

SENATE, No. 3181

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 16, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO

District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Authorizes issuance of classic NJ license plates.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



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2

1 AN ACT authorizing the issuance of classic New Jersey license
2 plates and supplementing Title 39 of the Revised Statutes.

3

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

6

7 1. a. Upon proper application, the Chief Administrator of the
8 New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission shall issue classic New
9 Jersey license plates for any motor vehicle owned or leased and
10 registered in the State. In addition to the registration number and
11 other markings or identification otherwise prescribed by law, the
12 license plates shall display a design that replicates the classic New
13 Jersey license plates issued by the New Jersey Department of Motor
14 Vehicles between 1979 and 1991. The classic New Jersey license
15 plates shall be subject to the provisions of chapter 3 of Title 39 of
16 the Revised Statutes, except as hereinafter otherwise specifically
17 provided.

18 b. Application for issuance of classic New Jersey license plates
19 shall be made to the chief administrator on forms and in a manner
20 prescribed by the chief administrator. In order to be deemed
21 complete, an application shall be accompanied by a fee of \$50,
22 payable to the commission, which shall be in addition to the fees
23 otherwise prescribed by law for the registration of a motor vehicle.
24 The chief administrator shall collect annually, subsequent to the
25 year of issuance of the classic New Jersey license plates, a \$10 fee
26 for the license plates in addition to the fees otherwise prescribed by
27 law for the registration of a motor vehicle. The additional fees
28 required by this subsection shall be deposited, pursuant to
29 subsection c. of this section, in the "Special Transportation Fund"
30 created pursuant to section 21 of P.L.1984, c.73 (C.27:1B-21).

31 c. There shall be deposited in the "Special Transportation
32 Fund," established pursuant to section 21 of P.L.1984, c.73
33 (C.27:1B-21), the amount collected from all license plate fees
34 collected pursuant to subsection b. of this section, less the amounts
35 necessary to reimburse the commission for administrative costs
36 pursuant to subsection d. of this section. Monies deposited in the
37 fund shall be annually appropriated for expenditure on
38 transportation projects in this State.

39 d. Prior to the deposit into the fund of the additional fees
40 collected pursuant to subsection b. of this section, amounts thereof
41 as are necessary shall be used to reimburse the commission for all
42 costs reasonably and actually incurred, as stipulated by the chief
43 administrator, for:

44 (1) designing, producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing the
45 availability of the classic New Jersey license plates; and

46 (2) any computer programming changes that may be initially
47 necessary to implement the classic New Jersey license plate

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1 program established by P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
2 Legislature as this bill), in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

3 The chief administrator shall annually certify to the State
4 Treasurer the average cost per license plate incurred in the
5 immediately preceding year by the commission in producing,
6 issuing, renewing, and publicizing the availability of the classic
7 New Jersey license plates. The annual certification of the average
8 cost per license plate shall be approved by the Joint Budget
9 Oversight Committee, or its successor.

10 In the event that the average cost per license plate as certified by
11 the chief administrator and approved by the Joint Budget Oversight
12 Committee, or its successor, is greater than the \$50 application fee
13 established in subsection b. of this section in two consecutive fiscal
14 years, the chief administrator may discontinue the issuance of
15 classic New Jersey license plates.

16 e. The chief administrator shall notify eligible motorists of the
17 opportunity to obtain classic New Jersey license plates by
18 publicizing the availability of the license plates on the website of
19 the commission.

20 f. The chief administrator and the Commissioner of
21 Transportation shall develop and enter into a memorandum of
22 agreement setting forth the procedures to be followed in carrying
23 out their respective responsibilities under P.L. , c. (C.)
24 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

25 g. The Commissioner of Transportation shall appoint a
26 representative who shall act as a liaison between the Department of
27 Transportation and the commission. The liaison shall represent the
28 department in any and all communications with the commission
29 regarding the classic New Jersey license plates established by
30 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

31

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

34 (1) designing, producing, issuing, and publicizing the
35 availability of classic New Jersey license plates; or

36 (2) any computer programming changes which may be
37 necessary to implement the classic New Jersey license plate
38 program established by P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
39 Legislature as this bill).

40 b. An individual or entity designated by the Department of
41 Transportation shall contribute non-public monies in an amount to
42 be determined by the chief administrator, not to exceed a total of
43 \$25,000, to be used to offset the initial costs incurred by the
44 commission for designing, producing, issuing, and publicizing the
45 availability of New Jersey classic license plates, and any computer
46 programming which may be necessary to implement the program.
47 Concerned organizations and individual donors may contribute
48 monies to the department to be used to offset the initial costs

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1 incurred by the commission for the classic New Jersey license
2 plates authorized by P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
3 Legislature as this bill). Any amount remaining after the payment
4 of the initial cost shall be deposited, pursuant to subsection c. of
5 section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature
6 as this bill), in the “Special Transportation Fund” established
7 pursuant to section 21 of P.L.1984, c.73 (C.27:1B-21).

8 c. The commission shall not begin designing, producing,
9 issuing, or publicizing the availability of classic New Jersey license
10 plates, or making any necessary programming changes, until the
11 following requirements have been met:

12 (1) The individual or entity designated by the department, has
13 provided the commission with the non-public monies necessary, as
14 determined by the chief administrator pursuant to subsection b. of
15 this section, to offset the initial costs incurred by the commission in
16 establishing the classic New Jersey license plate program; and

17 (2) The liaison appointed by the commissioner pursuant to
18 subsection g. of section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
19 the Legislature as this bill) has provided the commission with not
20 less than 500 completed applications for classic New Jersey license
21 plates. These applications shall constitute the initial order for
22 classic New Jersey license plates and shall be accompanied by a fee
23 representing the total cost of the initial order. The fee shall be
24 determined by multiplying the number of sets of license plates
25 being ordered by the applicable initial fee for each set of license
26 plates as set forth in subsection b. of section 1 of
27 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

28
29 3. This act shall take effect immediately, but shall remain
30 inoperative until the first day of the 13th month following the date
31 on which the conditions set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2) of
32 subsection c. of section 2 of this act have been satisfied. The chief
33 administrator may take anticipatory actions in advance of that date
34 as may be necessary for the timely implementation of this act. This
35 act shall expire if the conditions set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2)
36 of subsection c. of section 2 of this act are not satisfied by the last
37 day of the 12th month following enactment.

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STATEMENT

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42 This bill authorizes the Chief Administrator of the New Jersey
43 Motor Vehicle Commission (commission) to issue classic New
44 Jersey license plates to replicate the license plates issued by the
45 former New Jersey Department of Motor Vehicles between 1979
46 and 1991.

47 In addition to all fees otherwise required by law for the
48 registration of a motor vehicle, there is an application fee of \$50

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1 and an annual renewal fee of \$10 for the classic New Jersey license
2 plates. After the deduction of the cost of designing, producing,
3 issuing, renewing, and publicizing the license plates and of any
4 computer programming changes that are necessary to implement the
5 license plate program, additional fees are to be deposited into the “
6 Special Transportation Fund.” The proceeds of the fund are to be
7 annually appropriated to support the State’s transportation projects.

8 The chief administrator is required to annually certify the
9 average cost of producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing the
10 availability of the specialty license plates. If the average cost per
11 plate exceeds \$50 in two consecutive fiscal years, the chief
12 administrator may discontinue the license plate program. The bill
13 requires the chief administrator and the Commissioner of
14 Transportation (commissioner) to develop and enter into a
15 memorandum of agreement setting forth the procedures to be
16 followed in carrying out their respective responsibilities under the
17 bill. The bill also requires that the commissioner appoint a liaison
18 to represent the Department of Transportation (department) in all
19 communications with the commission regarding the classic New
20 Jersey license plates.

21 The bill provides that State or other public funds are not to be
22 used by the commission for the initial cost to implement the license
23 plate program. The bill requires an individual or entity designated
24 by the department to contribute non-public monies, not to exceed
25 \$25,000, to offset the initial costs to design, produce, issue, and
26 publicize the license plates and for computer programming changes
27 which may be necessary to implement the program. The bill
28 authorizes the department to receive funds from private sources to
29 be used to offset the initial costs.

30 The commission is not required to design, produce, issue, or
31 publicize the availability of the license plates or make any
32 necessary programming changes, until: (1) the individual or entity
33 designated by the department has provided the commission with the
34 money necessary to offset the initial costs incurred by the
35 commission in establishing the license plate program; and (2) the
36 liaison appointed by the commissioner has provided the commission
37 with a minimum of 500 completed applications for the license
38 plates.

39 The provisions of the bill will remain inoperative until the first
40 day of the 13th month following the date on which the money to
41 offset the initial costs to establish the license plate program and a
42 minimum of 500 applications are provided to the commission. The
43 bill expires on the last day of the 12th month after enactment if
44 sufficient applications and fees to offset the initial costs are not
45 received by that date.