divine Nine license plate:

1. May be personalized.
2. May not be transferred between vehicle owners.

License plates created pursuant to this subsection shall have their plate sales combined for the purpose of meeting the minimum license plate sales threshold in s. 320.08056(8)(a) and for determining the license plate limit in s. ~~320.08053(5)(b)~~ s. ~~320.08053(3)(b)~~. License plates created pursuant to this subsection must be ordered directly from the department.

(136) MIAMI NORTHWESTERN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION LICENSE PLATES.—

(a) The department shall develop a Miami Northwestern Alumni Association license plate as provided in this section and s. 320.08053. The plate must bear the colors and design approved by the department. The word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate, and the words “Miami Northwestern Alumni Association” must appear at the bottom of the plate.

(b) The annual use fees from the sale of the plate must be distributed to the Miami Northwestern Alumni Association, Inc., which may use up to 10 percent of the fees for administrative costs and marketing of the plate. The balance of the fees must be used by the Miami Northwestern Alumni Association, Inc., to fund academic programs, athletic programs, and need-based scholarships for the benefit of Miami Northwestern Senior High School students and the Miami Northwestern Senior High School Performing and Visual Arts Center.

(137) CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL LICENSE PLATES.—

(a) The department shall develop a Christopher Columbus High School license plate as provided in this section and s. 320.08053. The plate must bear the colors and design approved by the department. The word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate, and the words “Christopher Columbus High School” must appear at the bottom of the plate.

(b) The annual use fees from the sale of the plate must be distributed to Christopher Columbus High School, Inc., which may use up to 10 percent of the fees for administrative costs and marketing of the plate. The balance of the fees must be used by Christopher Columbus High School, Inc., to fund academic programs, athletic programs, and need-based scholarships for the benefit of Christopher Columbus High School students.

(138) ULTIMATE FIGHTING CHAMPIONSHIP (UFC) LICENSE PLATES.—

(a) The department shall develop an Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) license plate as provided in this section and s. 320.08053. The plate must bear the colors and design approved by the department. The word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate, and the words “UFC Lives Here” must appear at the bottom of the plate.

(b) The annual use fees from the sale of the plate must be distributed to the UFC Foundation, a nonprofit corporation under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, which may use up to 10 percent of the proceeds to promote and market the plate. The UFC Foundation shall use the remainder of the proceeds to support charities and nonprofits in this state which align with the foundation’s mission and goals, such as children’s hospitals, support for first responders and the military, and youth advocacy and mentorship, and to fund the development and operation of youth mentorship programs in partnership with local law enforcement agencies.

(139) UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY LICENSE PLATES.—

(a) The department shall develop a United States Naval Academy license plate as provided in this section and s. 320.08053. The plate must bear the colors and design approved by the department. The word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate, and the words “Go Navy, Beat Army!” must appear at the bottom of the plate.

(b) The annual use fees from the sale of the plate must be distributed to the Jacksonville Chapter of the Naval Academy Alumni Association, which may use up to 10 percent of the fees for administrative costs related to promotion and marketing of the plate. The chapter shall use the remaining fees to provide grants to charitable organizations in this state which directly support veterans and their families for purposes including, but not limited to:

1. Providing food or shelter.
2. Providing service animals or support animals to wounded veterans.
3. Supporting children of servicemembers killed in the line of duty.

(140) UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY LICENSE PLATES.—

(a) The department shall develop a United States Military Academy license plate as provided in this section and s. 320.08053. The plate must bear the colors and design approved by the department. The word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate, and the words “Go Army, Beat Navy!” must appear at the bottom of the plate.

(b) The annual use fees from the sale of the plate must be distributed to Bay Area Legal Services, Inc., which may use up to 10 percent of the fees for

administrative costs related to promotion and marketing of the plate. The balance of the fees must be used by Bay Area Legal Services, Inc., to fund the Florida Veterans Legal Helpline.

(141) MIAMI DADE COLLEGE LICENSE PLATES.—

(a) The department shall develop a Miami Dade College license plate as provided in this section and s. 320.08053. The plate must bear the colors and design approved by the department. The word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate, and the words “Miami Dade College” must appear at the bottom of the plate.

(b) The annual use fees from the sale of the plate must be distributed to the Miami Dade College Foundation, Inc., which may use up to 10 percent of the fees for administrative costs and marketing of the plate. The balance of the fees must be used by the Miami Dade College Foundation, Inc., to fund student scholarships.

(142) FLORIDA FILM LEGACY LICENSE PLATES.—

(a) The department shall develop a Florida Film Legacy license plate as provided in this section and s. 320.08053. The plate must bear the colors and design approved by the department in consultation with Feature Florida Partnerships, Inc. The word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate, and the words “Film Legacy” must appear at the bottom of the plate.

(b) The annual use fees from the sale of the plate must be distributed to Feature Florida Partnerships, Inc., a nonprofit corporation under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. By September 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, Feature Florida Partnerships, Inc., must submit a financial report to the department detailing the use of such fees during the preceding fiscal year.

(143) ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE LICENSE PLATES.—

(a) The department shall develop a St. Petersburg College license plate as provided in this section and s. 320.08053. The plate must bear the colors and design approved by the department. The word “Florida” must appear at the top of the plate, and the words “St. Petersburg College” must appear at the bottom of the plate.

(b) The annual use fees from the sale of the plate must be distributed to the St. Petersburg College Foundation, Inc., and allocated as follows:

- 1. Ten percent may be used for administrative costs related to the promotion and marketing of the plate.
- 2. Forty percent must be dedicated to funding student scholarships to ensure access to quality education for students in need.

3. Fifty percent must be used to fund initiatives that embolden student success, particularly in emerging technologies and workforce development programs, to prepare students for high-demand careers and the future economy.

Section 4. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 320.08062, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.08062 Audits and attestations required; annual use fees of specialty license plates.—

(2)

(d) If an organization fails to comply with the department’s recommendations and corrective actions as outlined in paragraph (c), the revenue distributions shall be discontinued until completion of the next regular session of the Legislature. By December 31 of each year and as part of the report required in s. 320.08053(3), the department shall notify the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives ~~by the first day of the next regular session~~ of any organization whose revenues have been withheld as a result of this paragraph. If the Legislature does not provide direction to the organization and the department regarding the status of the undistributed revenues, the department shall deauthorize the plate and the undistributed revenues shall be immediately deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund.

Section 5. This act shall take effect October 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor April 10, 2026.

Filed in Office Secretary of State April 10, 2026.