STATE OF NEW YORK

262

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

(Prefiled)

January 8, 2025

Introduced by Sen. HARCKHAM -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to distinctive license plates for society for the prevention of cruelty to animals officers

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 plates for society for the prevention of cruelty to animals officers. 1. Society for the prevention of cruelty to animals officers in this state or the spouse of any such member shall, upon request, be issued a license plate bearing the letters "S.P.C.A". If a distinctive plate is issued to any such member pursuant to this section, such a distinctive plate shall not be issued to the spouse of such member. Application for such license plate shall be filed with the commissioner in such form and detail as the commissioner shall prescribe, and shall be verified annually by the applicant.

2. The distinctive plate authorized in subdivision one of this section shall be issued upon proof, satisfactory to the commissioner, that the applicant or the spouse of the applicant is presently a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals officers.

3. 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 and an initial one time service charge of fifteen dollars.

§ 2. 1. A distinctive plate established pursuant to section 404-ff of the vehicle and traffic law shall only be designed, produced and issued upon the delivery to the department of motor vehicles of a surety bond in the amount of $6,000, which shall be executed by a surety company

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

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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 200 orders for such distinctive plate together with the additional annual service charge applicable to each such order, which shall be 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, 200 or more sets of such plates are sold, a bond delivered pursuant to this section shall be discontinued. If fewer than 200 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. 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.