

CHAPTER NO. 876

SENATE BILL NO. 1303

By Haun, Herron, Cohen

Substituted for: House Bill No. 1893

By Head, Patton, Langster, McDaniel, Brown

AN ACT To amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 54 and Title 55.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-201(b), is amended by deleting subdivision (2) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(2) An additional fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) to be paid by the applicant upon issuance and renewal, except as specifically provided otherwise by § 55-4-203 or any other applicable provision of this part; provided that such fee shall be thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) for all cultural, specialty earmarked and new specialty earmarked license plates issued and renewed, or renewable, on or after September 1, 2002.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-203, is amended by deleting subsection (d) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(d) All other cultural, specialty earmarked and new specialty earmarked plates authorized by this part shall be issued upon the payment of a fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) in addition to the regular registration fee; provided that such fee shall be thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) for all such plates issued on or after September 1, 2002, in accordance with the provisions of § 55-4-201(b)(2).

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-201, is amended by adding the following language as new, appropriately designated subsections:

(h) (1) Notwithstanding any provision of this part to the contrary, any cultural or new specialty earmarked license plate authorized by statute after on or after July 1, 2002, shall be subject to a minimum order of at least one thousand (1,000) plates prior to initial issuance. The provisions of this subdivision shall apply equally to the renewal of any cultural or new specialty earmarked plate initially issued on or after July 1, 2002. Any such plate that does not meet the minimum order requirements of this subdivision within one (1) year of the effective date of the act authorizing such plate, or does not meet the renewal requirements for any two (2) successive renewal periods thereafter, shall not be issued, reissued or renewed and shall be deemed obsolete and invalid. The commissioner shall annually notify the executive secretary of the Tennessee code commission of the sections of Tennessee Code Annotated authorizing the issuance of plates deemed obsolete and invalid pursuant to the provisions of this subdivision.

(2) The provisions of subdivision (1) shall not apply to collegiate plates otherwise administered pursuant to the provisions of this part; provided that on

and after July 1, 2002, collegiate plates for four-year colleges or universities located outside Tennessee shall be subject to a minimum order of at least one thousand (1,000) plates prior to initial issuance by the department. The provisions of this subdivision shall apply equally to the renewal of any collegiate plates for four-year colleges or universities located outside Tennessee initially issued by the department on or after July 1, 2002. Any such plate that does not meet the minimum order requirements of this subdivision or does not meet the renewal requirements for any two (2) successive renewal periods, shall not be administratively issued, reissued or renewed by the department and shall be deemed obsolete and invalid.

(3) (A) Notwithstanding any provision of this part to the contrary, between July 1, 2002 and August 31, 2002, any cultural license plate authorized by § 55-4-264 shall be subject to a minimum order of at least two hundred fifty (250) plates prior to initial issuance. The provisions of subdivision (3)(A) shall apply equally to the renewal of any cultural license plate authorized by § 55-4-264 and initially issued between July 1, 2002 and August 31, 2002. Any such plate that does not meet the minimum order requirements of subdivision (3)(A) or does not meet the renewal requirements for any two (2) successive renewal periods, shall not be administratively issued, reissued or renewed by the department and shall be deemed obsolete and invalid.

(B) On or after September 1, 2002, any cultural license plate authorized by § 55-4-264 shall be subject to a minimum order of at least one thousand (1,000) plates prior to initial issuance. The provisions of subdivision (3)(B) shall apply equally to the renewal of any cultural license plate authorized by § 55-4-264 and initially issued on or after September 1, 2002. Any such plate that does not meet the minimum order requirements of subdivision (3)(B) or does not meet the renewal requirements for any two (2) successive renewal periods, shall not be administratively issued, reissued or renewed by the department and shall be deemed obsolete and invalid.

(i) The Comptroller of the Treasury shall conduct a performance audit of the Department of Safety's policies, procedures and directives as to the administration of Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, relative to special license plates. Such audit shall include, but shall not be limited to, an analysis of the fees collected versus the costs of manufacturing, issuing and administering such special license plates, and an examination of the associated costs of special license plates, including the costs of county clerks in storage, handling and issuance of such special license plates. The office of the Comptroller of the Treasury shall report its findings and recommendations to the Transportation Committee of the Senate and to the Transportation Committee of the House of Representatives on or before February 5, 2003.

(j) All funds produced from the sale or renewal of cultural, specialty earmarked and new specialty earmarked license plates shall be used exclusively in Tennessee to support departments, agencies, charities, programs and other activities impacting Tennessee, as authorized pursuant to the provisions of this part.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(5)(U), is amended by adding the following as new subdivisions (xi) and (xii):

(xi) Silver Star recipients;

(xii) Bronze Star recipients;

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-203(c), is amended by deleting the word "and" at the end of subdivision (9); by deleting the period (.) at the end of subdivision (10) and by substituting instead a semicolon (;); and by adding the following as new subdivisions (11) and (12):

(11) Silver Star recipients; and

(12) Bronze Star recipients.

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) A recipient of the Silver Star or a recipient of the Bronze Star who is a resident of this state and who is an owner or lessee of a motor vehicle, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and upon paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a distinctive Silver Star or Bronze Star motor vehicle registration plate, as appropriate, for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) (1) The Silver Star plates provided for in this section shall include an identification legend distinctive to recipients of the Silver Star. The legend shall read "Silver Star". The registration number of the plate shall include the letters "SS" and a unique identifying number.

(2) The Bronze Star plates provided for in this section shall include an identification legend distinctive to recipients of the Bronze Star. The legend shall read "Bronze Star". The registration number of the plate shall include the letters "BS" and a unique identifying number.

(c) Eligibility for Silver Star plates and Bronze Star plates shall be determined by the Department of Safety by consulting the appropriate information on the DD214 form (or in a case of military service predating 1950, in consultation with appropriate information on the equivalent form or on other official documentation) or a written communication from the Department of Veterans Affairs, such form, documentation or communication certifying that the application for such plate is submitted by a recipient of the Silver Star or a recipient of the Bronze Star, as appropriate.

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(5), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Technology;

SECTION 8. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle, and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a Technology Cultural License Plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The cultural license plates provided for in this section shall contain an appropriate logo or design embodying technology in Tennessee and shall be designed in consultation with a designee of the Nashville Linux Users Group.

(c) The funds produced from the sale of such Technology Cultural License Plates shall be allocated in accordance with § 55-4-216.

SECTION 9. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(5), is amended by adding the following as a new subdivision:

(_) Share the Road;

SECTION 10. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle, and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a Share the Road Cultural License Plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The cultural license plates provided for in this section shall contain an appropriate logo or design and shall include the phrase "Share the Road". Such plates shall be designed in consultation with the president of the Harpeth Bicycle Club. Prior to submitting the design of such plates, the president of the Harpeth Bicycle Club shall solicit design ideas from other on-road bicycle clubs located in the State of Tennessee.

(c) The funds produced from the sale of such Share the Road cultural license plates shall be allocated in accordance with § 55-4-216.

SECTION 11. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(5), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Harley Owner's Group (HOG);

SECTION 12. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a Harley Owner's Group (HOG) cultural license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The cultural plates provided for in this section shall bear the logo or other distinctive emblem of the Harley Owner's Group (HOG) and shall include the language "HOG" in an appropriate design. Such plates shall be designed in consultation with the President of the Harley Owner's Group (HOG).

(c) The funds produced from the sale of such Harley Owner's Group cultural license plates shall be allocated in accordance with § 55-4-216.

SECTION 13. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Tennessee State Guard;

SECTION 14. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a Tennessee State Guard new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked license plates provided for in this section shall contain the official seal of the Tennessee State Guard and shall bear the language "TENNESSEE STATE GUARD" in an appropriate design. Such plates shall be designed in consultation with the commanding officer of the Tennessee State Guard.

(c) (1) The funds produced from the sale of such Tennessee State Guard new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the Tennessee State Guard, established by Title 58, Chapter 1, Part 4, in accordance with the provisions of § 55-4-215. Such funds shall be used exclusively to further the statutory mission of the Tennessee State Guard.

(2) Such funds may only be expended to fund activities authorized by this section. Any funds allocated to the Tennessee State Guard pursuant to this section shall remain in reserve until expended for purposes consistent with the section, and shall not revert to the general fund on any June 30. Any interest earned on moneys allocated to the Tennessee State Guard pursuant to this section shall not revert to the general fund on any June 30, but shall remain available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years.

SECTION 15. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Memphis Zoo;

SECTION 16. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a Memphis Zoo new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked license plates provided for in this section shall contain an appropriate logo or design representative of the Memphis Zoo. Such plates shall be designed in consultation with the president and board of directors of the Memphis Zoological Society.

(c) The funds produced from the sale of Memphis Zoo new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the Memphis Zoological Society in accordance with the provisions of § 55-4-215. Such funds shall be used exclusively for the acquisition of a breeding pair of Giant Pandas and for other zoological and educational purposes.

SECTION 17. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Civil Rights;

SECTION 18. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a civil rights new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked license plates provided for in this section shall be designed in consultation with the board of directors of the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tennessee.

(c) The funds produced from the sale of such new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tennessee, in accordance with § 55-4-215. Such funds shall be used exclusively for educational purposes.

SECTION 19. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Title VI;

SECTION 20. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a Title VI new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked license plates provided for in this section shall be designed in consultation with the Tennessee Title VI Compliance Commission.

(c) The funds produced from the sale of such new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the Tennessee Title VI Compliance Commission in accordance with § 55-4-215. Such funds shall be used exclusively in furtherance of the commission's mission.

SECTION 21. (a) Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Sons of Confederate Veterans;

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of this act to the contrary, this section shall take effect July 1, 2002, the public welfare requiring it.

SECTION 22. (a) Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a Sons of Confederate Veterans new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked license plates provided for in this section shall be of the colors and contain the logo of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Such plates shall be designed in consultation with the commander of the Tennessee Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

(c) The funds produced from the sale of Sons of Confederate Veterans new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the Tennessee Division of Sons of Confederate Veterans in accordance with the provisions of § 55-4-215.

SECTION 23. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Kiwanis International;

SECTION 24. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a Kiwanis International new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked license plates provided for in this section shall contain the logo or other appropriate design representative of Kiwanis International.

Such plates shall be designed in consultation with a Tennessee representative of Kiwanis International.

(c) The funds produced from the sale of Kiwanis International new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to Kiwanis International in accordance with the provisions of § 55-4-215. Such funds shall be used exclusively to fund activities and programs of Kiwanis International's Worldwide Service Project.

SECTION 25. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Memphis Redbirds;

SECTION 26. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a Memphis Redbirds new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked license plates provided for in this section shall contain the official logo or logos of the Memphis Redbirds baseball club. Such plates shall be designed in consultation and with the approval of the president of the Memphis Redbirds baseball club.

(c) The funds produced from the sale of Memphis Redbirds new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the nonprofit Memphis Redbirds Foundation in accordance with the provisions of § 55-4-215. Such funds shall be used exclusively for the Memphis Redbirds' STRIPES (Sports Teams Returning In the Public Education System) program which has renewed and supports middle school baseball in Memphis.

SECTION 27. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) East Tennessee Children's Hospital;

SECTION 28. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued an East Tennessee Children's Hospital new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked license plates provided for in this section shall bear an appropriate design and shall be designed in consultation with the chairperson of the board of the East Tennessee Children's Hospital.

(c) The funds produced from the sale of such new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the East Tennessee Children's Hospital in accordance with § 55-4-215.

SECTION 29. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Tennessee Titans;

SECTION 30. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a Tennessee Titans new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall bear the official colors and logo of the Tennessee Titans National Football League (NFL) team and shall include the language "TITANS" in an appropriate design. The design of the plates shall be subject to the approval of the Tennessee Titans and the NFL, and shall additionally afford such trademark protection as the Tennessee Titans and the NFL shall require as otherwise permitted by law.

(c) In accordance with § 55-4-215, the funds produced from the sale of such Tennessee Titans new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the Tennessee Titans Foundation to be distributed in equal shares to the following organizations within thirty (30) days of allocation in the name of the Tennessee Titans Foundation and the State of Tennessee from the sale of specialty license plates:

- (1) Camp Discovery;
- (2) Jason Foundation;
- (3) Boy Scouts of Tennessee;
- (4) Girl Scouts of Tennessee;
- (5) Boys & Girls Club of Tennessee;
- (6) St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital;
- (7) Vanderbilt Children's Hospital;
- (8) Baptist Hospital Maternity/Birthing Center;

- (9) Tennessee State University Scholarship Fund; and
- (10) Fisk University Scholarship Fund.

SECTION 31. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Memphis Grizzlies;

SECTION 32. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a Memphis Grizzlies new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall bear the official colors and logo of the Memphis Grizzlies National Basketball Association (NBA) team and shall include the language "Grizzlies" in an appropriate design. The design of the plates shall be subject to the approval of the Memphis Grizzlies and the NBA, and shall additionally afford such trademark protection as the Memphis Grizzlies and the NBA shall require as otherwise permitted by law.

(c) In accordance with § 55-4-215, the funds produced from the sale of such Memphis Grizzlies new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the Memphis Grizzlies Foundation to be distributed in equal shares to the following organizations within thirty (30) days of allocation in the name of the Grizzlies Foundation and the State of Tennessee from the sale of specialty license plates:

- (1) Grizzlies Bridges;
- (2) Camp Discovery;
- (3) Memphis College of Art Scholarship Fund;
- (4) St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital;
- (5) National Civil Rights Museum; and
- (6) Memphis Zoo.

SECTION 33. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Nashville Predators;

SECTION 34. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a Nashville Predators new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall bear the official colors and logo of the Nashville Predators National Hockey League (NHL) team and shall include the language "Predators" in an appropriate design. The design of the plates shall be subject to the approval of the Nashville Predators and the NHL, and shall additionally afford such trademark protection as the Nashville Predators and the NHL shall require as otherwise permitted by law.

(c) In accordance with § 55-4-215, the funds produced from the sale of such Nashville Predators new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the Predators Foundation to be distributed in equal shares to the following organizations within thirty (30) days of allocation in the name of the Predators Foundation and the State of Tennessee from the sale of specialty license plates:

- (1) Tennessee Sled Hockey Association;
- (2) PENCIL Foundation;
- (3) Camp Discovery;
- (4) Nashville Humane Society;
- (5) Vanderbilt Children's Hospital; and
- (6) Nashville Zoo.

SECTION 35. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

- (_) Proud To Be An American;

SECTION 36. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) (1) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a "Proud To Be An American" new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(2) The dual purpose of the plates provided for in this section is to express the patriotism, spirit and resolve of Tennesseans in the wake of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and to allow Tennesseans to voluntarily

contribute to local school systems and local schools that are struggling to attain student performance standards mandated by state law.

(b) The new specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall be produced upon a background of an American flag and shall include the phrase "Proud To Be An American".

(c) (1) The funds produced from the sale of such "Proud To Be An American" new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated in accordance with the provisions of § 55-4-215.

(2) All funds allocated pursuant to § 55-4-215(a)(1), shall be distributed to school systems and schools that have failed to attain the student performance standards mandated by Title 49, Chapter 1, Part 6, and have been placed on probation pursuant to § 49-1-602. Such funds shall be distributed to such school systems and schools in accordance with a formula to be developed by the state board of education.

(d) Any funds received pursuant to this section shall not result in any reduction in appropriations otherwise made to local school systems or local schools.

(e) The state board of education is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to establish a formula for the equitable distribution of funds to school systems and schools from the funds produced from the sale of the new specialty earmarked license plates authorized by this act. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5.

SECTION 37. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) United For America;

SECTION 38. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a United For America new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall be produced upon a background of a waving American flag and shall include phrases substantially similar to "Volunteer State" and "United For America". Such plates shall be designed in consultation with the chairpersons of the House and Senate Transportation Committees and the director of the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency.

(c) The funds produced from the sale of such United For America new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the Tennessee Emergency Management

Agency, created by § 58-2-103, for purposes of disaster planning and emergency preparedness in accordance with § 55-4-215.

(d) Any funds received pursuant to this section shall not result in any reduction in appropriations otherwise made to the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency.

SECTION 39. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Eagle Foundation;

SECTION 40. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued an Eagle Foundation new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall contain the official logo of the Eagle Foundation and/or a representation of the American bald eagle. Such plates shall be designed in consultation with the board of directors of the Eagle Foundation.

(c) The funds produced from the sale of such Eagle Foundation new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the Eagle Foundation in accordance with the provisions of § 55-4-215. Such funds shall be used exclusively for the preservation of the American bald eagle and its habitat.

SECTION 41. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Memphis and Shelby County Humane Society;

SECTION 42. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a Memphis and Shelby County Humane Society new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall contain an appropriate logo and design representative of the humane society and shall be designed in consultation with Memphis and Shelby County Humane Society.

(c) In accordance with § 55-4-215, the funds produced from the sale of such Memphis and Shelby County Humane Society new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the Memphis and Shelby County Humane Society for educational and operational programs.

SECTION 43. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated item:

(_) City of Oak Ridge;

SECTION 44. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a City of Oak Ridge new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall contain the official seal or other appropriate logo or design representative of the City of Oak Ridge and shall be designed in consultation with the city manager and city council of Oak Ridge.

(c) The funds produced from the sale of such City of Oak Ridge new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the Oak Ridge Public Schools Education Foundation in accordance with § 55-4-215. Such funds shall be used exclusively to provide additional funding for educational programs in grades K-12 in the Oak Ridge school system.

(d) Any funds received pursuant to this section shall not result in any reduction in appropriations otherwise made to local school systems or local schools.

SECTION 45. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation;

SECTION 46. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall contain the official logo of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and/or a representation of the Rocky Mountain elk. Such plates shall be designed in consultation with the board of directors of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

(c) The funds produced from the sale of such Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation in accordance with the provisions of § 55-4-215. Such funds shall be used exclusively for the preservation of the Rocky Mountain elk and its habitat.

SECTION 47. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Friends of the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area;

SECTION 48. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of the State of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a Friends of the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall be designed in consultation with a representative of Friends of the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area, Inc.

(c) In accordance with § 55-4-215, the funds produced from the sale of such Friends of the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the Friends of the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area, Inc. Such funds shall be used exclusively for the assistance of the National Park Service in the care of the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area.

SECTION 49. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Ruritan National;

SECTION 50. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a Ruritan National new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked license plates provided for in this section shall contain the logo or other appropriate design representative of Ruritan National. Such plates shall be designed in consultation with the executive director of Ruritan National.

(c) The funds produced from the sale of Ruritan National new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the Ruritan National Foundation in accordance with the provisions of § 55-4-215. Such funds shall be used exclusively to fund the Ruritan National Foundation's student financial aid program and disaster relief program.

SECTION 51. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Vanderbilt Children's Hospital;

SECTION 52. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a Vanderbilt Children's Hospital new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The purpose of such plate is to recognize and support the many contributions to children's health care made by the Vanderbilt Children's Hospital.

(c) The plates provided for in this section shall bear an appropriate design or logo that represents the commitment to children's health care exhibited by the Vanderbilt Children's Hospital. The new specialty license plates provided for in this section shall be designed in consultation with the Vanderbilt University Board of Trust.

(d) In accordance with the provisions of § 55-4-215, the funds produced from the sale of such Vanderbilt Children's Hospital new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the Vanderbilt Children's Hospital of Vanderbilt University.

SECTION 53. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Nashville Zoo at Grassmere;

SECTION 54. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a Nashville Zoo at Grassmere new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked license plates provided for in this section shall contain the logo or other appropriate design representative of the Nashville Zoo at Grassmere. Such plates shall be designed in consultation with a representative of the Nashville Zoo at Grassmere.

(c) The funds produced from the sale of such new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the Nashville Zoo at Grassmere in accordance with the provisions of § 55-4-215. Such funds shall be used exclusively for animal feeding and care, animal acquisitions, exhibit design and construction, and educational programs.

SECTION 55. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) State Parks;

SECTION 56. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a state park new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked license plates provided for in this section shall be designed in consultation with the director of the Tennessee Recreation and Parks Association.

(c) In accordance with § 55-4-215, the funds produced from the sale of such new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the division of state parks in the Department of Environment and Conservation to be used solely for the maintenance of hiking trails and non-developed natural areas and their support facilities within Tennessee's state parks.

SECTION 57. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Public Television;

SECTION 58. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a public television new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked license plates provided for in this section shall be designed in consultation with the Tennessee Public Television Council.

(c) In accordance with § 55-4-215, the funds produced from the sale of such new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the Tennessee Public Television Council to be used solely for member station program support.

SECTION 59. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Retired Fire Fighters;

SECTION 60. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a retired fire fighters new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The new specialty earmarked license plates provided for in this section shall be designed in consultation with a representative of the Memphis fire fighters association.

(c) In accordance with § 55-4-215, the funds produced from the sale of such new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the Fire Museum of Memphis.

SECTION 61. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(5), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(_) Tennessee Valley Authority 70th Anniversary;

SECTION 62. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2___. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle, and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a Tennessee Valley Authority 70th Anniversary cultural license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) The cultural license plates provided for in this section may contain a phrase substantially similar to "TVA 70th Anniversary" with an appropriate design and shall be designed in consultation with the Tennessee Valley Authority.

(c) The funds produced from the sale of such Tennessee Valley Authority 70th Anniversary cultural license plates shall be allocated in accordance with § 55-4-216.

SECTION 63. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-211(a), is amended by deleting subdivision (1) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(1) In addition to the personalized plates authorized by § 55-4-210, an applicant may, through the payment of a personalization fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) in addition to the regular registration fee and the twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) fee established by § 55-4-201(b)(2), obtain certain cultural, specialty earmarked and new specialty

earmarked plates with a personalized combination of numbers, letters, positions or a combination thereof; provided that the personalization fee and the fee established by § 55-4-201(b)(2) shall each be thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) for all such plates issued and renewed, or renewable, on or after September 1, 2002.

SECTION 64. The provisions of § 55-4-201(f) shall not apply to this act.

SECTION 65. The Commissioner of Safety is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the provisions of this act. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in Title 4, Chapter 5.

SECTION 66. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 67. This act shall take effect on upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: July 3, 2002


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this day of 2002

DON SUNDQUIST, GOVERNOR

Pursuant to Article III, Section 18, of the Constitution of the State of Tennessee, the Governor had Senate Bill No. 1303 in his possession longer than ten (10) days, so therefore the bill becomes law without the Governor's signature.