

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 24-0677.01 Clare Haffner x6137

HOUSE BILL 24-1112

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Evans, Martinez

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

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House Committees  
Finance

Senate Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING A SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE TO HONOR FIRST RESPONDERS  
102 WHO HAVE A DISABILITY.

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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 a special license plate to honor first responders who have a permanent occupational disability (first responder). A first responder may obtain a special license plate without paying taxes or fees for the plate or the vehicle. For additional vehicles, a first responder must pay the standard motor vehicle fees plus 2 one-time fees of \$25. One fee is credited to the highway users tax fund and the other fee is credited to

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

the licensing services cash fund. An individual may obtain the license plate with the identifying figure that allows the use of reserved parking for people with disabilities.

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 42-3-270 as  
3 follows:

4           **42-3-270. Special plates - first responder with a permanent**  
5 **occupational disability - definition.** (1) BEGINNING ON JANUARY 1,  
6 2025, OR WHEN THE DEPARTMENT IS ABLE TO ISSUE THE PLATES, THE  
7 DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES TO QUALIFIED  
8 APPLICANTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION FOR MOTORCYCLES,  
9 PASSENGER CARS, TRUCKS, OR NONCOMMERCIAL OR RECREATIONAL  
10 MOTOR VEHICLES THAT DO NOT EXCEED SIXTEEN THOUSAND POUNDS  
11 EMPTY WEIGHT.

12           (2) (a) THERE IS ESTABLISHED THE FIRST RESPONDER WITH A  
13 PERMANENT OCCUPATIONAL DISABILITY LICENSE PLATE.

14           (b) (I) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (2)(b)(II) OF THIS  
15 SECTION, THE AMOUNT OF THE TAXES AND FEES FOR SPECIAL LICENSE  
16 PLATES UNDER THIS SECTION IS THE SAME AS THE AMOUNT OF THE TAXES  
17 AND FEES FOR REGULAR MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE PLATES; EXCEPT THAT  
18 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COLLECT AN ADDITIONAL ONE-TIME FEE OF  
19 TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS FOR ISSUANCE OR REPLACEMENT OF THE LICENSE  
20 PLATE. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL TRANSMIT THE ADDITIONAL ONE-TIME  
21 FEE TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE FEE TO THE  
22 HIGHWAY USERS TAX FUND CREATED IN SECTION 43-4-201.

23           (II) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (2)(b)(I) OF THIS SECTION,  
24 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT CHARGE THE FEES FOR ONE SET OF SPECIAL

1 LICENSE PLATES ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION FOR A MOTORCYCLE,  
2 PASSENGER CAR, TRUCK, OR NONCOMMERCIAL OR RECREATIONAL  
3 VEHICLE.

4 (c) ALL APPLICATIONS FOR THE FIRST RESPONDER WITH A  
5 PERMANENT OCCUPATIONAL DISABILITY LICENSE PLATE MUST BE MADE  
6 DIRECTLY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND MUST INCLUDE  
7 INFORMATION THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE MAY REQUIRE.

8 (3) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DESIGN THE FIRST RESPONDER WITH  
9 A PERMANENT OCCUPATIONAL DISABILITY LICENSE PLATE TO INDICATE  
10 THAT THE OWNER OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE TO WHICH THE LICENSE PLATE  
11 IS ATTACHED IS A FIRST RESPONDER WITH A PERMANENT OCCUPATIONAL  
12 DISABILITY.

13 (4) TO BE QUALIFIED TO BE ISSUED A FIRST RESPONDER WITH A  
14 PERMANENT OCCUPATIONAL DISABILITY LICENSE PLATE, AN INDIVIDUAL  
15 MUST:

16 (a) BE A RESIDENT, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 42-1-102 (81); AND

17 (b) (I) BE A RETIRED MEMBER, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 31-31-102  
18 (6), OF THE FIRE AND POLICE PENSION ASSOCIATION WHO HAS BEEN  
19 DETERMINED BY THE FIRE AND POLICE PENSION ASSOCIATION TO HAVE A  
20 PERMANENT OCCUPATIONAL DISABILITY AS THE RESULT OF AN INJURY  
21 RECEIVED WHILE PERFORMING OFFICIAL DUTIES OR AN OCCUPATIONAL  
22 DISEASE ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF PERFORMING OFFICIAL  
23 DUTIES; OR

24 (II) HAVE SERVED AS A PEACE OFFICER, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION  
25 16-2.5-101, OR AS A FIREFIGHTER, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 29-5-203 (10),  
26 WHO HAS A PERMANENT OCCUPATIONAL DISABILITY AS THE RESULT OF AN  
27 INJURY RECEIVED WHILE PERFORMING OFFICIAL DUTIES OR AN

1 OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF  
2 PERFORMING OFFICIAL DUTIES.

3 (5) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DETERMINES THAT THE FIRST  
4 RESPONDER WITH A PERMANENT OCCUPATIONAL DISABILITY LICENSE  
5 PLATE IS A DISTINCTIVE SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE BECAUSE A PERMANENT  
6 DISABILITY IS AN IMMUTABLE CHARACTERISTIC. THEREFORE, SECTION  
7 42-3-207 (5) AND (6) DOES NOT APPLY TO THIS SECTION.

8 (6) IF AN APPLICANT FOR A FIRST RESPONDER WITH A PERMANENT  
9 OCCUPATIONAL DISABILITY LICENSE PLATE ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION  
10 DEMONSTRATES A PHYSICAL IMPAIRMENT AFFECTING MOBILITY UNDER  
11 THE STANDARDS PROVIDED IN SECTION 42-3-204, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
12 ISSUE A FIRST RESPONDER WITH A PERMANENT OCCUPATIONAL DISABILITY  
13 LICENSE PLATE WITH AN ADDITIONAL IDENTIFYING FIGURE, AS DEFINED IN  
14 SECTION 42-3-204 (1)(e), TO INDICATE THAT THE VEHICLE IS AUTHORIZED  
15 TO TRANSPORT AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO USE RESERVED  
16 PARKING UNDER SECTION 42-4-1208.

17 (7) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "PERMANENT OCCUPATIONAL  
18 DISABILITY" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION 31-31-801 (3.2).

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

21 **42-3-312. Special license plate surcharge.** In addition to any  
22 other fee imposed by this article 3, an applicant for a special license plate  
23 created by rule in accordance with section 42-3-207, as the section existed  
24 when the plate was created, personalized plates issued under section  
25 42-3-211, or special license plates issued under sections 42-3-212 to  
26 42-3-214, sections 42-3-217 to 42-3-218, sections 42-3-221 to 42-3-234,  
27 sections 42-3-237 to 42-3-258, sections 42-3-260 to 42-3-265, AND

1 SECTIONS 42-3-267 ~~42-3-268~~, and ~~section 42-3-269~~ TO 42-3-270 shall pay  
2 an issuance fee of twenty-five dollars; except that the fee is not imposed  
3 on special license plates exempted from additional fees for the issuance  
4 of a military special license plate by section 42-3-213 (1)(b)(II) OR A  
5 FIRST RESPONDER WITH A PERMANENT OCCUPATIONAL DISABILITY SPECIAL  
6 LICENSE PLATE EXEMPTED FROM FEES BY SECTION 42-3-270 (2)(b)(II). The  
7 department shall transfer the money from the fee to the state treasurer,  
8 who shall credit it to the Colorado DRIVES vehicle services account  
9 created in section 42-1-211 (2).

10 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 42-3-204, **amend**  
11 (3)(a)(VI); and **add** (3)(a)(VII) as follows:

12 **42-3-204. Reserved parking for persons with disabilities -**  
13 **applicability - definitions - rules. (3) Types of plates or placards.**

14 (a) **Authorization.** The department may issue the following registration  
15 type for issuing disabled plates and placards that notify the public that the  
16 vehicle transports a person who may use reserved parking:

17 (VI) A military license plate, issued under section 42-3-213 or  
18 42-3-218 (3), with an additional identifying figure to indicate that the  
19 owner of the vehicle is authorized to make use of reserved parking for  
20 persons with disabilities; OR

21 (VII) A FIRST RESPONDER WITH A PERMANENT OCCUPATIONAL  
22 DISABILITY LICENSE PLATE, ISSUED UNDER SECTION 42-3-270, WITH AN  
23 ADDITIONAL IDENTIFYING FIGURE TO INDICATE THAT THE OWNER OF THE  
24 VEHICLE IS AUTHORIZED TO MAKE USE OF RESERVED PARKING FOR  
25 PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.

26 **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
27 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the

1 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
2 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
3 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
4 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
5 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
6 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
7 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.