

SENATE, No. 1881

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 24, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

SYNOPSIS

Authorizes Historic Trenton license plates.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** authorizing the issuance of special license plates
2 commemorating the history of the City of Trenton and
3 supplementing Title 39 of the Revised Statutes.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7
8 1. a. Upon proper application, the Chief Administrator of the
9 New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission shall issue special license
10 plates commemorating the history of the City of Trenton for any
11 motor vehicle owned or leased and registered in the State. In
12 addition to the registration number and other markings or
13 identification otherwise prescribed by law, the license plates shall
14 display a portrayal of George Washington crossing the Delaware
15 River and the words, “3rd State in the Union,” displayed along the
16 bottom of the license plates. The chief administrator shall select the
17 design and color scheme, in consultation with the Capital City
18 Redevelopment Corporation. The Historic Trenton license plates
19 shall be subject to the provisions of chapter 3 of Title 39 of the
20 Revised Statutes, except as hereinafter otherwise specifically
21 provided.

22 b. Application for issuance of Historic Trenton license plates
23 shall be made to the chief administrator on forms and in a manner
24 prescribed by the chief administrator. In order to be deemed
25 complete, an application shall be accompanied by a fee of \$50,
26 payable to the commission, which shall be in addition to the fees
27 otherwise prescribed by law for the registration of a motor vehicle.
28 The chief administrator shall collect annually, subsequent to the
29 year of issuance of the Historic Trenton license plates, a \$10 fee for
30 the license plates in addition to the fees otherwise prescribed by law
31 for the registration of a motor vehicle. The additional fees required
32 by this subsection shall be deposited in the “Historic Trenton
33 License Plate Fund” created pursuant to subsection c. of this
34 section.

35 c. There is created in the Department of the Treasury a special
36 non-lapsing fund to be known as the “Historic Trenton License
37 Plate Fund.” There shall be deposited in the fund the amount
38 collected from all license plate fees collected pursuant to subsection
39 b. of this section, less the amounts necessary to reimburse the
40 commission for administrative costs pursuant to subsection d. of
41 this section. Monies deposited in the fund shall be appropriated
42 annually to the Capital City Redevelopment Corporation, to be used
43 for the promotion, maintenance, and development of the Trenton
44 Convention and Visitors Bureau. Monies deposited in the fund
45 shall be held in interest-bearing accounts in public depositories as
46 defined pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1970, c.236 (C.17:9-41), and
47 may be invested or reinvested in securities approved by the State
48 Treasurer. Interest or other income earned on monies deposited into

1 the fund, and any monies which may be appropriated or otherwise
2 become available for the purposes of the fund, shall be credited to
3 and deposited in the fund for use as set forth in P.L. , c. (C.)
4 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

5 d. Prior to the deposit of the additional fees collected pursuant
6 to subsection b. of this section, into the “Historic Trenton License
7 Plate Fund,” amounts thereof as are necessary shall be used to
8 reimburse the commission for all costs reasonably and actually
9 incurred, as stipulated by the chief administrator, for:

10 (1) designing, producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing the
11 availability of the Historic Trenton license plates; and

12 (2) any computer programming changes that may be initially
13 necessary to implement the Historic Trenton license plate program,
14 in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

15 The chief administrator shall annually certify to the State
16 Treasurer the average cost per license plate incurred in the
17 immediately preceding year by the commission in producing,
18 issuing, renewing, and publicizing the availability of the Historic
19 Trenton license plates. The annual certification of the average cost
20 per license plate shall be approved by the Joint Budget Oversight
21 Committee, or its successor.

22 In the event that the average cost per license plate as certified by
23 the chief administrator and approved by the Joint Budget Oversight
24 Committee, or its successor, is greater than the \$50 application fee
25 established in subsection b. of this section in two consecutive fiscal
26 years, the chief administrator may discontinue the issuance of
27 Historic Trenton license plates.

28 e. The chief administrator shall notify eligible motorists of the
29 opportunity to obtain Historic Trenton license plates by publicizing
30 the availability of the license plates on the commission’s website.
31 The Capital City Redevelopment Corporation, and any other
32 individual or entity designated by the Capital City Redevelopment
33 Corporation, may publicize the availability of Historic Trenton
34 license plates in any manner the corporation deems appropriate.

35 f. The chief administrator and the Capital City Redevelopment
36 Corporation shall develop and enter into a memorandum of
37 agreement setting forth the procedures to be followed in carrying
38 out their respective responsibilities under P.L. , c. (C.)
39 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

40 g. The Capital City Redevelopment Corporation shall appoint a
41 representative who shall act as a liaison between the organization
42 and the commission. The liaison shall represent the Capital City
43 Redevelopment Corporation in any and all communications with the
44 commission regarding the Historic Trenton license plates
45 established by P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature
46 as this bill).

1 2. a. State or other public funds shall not be used by the
2 commission for the initial cost of:

3 (1) designing, producing, issuing, and publicizing the
4 availability of Historic Trenton license plates; or

5 (2) any computer programming changes which may be
6 necessary to implement the Historic Trenton license plate program
7 established by P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature
8 as this bill).

9 b. An individual or entity designated by the Capital City
10 Redevelopment Corporation shall contribute non-public monies in
11 an amount to be determined by the chief administrator, not to
12 exceed a total of \$25,000, to be used to offset the initial costs
13 incurred by the commission for designing, producing, issuing, and
14 publicizing the availability of Historic Trenton license plates, and
15 any computer programming which may be necessary to implement
16 the program. Concerned organizations and individual donors may
17 contribute monies to the Capital City Redevelopment Corporation
18 or the individual or entity designated by the Capital City
19 Redevelopment Corporation to further offset the initial costs
20 incurred by the commission for the Historic Trenton license plates
21 authorized by P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature
22 as this bill). Any amount remaining after the payment of the initial
23 costs shall be deposited in the "Historic Trenton License Plate
24 Fund" established pursuant to subsection c. of section 1 of P.L. ,
25 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

26 c. The commission shall not begin designing, producing,
27 issuing, or publicizing the availability of Historic Trenton license
28 plates, or making any necessary programming changes, until the
29 following requirements have been met:

30 (1) The individual or entity designated by the Capital City
31 Redevelopment Corporation has provided the commission with the
32 money necessary, as determined by the chief administrator pursuant
33 to subsection b. of this section, to offset the initial costs incurred by
34 the commission in establishing the Historic Trenton license plate
35 program; and

36 (2) The liaison appointed by the Capital City Redevelopment
37 Corporation pursuant to subsection g. of section 1 of P.L. ,
38 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) has
39 provided the commission with not less than 500 completed
40 applications for Historic Trenton license plates. These applications
41 shall constitute the initial order for Historic Trenton license plates
42 and shall be accompanied by a fee representing the total cost of the
43 initial order. The fee shall be determined by multiplying the
44 number of sets of license plates being ordered by the applicable
45 initial fee for each set of license plates as set forth in subsection b.
46 of section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
47 Legislature as this bill).

1 3. This act shall take effect immediately, but shall remain
2 inoperative until the first day of the seventh month following the
3 date on which the conditions set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2) of
4 subsection c. of section 2 of this act have been satisfied. The chief
5 administrator may take anticipatory acts in advance of that date as
6 may be necessary for the timely implementation of this act. This
7 act shall expire if the conditions set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2)
8 of subsection c. of section 2 of this act are not satisfied by the last
9 day of the 12th month following enactment.

10
11
12 STATEMENT

13
14 This bill authorizes the Chief Administrator (chief administrator)
15 of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (commission) to
16 issue special license plates commemorating the history of the City
17 of Trenton.

18 The bill provides that the design of the Historic Trenton license
19 plates are to display a portrayal of George Washington crossing the
20 Delaware River with the words, “3rd State in the Union,” displayed
21 along the bottom of the license plates. In addition to all fees
22 otherwise required by law for the registration of a motor vehicle,
23 there is an application fee of \$50 and an annual renewal fee of \$10
24 for the Historic Trenton license plates. After the deduction of the
25 costs to implement the license plate program, the additional fees
26 will be deposited into a special non-lapsing fund known as the
27 “Historic Trenton License Plate Fund.” The proceeds of the fund
28 are to be annually appropriated to the Capital City Redevelopment
29 Corporation (CCRC), to be used for the promotion, maintenance,
30 and development of the Trenton Convention and Visitors Bureau.

31 The chief administrator is required to annually certify the
32 average of producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing the
33 availability of the special license plates. If the average cost per
34 plate exceeds \$50 in two consecutive fiscal years, the chief
35 administrator may discontinue the license plate program.

36 The bill provides that State or other public funds may not be
37 used for the initial costs to implement the Historic Trenton license
38 plate program.

39 The bill also requires that an individual or entity designated by
40 the CCRC contribute non-public monies, in an amount not to
41 exceed \$25,000, to offset the initial costs incurred by the
42 commission for designing, producing, issuing, and publicizing the
43 availability of Historic Trenton license plates, and any computer
44 programming which may be necessary to implement the program.

45 The chief administrator is not required to design, produce, issue,
46 or publicize the availability of Historic Trenton license plates until:
47 (1) an individual or entity designated by the CCRC has provided the
48 commission with the money necessary to offset the initial costs

1 incurred by the commission in establishing the Historic Trenton
2 license plate program; and (2) the CCRC, or its designee, has
3 provided the commission with a minimum of 500 completed
4 applications for Historic Trenton license plates, upon the
5 availability for purchase of the license plates.

6 The provisions of the bill will remain inoperative until the first
7 date of the seventh month after the appropriate applications and fees
8 required to offset the initial costs incurred by the commission are
9 provided by an individual or entity designated by the CCRC. The
10 bill expires last day of the 12th month if sufficient applications and
11 fees to offset the initial costs are not received by that date.