

**Second Regular Session
Seventy-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 22-0016.01 Jery Payne x2157

HOUSE BILL 22-1048

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Baisley, Holtorf, Pico, Rich, Van Beber

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Kirkmeyer, Hisey, Priola, Woodward

House Committees

Finance
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE CREATION OF THE "IN GOD WE TRUST" LICENSE**
102 **PLATE, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN**
103 **APPROPRIATION.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill creates the "In God We Trust" license plate for motor vehicles. In addition to the normal fees for a license plate, a person must pay 2 additional one-time fees for the issuance of the plate. One of these fees is credited to the highway users tax fund and the other fee is credited to the licensing services cash fund.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 42-3-261 as
3 follows:

4 **42-3-261. Special plates - In God We Trust.** (1) BEGINNING ON
5 THE EARLIER OF JANUARY 1, 2023, OR WHEN THE DEPARTMENT IS ABLE TO
6 ISSUE THE PLATES, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE SPECIAL LICENSE
7 PLATES TO QUALIFIED APPLICANTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION
8 FOR MOTORCYCLES, PASSENGER CARS, TRUCKS, OR NONCOMMERCIAL OR
9 RECREATIONAL MOTOR VEHICLES THAT DO NOT EXCEED SIXTEEN
10 THOUSAND POUNDS EMPTY WEIGHT.

11 (2) (a) THERE IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED THE "IN GOD WE TRUST"
12 LICENSE PLATE.

13 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DESIGN THE PLATE IN COOPERATION
14 AND CONSULTATION WITH INTERESTED PERSONS AND TO FEATURE THE
15 STATEMENT "IN GOD WE TRUST".

16 (3) THE AMOUNT OF THE TAXES AND FEES FOR SPECIAL LICENSE
17 PLATES UNDER THIS SECTION IS THE SAME AS THE AMOUNT OF THE TAXES
18 AND FEES FOR REGULAR MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE PLATES; EXCEPT THAT
19 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COLLECT AN ADDITIONAL ONE-TIME FEE OF
20 TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS FOR ISSUANCE OR REPLACEMENT OF THE LICENSE
21 PLATE. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL TRANSMIT THE ADDITIONAL ONE-TIME
22 FEE TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE FEE TO THE
23 HIGHWAY USERS TAX FUND CREATED IN SECTION 43-4-201.

24 (4) AN APPLICANT MAY APPLY FOR PERSONALIZED "IN GOD WE
25 TRUST" LICENSE PLATES. UPON PAYMENT OF THE ADDITIONAL FEE
26 REQUIRED BY SECTION 42-3-211 (6)(a) FOR PERSONALIZED LICENSE

1 PLATES, THE DEPARTMENT MAY ISSUE THE PLATES IF THE APPLICANT
2 COMPLIES WITH SECTION 42-3-211. IF AN APPLICANT HAS EXISTING
3 PERSONALIZED LICENSE PLATES FOR A MOTOR VEHICLE, THE APPLICANT
4 MAY TRANSFER THE COMBINATION OF LETTERS OR NUMBERS TO A NEW SET
5 OF "IN GOD WE TRUST" LICENSE PLATES FOR THE VEHICLE UPON PAYING
6 THE FEE REQUIRED BY SECTION 42-3-211 (6)(a) AND UPON TURNING IN THE
7 EXISTING PLATES TO THE DEPARTMENT. A PERSON WHO HAS OBTAINED
8 PERSONALIZED LICENSE PLATES UNDER THIS SUBSECTION (4) MUST PAY
9 THE ANNUAL FEE IMPOSED BY SECTION 42-3-211 (6)(b) TO RENEW THE
10 PERSONALIZED PLATES. THE FEES UNDER THIS SUBSECTION (4) ARE IN
11 ADDITION TO ALL OTHER APPLICABLE TAXES AND FEES.

12 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 42-3-312 as
13 follows:

14 **42-3-312. Special license plate surcharge.** In addition to any
15 other fee imposed by this article 3, an applicant for a special license plate
16 created by rule in accordance with section 42-3-207, as the section existed
17 when the plate was created, or special license plates issued pursuant to
18 sections 42-3-211 to 42-3-214, sections 42-3-217 to 42-3-218, sections
19 42-3-221 to 42-3-234, sections 42-3-237 to 42-3-258, and ~~section~~
20 ~~42-3-260~~ SECTIONS 42-3-260 AND 42-3-261 shall pay an issuance fee of
21 twenty-five dollars; except that the fee is not imposed on special license
22 plates exempted from additional fees for the issuance of a military special
23 license plate by section 42-3-213 (1)(b)(II). The department shall transfer
24 the fee to the state treasurer, who shall credit it to the licensing services
25 cash fund created in section 42-2-114.5.

26 **SECTION 3. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2022-23 state fiscal
27 year, \$41,734 is appropriated to the department of revenue for use by the

1 division of motor vehicles. This appropriation consists of \$14,838 general
2 fund and \$26,896 from the license plate cash fund created in section
3 42-3-301 (1)(b), C.R.S. To implement this act, the department may use
4 this appropriation as follows:

5 (a) \$9,798 from the general fund for DRIVES maintenance and
6 support;

7 (b) \$3,061 from the general fund for use by the executive director's
8 office for personal services related to administration and support;

9 (c) \$1,979 from the general fund for the purchase of information
10 technology services; and

11 (d) \$26,896 from the license plate cash fund for use by vehicle
12 services for license plate ordering.

13 (2) For the 2022-23 state fiscal year, \$1,979 is appropriated to the
14 office of the governor for use by the office of information technology.
15 This appropriation is from reappropriated funds received from the
16 department of revenue under subsection (1)(c) of this section. To
17 implement this act, the office may use this appropriation to provide
18 information technology services for the department of revenue.

19 **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
20 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
21 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
22 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
23 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
24 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
25 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
26 November 2022 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
27 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.