

ASSEMBLY TOURISM, GAMING AND THE ARTS  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3123

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 5, 2023

The Assembly Tourism, Gaming and the Arts Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3123.

This bill authorizes a “We Support the Arts” license plate, with proceeds dedicated to the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. The design of the license plate would be chosen by the Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) after conducting a Statewide contest. The design would include the slogan “We Support the Arts.”

There is a \$50 initial fee in addition to the registration fees required by law, with a \$10 annual fee in addition to the renewal fees required by law. The monies raised, after reimbursement to the MVC, would be deposited into the “Support the Arts Fund,” also established by this bill.

Under the bill, the MVC is prohibited from using State or public funds for the initial cost of designing, producing, issuing, and publicizing the availability of support the arts license plates, or for any computer programming changes which may be necessary to implement the support the arts license plate program. The New Jersey State Council on the Arts (the council), or an individual or entity designated by the council, would be required to contribute non-public monies in an amount to be determined by the chief administrator, not to exceed \$25,000, to be used to offset these initial costs or computer programming changes. The council, or designated individual or entity, would also be required to provide the commission with not less than 500 completed applications for support the arts license plates, along with the initial fee for each application, constituting the initial order for support the arts license plates. The bill would take effect immediately, but would remain inoperative until the first day of the seventh month following the date on which the specified non-public moneys and initial applications are delivered to the MVC. The bill would expire if these requirements are not met by the last day of the 12th month following the date of enactment.