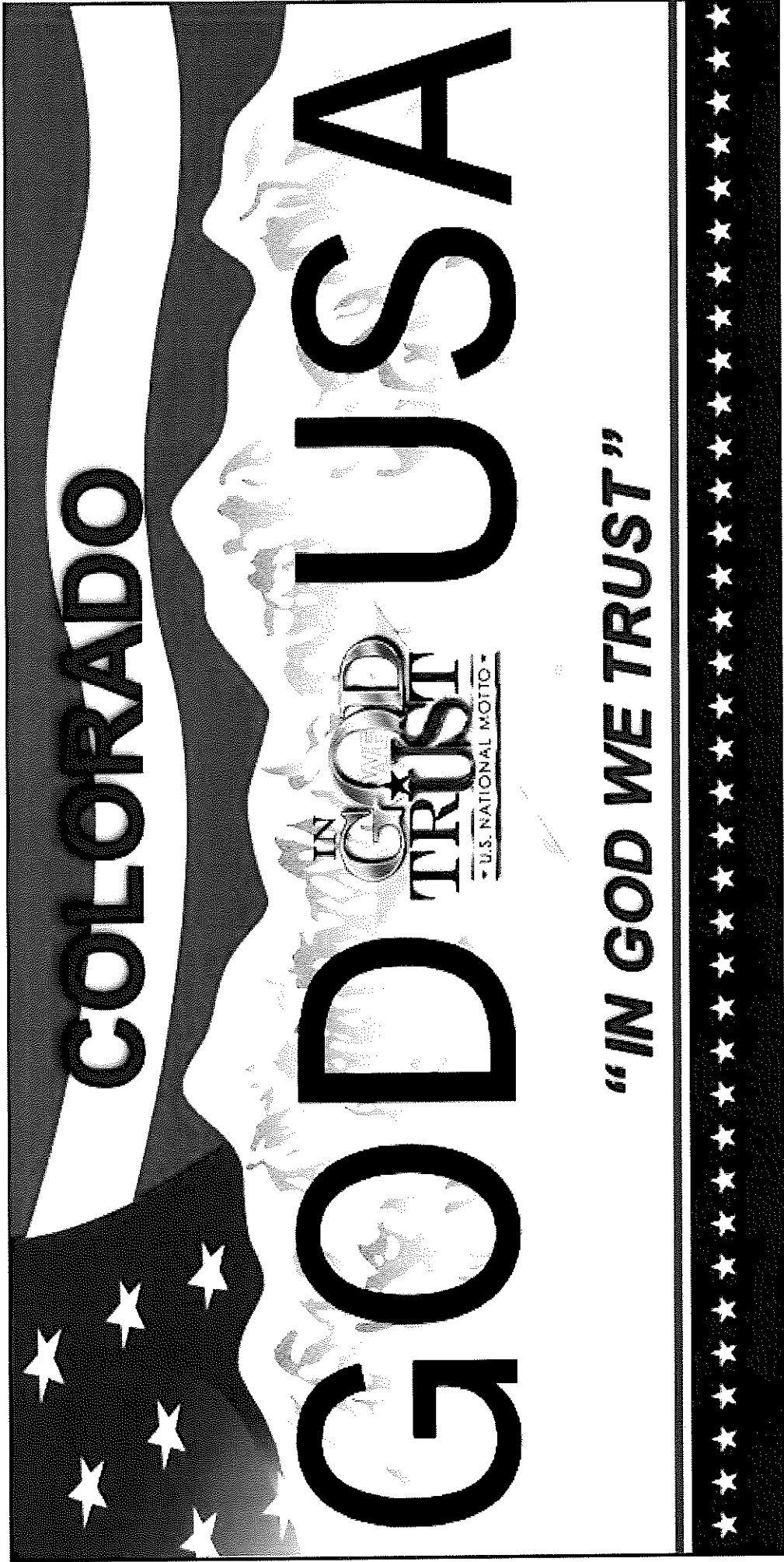
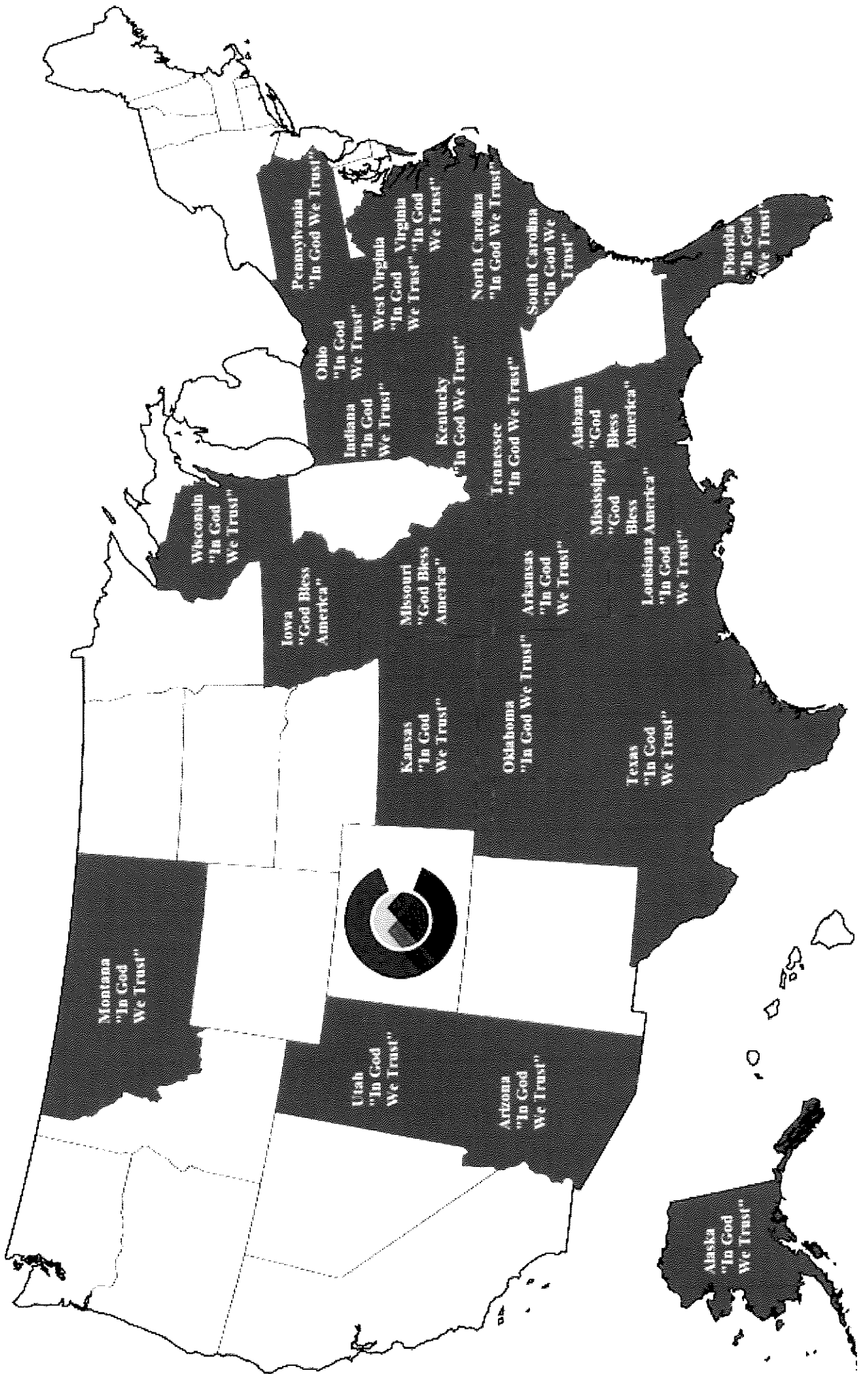


A Proposed Design for the State of Colorado
"In God We Trust" Special License Plate

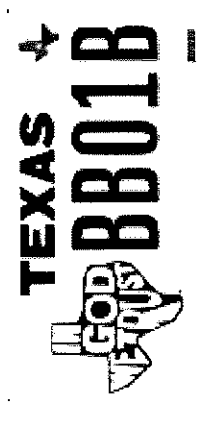
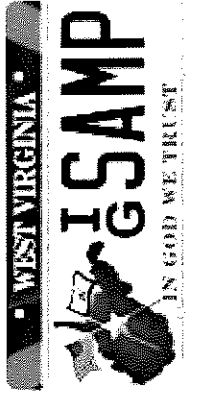
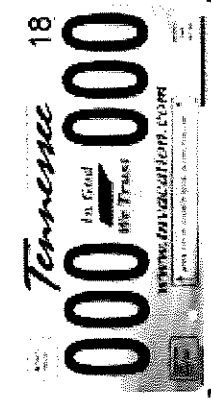
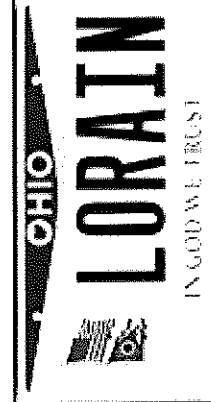
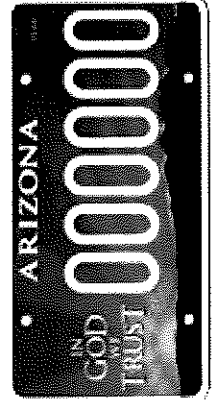
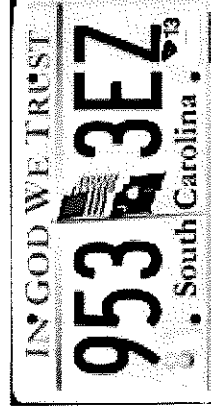
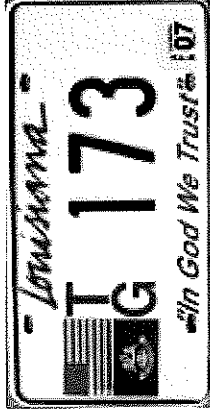
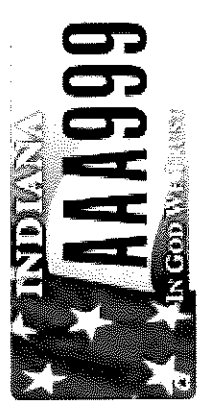
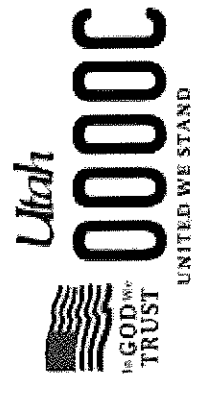
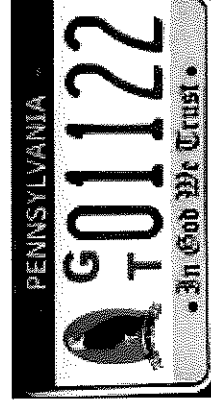
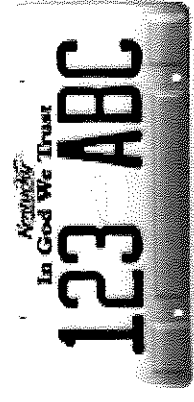
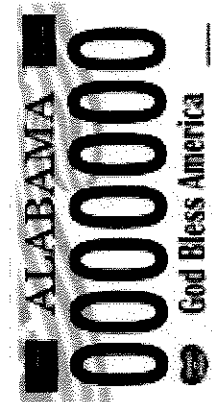


F
D

20x States "In God We Trust" Special License Plates
4x States "God Bless America" Special License Plates



24x States "God Trust & Bless" Special License Plates



John P. Priecko
WRITTEN PERSONAL TESTIMONY

For the Colorado House of Representatives, House Finance Committee
(February 17, 2022)

ATTENTION: Colorado House of Representatives Finance Committee

I planned to be there in person February 17th; but have foot surgery the day before. Thus, I'm submitting written testimony. I am honored to support this worthy endeavor and passage of House Bill 22-1048.

I am a grateful and proud Military veteran who served 25 years as a Pilot in the United States Air Force. Career features include a tour of duty on the Joint Staff in the Pentagon as the Chief of Strategic Operations and Training. Another highlight was serving as a B-1 Squadron Commander and Instructor Pilot.

The most rewarding efforts after my Military service, are as the Vice President, Global Trade Compliance, with J.P. Morgan Chase & Company. Additionally, and currently, I am the President and Managing Partner of Trade Compliance Solutions, a Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business.

In the way of background related to this Legislation, my wife Sandy and I moved here from Virginia in July 2019, to be closer to our two adult sons. When we registered our vehicle, we discovered Colorado did not have an "*In God We Trust*" or similar license plate as we did in Virginia and 23 other states.

In June of last year, I attended a Leadership Conference and met Kurt Huffman from State Representative Mark Baisley's Office. A lunch time discussion with Kurt that day is the catalyst for this Special License Plate effort. The artist's concept we developed is what we envision as a very professional and visually appealing end-product. We believe our design is the best out there.

"*In God We Trust*" is our Official National Motto adopted by the United States Congress. It appears on our paper money, coins, in courtrooms, and on government and state office buildings across America. It is appropriate, fitting, and timely that Colorado creates an "*In God We Trust*" Special License Plate. We are passionate about our Country, our Flag, our National Motto, and this important initiative.

My family and I urge passage of House Bill 22-1048. Further, colleagues, coworkers, friends, fellow veterans, and neighbors also support the Bill. Likewise, those same people look forward to purchasing and displaying the plate as soon as it can be purchased. Many have said they would buy it now if it was available.

Respectfully,

John P. Priecko, Colonel USAF (Retired)
Life Member: Air Force Association & Disabled American Veterans; 22683 E. Glidden Dr., Aurora, CO 80016-7388; jpriecko@comcast.net; 703-895-1110

Second Regular Session
Seventy-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

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

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE CREATION OF THE "IN GOD WE TRUST" LICENSE
102 PLATE.

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

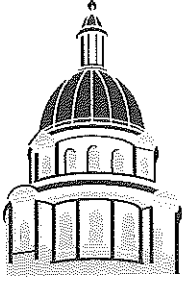
1 PLATES, THE DEPARTMENT MAY ISSUE THE PLATES IF THE APPLICANT
2 COMPLIES WITH SECTION 42-3-211. IF AN APPLICANT HAS EXISTING
3 PERSONALIZED LICENSE PLATES FOR A MOTOR VEHICLE, THE APPLICANT
4 MAY TRANSFER THE COMBINATION OF LETTERS OR NUMBERS TO A NEW SET
5 OF "IN GOD WE TRUST" LICENSE PLATES FOR THE 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. 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 2022 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
7 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.



HB 22-1048

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 22-0016
Prime Sponsors: Rep. Baisley
Sen. Kirkmeyer

Date: January 19, 2022
Bill Status: House Finance
Fiscal Analyst: Will Clark | 303-866-4720
Will.Clark@state.co.us

Bill Topic: IN GOD WE TRUST SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

This bill creates the In God We Trust special license plate. It increases state and local revenue and state expenditures on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2022-23, the bill requires an appropriation of \$41,734 to the Department of Revenue.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under HB 22-1048

		Budget Year FY 2022-23	Out Year FY 2023-24
Revenue	Cash Funds	\$193,746	\$48,422
	Total	\$193,746	\$48,422
Expenditures	General Fund	\$14,838	-
	Cash Funds	\$26,896	\$6,722
	Total Expenditures	\$41,734	\$6,722
Transfers		-	-
Other Budget Impacts	TABOR Refund	\$193,746	\$48,422
	General Fund Reserve	\$2,226	-

Summary of Legislation

This bill creates the In God We Trust group special license plate. By January 1, 2023, the license plate is available to all applicants that pay one-time special license plate fees of \$50.

Assumptions

Expected demand for the plate is based on the actual demand for the Italian American group special license plate.

State Revenue

The bill is anticipated to increase state cash fund revenue by \$193,746 in FY 2022-23 and \$48,422 in FY 2023-24, as shown in Table 2. This revenue is subject to TABOR.

Table 2
Revenue Under HB 22-1048

	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24
License Plate Sets Issued	3,337	834
License Plate Cash Fund (\$8.06)	\$26,896	\$6,722
Highway Users Tax Fund (\$25)	\$83,425	\$20,850
License Services Cash Fund (\$25)	\$83,425	\$20,850
Total Cost	\$193,746	\$48,422

Standard license plate fees. Upon registration, all vehicle owners must pay a plate and tab production fee of \$8.06 for a digital passenger vehicle plate set, \$4.73 for an embossed passenger vehicle plate set, or \$3.01 for a motorcycle plate set. All specialty plates are manufactured as digital plates, and the fiscal note assumes motorcycle issuance will be minimal. Fees from plate and tab production are credited to the License Plate Cash Fund (LPCF).

Special license plate fees. Applicants for the In God We Trust group special license plate are also required to pay an additional \$50 in fees, of which \$25 is credited to the Highway Users Tax Fund (HUTF) and \$25 is credited to the Licensing Services Cash Fund.

Colorado Department of Transportation. Of the HUTF revenue, 65 percent is credited to the State Highway Fund (SHF) for expenditure by the department, 26 percent is credited to counties, and 9 percent is credited to municipalities. Table 3 outlines the estimated HUTF revenue generated under this bill.

**Table 3
Estimated HUTF Distributions Under HB 22-1048**

	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24
State Highway Fund (65 percent)	\$54,226	\$13,552
Counties (26 percent)	\$21,691	\$5,421
Municipalities (9 percent)	\$7,508	\$1,877
Total HUTF Distribution	\$83,425	\$20,850

State Expenditures

State expenditures in the DOR will increase by \$41,734 in FY 2022-23 and \$6,722 in FY 2023-24, as shown in Table 4 and detailed below.

**Table 4
Expenditures Under HB 22-1048**

	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24
Department of Revenue		
Plate and Tab Production Cost	\$26,896	\$6,722
Computer Programming	\$14,838	-
Total Expenditures	\$41,734	\$6,722

Department of Revenue. As discussed in the State Revenue section, plate tab and production costs for special group plates are \$8.06 per license plate set. This fiscal note assumes that 3,337 license plates will be issued in FY 2022-23 and 834 will be issued in FY 2023-24. In FY 2022-23, one-time programming costs of \$14,838 are required to update the Driver License, Record, Identification and Vehicle Enterprise Solutions (DRIVES) system. Programming costs, to be paid from the General Fund, are based on 52 hours of programming at a rate of \$225 per hour, as well as \$3,138 in other implementation costs, which include implementation support to the vendor from DOR staff and quality assurance support from the Office of Information Technology. License plate and tab production costs are expended from the LPCF.

In addition, DOR will be required to update rules, forms, manuals, and the department's website to reflect the change in law. Additionally, the DOR will provide training to authorized agents, Title and Registration Section staff, and law enforcement. Any workload increases or costs associated with these activities can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Other Budget Impacts

TABOR refunds. The bill is expected to increase the amount of state revenue required to be refunded to taxpayers by the amounts shown in the State Revenue section above. This estimate assumes the December 2021 LCS revenue forecast. A forecast of state revenue subject to TABOR is not available beyond FY 2023-24. Because TABOR refunds are paid from the General Fund, increased cash fund revenue will reduce the amount of General Fund available to spend or save.

General Fund reserve. Under current law, an amount equal to 15 percent of General Fund appropriations must be set aside in the General Fund statutory reserve beginning in FY 2022-23. Based on this fiscal note, the bill is expected to increase the amount of General Fund held in reserve by \$2,226 in FY 2022-23, which will decrease the amount of General Fund available for other purposes.

Local Government

This bill will increase local government HUTF revenue by the amounts shown in Table 3. HUTF revenue generated by license plate fees is distributed to counties (26 percent) and municipalities (9 percent) for transportation needs.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State Appropriations

For FY 2022-23, the bill requires appropriations of \$41,734 to the Department of Revenue. Of this total:

- \$14,838 is from the General Fund; and,
- \$26,896 is from the License Plate Cash Fund.

State and Local Government Contacts

Corrections
Information Technology

Counties
Revenue

County Clerks
Transportation