

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

**REVISED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted  
on Second Reading in the Second House*

LLS NO. 19-0887.01 Jery Payne x2157

**SENATE BILL 19-167**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Danielson,** Bridges, Crowder, Fields, Foote, Garcia, Gardner, Ginal, Lee, Moreno, Pettersen, Priola, Story, Tate, Todd, Williams A., Winter

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Exum and Duran,**

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**Senate Committees**

Finance  
Appropriations

**House Committees**

Finance  
Appropriations

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A COLORADO PROFESSIONAL FIRE**  
102                    **FIGHTERS LICENSE PLATE, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,**  
103                    **MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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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 Colorado professional fire fighters 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.

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.

HOUSE  
2nd Reading Unamended  
April 22, 2019

SENATE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
April 3, 2019

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 2, 2019

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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** 42-3-253 as  
3 follows:

4           **42-3-253. Special plates - Colorado professional fire fighters**

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

10           (2) (a) THERE IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED THE COLORADO  
11 PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS 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 COLORADO PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS 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) HAVE A MINIMUM OF THREE THOUSAND MEMBERS RESIDING  
23 IN COLORADO;

24           (IV) BE A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION EXEMPT FROM TAXATION;

25 AND

26           (V) PROVIDE AID AND SUPPORT, EITHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH AN

1 AFFILIATED ENTITY, TO COLORADO PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS.

2 (b) (I) A PERSON MAY APPLY FOR A COLORADO PROFESSIONAL FIRE  
3 FIGHTERS LICENSE PLATE IF THE PERSON PAYS THE TAXES AND FEES  
4 REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION AND PROVIDES TO THE DEPARTMENT OR  
5 AN 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 DESIGNATED  
8 ORGANIZATION AND THAT THE APPLICANT IS A MEMBER IN GOOD  
9 STANDING OF THE DESIGNATED ORGANIZATION. THE ORGANIZATION MAY  
10 ESTABLISH A MINIMUM DONATION AMOUNT TO QUALIFY FOR THE PLATE.  
11 THE ORGANIZATION MUST VERIFY THAT THE PERSON REQUESTING A  
12 CERTIFICATE IS OR WAS A PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTER AND SHALL  
13 PROVIDE A CERTIFICATE ONLY TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS OR WAS A  
14 PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTER.

15 (II) THE ORGANIZATION CHOSEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS  
16 SUBSECTION (3) SHALL USE THE DONATION REQUIRED IN THIS SUBSECTION  
17 (3)(b) TO DIRECTLY AID AND SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS, FIRE FIGHTERS,  
18 AND FAMILY MEMBERS OF FIRST RESPONDERS OR FIRE FIGHTERS. THE  
19 ORGANIZATION SHALL FILE AN ANNUAL STATEMENT ACCOUNTING FOR THE  
20 COLLECTION AND USE OF THE DONATIONS.

21 (c) TO QUALIFY APPLICANTS TO HAVE A COLORADO PROFESSIONAL  
22 FIRE FIGHTERS LICENSE PLATE, THE ORGANIZATION CHOSEN IN  
23 ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION (3) MUST FILE WITH THE  
24 DEPARTMENT AN ANNUAL STATEMENT VERIFYING THAT IT IS A NONPROFIT  
25 ORGANIZATION.

26 (4) THE AMOUNT OF THE TAXES AND FEES FOR SPECIAL LICENSE  
27 PLATES UNDER THIS SECTION IS THE SAME AS THE AMOUNT OF THE TAXES

1 AND FEES FOR REGULAR MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE PLATES; EXCEPT THAT  
2 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COLLECT AN ADDITIONAL ONE-TIME FEE OF  
3 TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS FOR ISSUANCE OR REPLACEMENT OF THE LICENSE  
4 PLATE. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL TRANSMIT THE ADDITIONAL ONE-TIME  
5 FEE TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE FEE TO THE  
6 HIGHWAY USERS TAX FUND CREATED IN SECTION 43-4-201.

7 (5) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DETERMINES THAT THE COLORADO  
8 PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS LICENSE PLATE IS A DISTINCTIVE SPECIAL  
9 LICENSE PLATE, AND THEREFORE, SECTION 42-3-207 (5), (6), AND (7) DOES  
10 NOT APPLY TO THIS SECTION.

11 (6) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "PROFESSIONAL FIRE  
12 FIGHTER" MEANS AN OFFICER OF OR MEMBER OF THE FOLLOWING IF THE  
13 OFFICER OR MEMBER RECEIVES COMPENSATION TO DIRECTLY END  
14 DESTRUCTIVE FIRES:

15 (a) A FIRE DEPARTMENT; OR

16 (b) A FIRE-FIGHTING AGENCY OF THE STATE OR OF A POLITICAL  
17 SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE. \_\_\_

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

20 **42-3-312. Special license plate surcharge.** In addition to any  
21 other fee imposed by this article 3, an applicant for a special license plate  
22 created by rule in accordance with section 42-3-207, as the section existed  
23 when the plate was created, or license plates issued pursuant to sections  
24 42-3-211 to 42-3-214, sections 42-3-217 to 42-3-218, sections 42-3-221  
25 to 42-3-234, and sections 42-3-237 to ~~42-3-252~~ 42-3-253 shall pay an  
26 issuance fee of twenty-five dollars; except that the fee is not imposed on  
27 special license plates exempted from additional fees for the issuance of

1 a military special license plate by section 42-3-213 (1)(b)(II). The  
2 department shall transfer the fee to the state treasurer, who shall credit it  
3 to the licensing services cash fund created in section 42-2-114.5.

4 **SECTION 3. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2019-20 state fiscal  
5 year, \$56,364 is appropriated to the department of revenue for use by the  
6 division of motor vehicles. This appropriation consists of \$51,864 from  
7 the license plate cash fund created in section 42-3-301 (1)(b), C.R.S., and  
8 \$4,500 from the Colorado DRIVES vehicle services account in the  
9 highway users tax fund created in section 42-1-211 (2)(b)(I), C.R.S. To  
10 implement this act, the division may use this appropriation as follows:

11 (a) \$51,864 from the license plate cash fund for license plate  
12 ordering; and

13 (b) \$4,500 from the Colorado DRIVES vehicle services account  
14 in the highway users tax fund for DRIVES maintenance and support.

15 **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
16 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
17 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
18 2, 2019, if adjournment sine die is on May 3, 2019); except that, if a  
19 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
20 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
21 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
22 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
23 November 2020 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
24 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.