

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-second General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 19-0980.01 Jery Payne x2157

**HOUSE BILL 19-1255**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Hansen and Catlin,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Coram and Zenzinger,**

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**House Committees**

Energy & Environment  
Finance

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK**  
102 **LICENSE PLATE.**

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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 Mesa Verde National Park license plate. To be issued the plate, an applicant must pay 2 one-time \$25 fees and make a donation to a nonprofit organization selected by the department of revenue.

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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** 42-3-253 as  
3 follows:

4 **42-3-253. Special plates - Mesa Verde National Park.**

5 (1) BEGINNING ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2020, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
6 ISSUE SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES TO QUALIFIED APPLICANTS IN ACCORDANCE  
7 WITH THIS SECTION FOR MOTORCYCLES, PASSENGER CARS, TRUCKS, OR  
8 NONCOMMERCIAL OR RECREATIONAL MOTOR VEHICLES THAT DO NOT  
9 EXCEED SIXTEEN THOUSAND POUNDS EMPTY WEIGHT.

10 (2) (a) THERE IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED THE MESA VERDE  
11 NATIONAL PARK LICENSE PLATE.

12 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL USE A DESIGN FROM AN  
13 ORGANIZATION MEETING THE STANDARDS OF SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS  
14 SECTION, BUT THE DESIGN MUST CONFORM TO DEPARTMENT STANDARDS  
15 AND BE APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

16 (3) (a) AT LEAST ONCE EVERY FIVE YEARS, THE DEPARTMENT  
17 SHALL DESIGNATE AN ORGANIZATION TO QUALIFY APPLICANTS TO BE  
18 ISSUED THE MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK LICENSE PLATE. THE  
19 ORGANIZATION MUST:

20 (I) BE HEADQUARTERED IN COLORADO;

21 (II) HAVE BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR AT LEAST TWENTY YEARS;

22 (III) BE A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION EXEMPT FROM TAXATION;

23 (IV) HELP PROMOTE THE STEWARDSHIP OF THE PARK;

24 (V) FUND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND OTHER REHABILITATION  
25 PROJECTS WITHIN THE PARK;

26 (VI) HELP FUND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS THAT PROMOTE THE  
27 PARK'S CULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES; AND

1 (VII) HAVE DONATED LAND TO ENLARGE THE PARK'S BOUNDARIES.

2 (b) A PERSON MAY APPLY FOR A MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
3 LICENSE PLATE IF THE PERSON PAYS THE TAXES AND FEES REQUIRED  
4 UNDER THIS SECTION AND PROVIDES TO THE DEPARTMENT OR AN  
5 AUTHORIZED AGENT A CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE ORGANIZATION  
6 CHOSEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION (3) CONFIRMING THAT  
7 THE APPLICANT HAS MADE A DONATION TO THE ORGANIZATION. THE  
8 ORGANIZATION MAY ESTABLISH A MINIMUM DONATION AMOUNT TO  
9 QUALIFY FOR THE PLATE. THE AMOUNT MUST NEITHER BE LESS THAN  
10 TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS NOR MORE THAN SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS. THE  
11 ORGANIZATION SHALL USE THE DONATION TO SUPPORT MESA VERDE  
12 NATIONAL PARK IN A MANNER SPECIFIED BY THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE.

13 (c) TO QUALIFY APPLICANTS TO HAVE A MESA VERDE NATIONAL  
14 PARK LICENSE PLATE, THE ORGANIZATION CHOSEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
15 THIS SUBSECTION (3) MUST FILE WITH THE DEPARTMENT AN ANNUAL  
16 STATEMENT VERIFYING THAT IT IS A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.

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

25 (5) A PERSON MAY APPLY FOR PERSONALIZED MESA VERDE  
26 NATIONAL PARK LICENSE PLATES. UPON PAYMENT OF THE ADDITIONAL  
27 FEE 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 MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK LICENSE PLATES FOR THE VEHICLE UPON  
6 PAYING THE FEE REQUIRED BY SECTION 42-3-211 (6)(a) AND UPON  
7 TURNING IN THE EXISTING PLATES TO THE DEPARTMENT. A PERSON WHO  
8 HAS OBTAINED PERSONALIZED LICENSE PLATES UNDER THIS SUBSECTION  
9 (5) MUST PAY THE ANNUAL FEE IMPOSED BY SECTION 42-3-211 (6)(b) FOR  
10 RENEWAL OF THE PERSONALIZED PLATES. THE FEES UNDER THIS  
11 SUBSECTION (5) ARE IN ADDITION TO ALL OTHER APPLICABLE TAXES AND  
12 FEES.

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

15 **42-3-312. Special license plate surcharge.** In addition to any  
16 other fee imposed by this article 3, an applicant for a special license plate  
17 created by rule in accordance with section 42-3-207, as the section existed  
18 when the plate was created, or license plates issued pursuant to sections  
19 42-3-211 to 42-3-214, sections 42-3-217 to 42-3-218, sections 42-3-221  
20 to 42-3-234, and sections 42-3-237 to ~~42-3-252~~ 42-3-253 shall pay an  
21 issuance fee of twenty-five dollars; except that the fee is not imposed on  
22 special license plates exempted from additional fees for the issuance of  
23 a military special license plate by section 42-3-213 (1)(b)(II). The  
24 department shall transfer the fee to the state treasurer, who shall credit it  
25 to the licensing services cash fund created in section 42-2-114.5.

26 **SECTION 3. 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 (August  
2 2, 2019, if adjournment sine die is on May 3, 2019); except that, if a  
3 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
4 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
5 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
6 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
7 November 2020 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
8 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.