STATE OF NEW YORK

4304

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 4, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. GALLAHAN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to authorizing distinctive license plates for supporters of the conservation of the Seneca white deer; and to amend the state finance law, in relation to establishing the New York state "preserve the Seneca white deer fund"

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new section 404-ff to read as follows:

§ 404-ff. Distinctive "I support the Seneca white deer" license plates. 1. Any person residing in this state shall, upon request, be issued a distinctive license plate bearing the phrase "I support the Seneca white deer". Application for such license plate shall be filed with the commissioner in such form and detail as the commissioner shall prescribe.

2. A distinctive plate issued pursuant to this section shall be issued in the same manner as other number plates upon payment of the regular registration fee prescribed by section four hundred one of this article, provided, however, that an additional annual service charge of twenty-five dollars shall be charged for such plate.

§ 2. 1. A distinctive plate established pursuant to section 404-ff of the vehicle and traffic law, as added by section one of this act, shall only be designed, produced and issued upon the delivery to the department of motor vehicles of a surety bond in the amount of six thousand dollars, which shall be executed by a surety company authorized by the department of financial services to transact business in this state. Provided, however, that if the commissioner of motor vehicles shall have received prior to plate design, production and issuance at least two hundred orders for such distinctive plate together with the additional annual service charge applicable to each such order, which shall be

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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non-refundable, no such surety bond shall be required. All service charges collected pursuant to this section shall be deposited pursuant to the provisions of section 404-oo of the vehicle and traffic law to the credit of the department of motor vehicles distinctive plate development fund established by section 95-g of the state finance law and shall be used for the design, production, advertising and distribution of distinctive license plates in accordance with such section 95-g.

2. If, upon the expiration of two years following the date upon which distinctive plates in the series are first available for sale two hundred or more sets of such plates are sold, a bond delivered pursuant to this section shall be discontinued. If fewer than two hundred sets of such plates are sold by such time, the department of motor vehicles shall be entitled to recover against the bond in an amount proportionate to such shortfall.

§ 3. The state finance law is amended by adding a new section 97-aaaa to read as follows:

§ 97-aaaa. The New York state "preserve the Seneca white deer fund".

1. There is hereby established in the joint custody of the commissioner of environmental conservation and the comptroller, a special fund to be known as the "preserve the Seneca white deer fund".

2. Such fund shall consist of all moneys collected pursuant to section four hundred four-ff of the vehicle and traffic law, and all other moneys appropriated, credited or transferred thereto from any other fund or source pursuant to law.

3. The preserve the Seneca white deer fund shall consist of the revenues required to be deposited therein pursuant to the provisions of section four hundred four-ff of the vehicle and traffic law, and all other moneys credited or transferred thereto from any other fund or source pursuant to law.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately; provided however that, section one of this act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.