

CHAPTER 5

H.B. No. 3

AN ACT

relating to registration of a motor vehicle for which personalized license plates are issued.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 5c, Chapter 88, General Laws, Acts of the 41st Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 1929 (Article 6675a-5c, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5c. SPECIAL PERSONALIZED PRESTIGE LICENSE PLATES. (a) The State ~~[Highway]~~ Department of *Highways and Public Transportation* shall establish and issue special personalized prestige license plates. For a fee of *Forty Dollars (\$40) per year in which a vehicle is registered* ~~[Seventy-five Dollars (\$75) which fee shall be]~~ in addition to the regular motor vehicle registration fee, any owner may apply for issuance of ~~[said]~~ personalized license plates. The Department shall establish and promulgate procedures for application for and issuance of ~~[such]~~ special personalized prestige license plates *on a staggered, year-round basis* ~~[and provide a deadline each year for the applications]~~. No two owners will be issued identical lettered and/or numbered plates. An owner must make a new application and pay a new fee each *registration period for which* ~~[year]~~ he desires to obtain special personalized prestige license plates. However, once an owner obtains personalized plates, he will have first priority on those plates for each of the following *registration periods for which* ~~[years that]~~ he makes *the* ~~[timely and]~~ appropriate application.

(b) *The Department shall issue to an applicant only one set of personalized prestige license plates for a vehicle for each six-year period. On application and payment of the required fee for the registration periods following the issuance of the plates, the Department shall issue a symbol, tab, or other device to be attached to the plates.*

(c) One Dollar and Twenty-five Cents (\$1.25) of each fee collected by the Department under this Section shall be deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the State Highway Fund to defray the costs of administration of this Section, and the remainder of each fee shall be deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the General Revenue Fund.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect on January 1, 1987, and fees provided by this Act apply to applications for personalized license plates received by the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation on or after that date. An application that is received before the effective date of this Act is covered by the law as it existed at the time of the application, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 3. Not later than January 1, 1987, the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation shall implement a program for the year-round registration of motor vehicles for which personalized prestige license plates are issued.

SECTION 4. A person who did not renew personalized plates on or after September 1, 1985, has priority on those plates if:

- (1) the person's application for the plates is received by the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation not later than March 31, 1987; and
- (2) the plates were not issued to another person before January 1, 1987.

SECTION 5. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended.

Passed by the House on August 22, 1986, by a non-record vote; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 3 on September 3, 1986, by a non-record vote. Passed by the Senate, with amendments, on September 2, 1986, by a viva-voce vote.

Approved Sept. 18, 1986.

Effective Jan. 1, 1987.