

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1999

S

1

SENATE BILL 235

Short Title: "Kids First"Registration Plates.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators Hagan; Carter, Cooper, Dalton, Dannelly, Garrou, Gulley, Harris, Hartsell, Kinnaid, Lucas, Martin of Guilford, Metcalf, Miller, Moore, Perdue, Phillips, Robinson, Shaw of Cumberland, Shaw of Guilford, and Wellons.

Referred to: Finance.

March 4, 1999

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO ISSUE
"KIDS FIRST"SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 20-79.4(b) reads as rewritten:

"(b) Types. – The Division shall issue the following types of special registration plates:

(1) Administrative Officer of the Courts. – Issuable to the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts. The plate shall bear the phrase "J-20".

(2) Amateur Radio Operator. – Issuable to an amateur radio operator who holds an unexpired and unrevoked amateur radio license issued by the Federal Communications Commission and who asserts to the Division that a portable transceiver is carried in the vehicle. The plate shall bear the phrase "Amateur Radio". The plate shall bear the operator's official amateur radio call letters, or call letters with numerical or letter suffixes so that an owner of more than one vehicle may have the call letters on each.

- 1 (3) American Legion. – Issuable to a member of the American Legion. The
2 plate shall bear the words "American Legion"and the emblem of the
3 American Legion. The Division may not issue the plate authorized by
4 this subdivision unless it receives at least 300 applications for the plate.
- 5 (3a) Bronze Star Recipient. – Issuable to a recipient of the Bronze Star. The
6 plate shall bear the emblem of the Bronze Star and the words "Bronze
7 Star".
- 8 (4) Civil Air Patrol Member. – Issuable to an active member of the North
9 Carolina Wing of the Civil Air Patrol. The plate shall bear the phrase
10 "Civil Air Patrol". A plate issued to an officer member shall begin with
11 the number "201"and the number shall reflect the seniority of the
12 member; a plate issued to an enlisted member, a senior member, or a
13 cadet member shall begin with the number "501".
- 14 (5) Civic Club. – Issuable to a member of a nationally recognized civic
15 organization whose member clubs in the State are exempt from State
16 corporate income tax under G.S. 105-130.11(a)(5). Examples of these
17 clubs include Jaycees, Kiwanis, Optimist, Rotary, Ruritan, and Shrine.
18 The plate shall bear a word or phrase identifying the civic club and the
19 emblem of the civic club. The Division may not issue a civic club plate
20 authorized by this subdivision unless it receives at least 300 applications
21 for that civic club plate.
- 22 (6) Class D Citizen's Radio Station Operator. – Issuable to a Class D
23 citizen's radio station operator. For an operator who has been issued
24 Class D citizen's radio station call letters by the Federal
25 Communications Commission, the plate shall bear the operator's official
26 Class D citizen's radio station call letters. For an operator who has not
27 been issued Class D citizen's radio station call letters by the Federal
28 Communications Commission, the plate shall bear the phrase "Citizen's
29 Band Radio".
- 30 (7) Clerk of Superior Court. – Issuable to a current or retired clerk of
31 superior court. A plate issued to a current clerk shall bear the phrase
32 "Clerk Superior Court"and the letter "C"followed by a number that
33 indicates the county the clerk serves. A plate issued to a retired clerk
34 shall bear the phrase "Clerk Superior Court, Retired", the letter
35 "C"followed by a number that indicates the county the clerk served, and
36 the letter "X"indicating the clerk's retired status.
- 37 (8) Coast Guard Auxiliary Member. – Issuable to an active member of the
38 United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. The plate shall bear the phrase
39 "Coast Guard Auxiliary".
- 40 (9) Collegiate Insignia Plate. – Issuable to the registered owner of a motor
41 vehicle in accordance with G.S. 20-81.12. The plate may bear a phrase
42 or an insignia representing a public or private college or university.

- 1 (10) Combat Veteran. – Issuable to a veteran of the armed forces who served
2 in a combat zone, or in waters adjacent to a combat zone, during a
3 period of war and who was separated from the armed forces under
4 honorable conditions. The Division may not issue the plate authorized
5 by this subdivision unless it receives at least 300 applications for the
6 plate. A "period of war" is any of the following:
- 7 a. World War I, which began April 16, 1917, and ended November
8 11, 1918.
 - 9 b. World War II, which began December 7, 1941, and ended
10 December 31, 1946.
 - 11 c. The Korean Conflict, which began June 27, 1950, and ended
12 January 31, 1955.
 - 13 d. The Vietnam Era, which began August 5, 1964, and ended May
14 7, 1975.
 - 15 e. The Persian Gulf War.
 - 16 f. Any other campaign, expedition, or engagement for which the
17 United States Department of Defense authorizes a campaign
18 badge or medal.
- 19 (11) County Commissioner. – Issuable to a county commissioner of a county
20 in this State. The plate shall bear the words "County
21 Commissioner" followed first by a number representing the
22 commissioner's county and then by a letter or number that distinguishes
23 plates issued to county commissioners of the same county. The number
24 of a county shall be the order of the county in an alphabetical list of
25 counties that assigns number one to the first county in the list and a
26 letter or number to distinguish different cars owned by the county
27 commissioners in that county. The Division may not issue the plate
28 authorized by this subdivision unless it receives at least 300 applications
29 for the plate.
- 30 (12) Disabled Veteran. – Issuable to a veteran of the armed forces of the
31 United States who suffered a 100% service-connected disability.
- 32 (12a) Distinguished Flying Cross. – Issuable to a recipient of the
33 Distinguished Flying Cross. The plate shall bear the emblem of the
34 Distinguished Flying Cross and the words "Distinguished Flying Cross".
- 35 (13) District Attorney. – Issuable to a North Carolina or United States
36 District Attorney. The plate issuable to a North Carolina district attorney
37 shall bear the letters "DA" followed by a number that represents the
38 prosecutorial district the district attorney serves. The plate for a United
39 States attorney shall bear the phrase "U.S. Attorney" followed by a
40 number that represents the district the attorney serves, with 1 being the
41 Eastern District, 2 being the Middle District, and 3 being the Western
42 District.

- 1 (13a) Eagle Scout. – Issuable to a young man who has been certified as an
2 Eagle Scout by the Boy Scouts of America, or to his parents or
3 guardians. The plate shall bear the insignia of the Boy Scouts of
4 America and shall bear the words "Eagle Scout". The Division may not
5 issue the plate authorized by this subdivision unless it receives at least
6 300 applications for the plate.
- 7 (14) 82nd Airborne Division Association Member. – Issuable to a member of
8 the 82nd Airborne Division Association, Inc. The plate shall bear the
9 insignia of the 82nd Airborne Division Association, Inc. The Division
10 may not issue the plate authorized by this subdivision unless it receives
11 at least 300 applications for the plate.
- 12 (15) Fire Department or Rescue Squad Member. – Issuable to an active
13 regular member or volunteer member of a fire department, rescue squad,
14 or both a fire department and rescue squad. The plate shall bear the
15 words "Firefighter", "Rescue Squad", or "Firefighter-Rescue Squad".
- 16 (16) Future Farmers of America. – Issuable to a member or a supporter of the
17 National Future Farmers of America Organization. The plate shall bear
18 the emblem of the organization and the letters "FFA". The Division may
19 not issue the plate authorized by this subdivision unless it receives at
20 least 300 applications for the plate.
- 21 (16a) Girl Scout Gold Award recipient. – Issuable to a young woman who has
22 been certified as a Girl Scout Gold Award recipient by the Girl Scouts
23 of the U.S.A., or to her parents or guardians. The plate shall bear the
24 insignia of the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. and shall bear the words "Girl
25 Scout Gold Award". The Division may not issue the plate authorized by
26 this subdivision unless it receives at least 300 applications for the plate.
- 27 (17) Historic Vehicle Owner. – Issuable for a motor vehicle that is at least 35
28 years old measured from the date of manufacture. The plate for an
29 historic vehicle shall bear the word "Antique" unless the vehicle is a
30 model year 1943 or older. The plate for a vehicle that is a model year
31 1943 or older shall bear the word "Antique" or the words "Horseless
32 Carriage", at the option of the vehicle owner.
- 33 (18) Historical Attraction Plate. – Issuable to the registered owner of a motor
34 vehicle in accordance with G.S. 20-81.12. The plate may bear a phrase
35 or an insignia representing a publicly owned or nonprofit historical
36 attraction located in North Carolina.
- 37 (19) Honorary Plate. – Issuable to a member of the Honorary Consular
38 Corps, who has been certified by the U. S. State Department, the plate
39 shall bear the words "Honorary Consular Corps" and a distinguishing
40 number based on the order of issuance.
- 41 (20) Judge or Justice. – Issuable to a sitting or retired judge or justice in
42 accordance with G.S. 20-79.6.

- 1 (20a) Kids First. – Issuable to the registered owner of a motor vehicle in
2 accordance with G.S. 20-81.12. The plate may bear the phrase "Kids
3 First"and a logo of children's hands.
- 4 (21) Legion of Valor. – Issuable to a recipient of one of the following
5 military decorations: the Congressional Medal of Honor, the
6 Distinguished Service Cross, the Navy Cross, or the Air Force Cross.
7 The plate shall bear the emblem and name of the recipient's decoration.
- 8 (22) Legislator. – Issuable to a member of the North Carolina General
9 Assembly. The plate shall bear "The Great Seal of the State of North
10 Carolina"and, as appropriate, the word "Senate"or "House"followed by
11 the Senator's or Representative's assigned seat number.
- 12 (23) Magistrate. – Issuable to a North Carolina magistrate. The plate shall
13 bear the letters "MJ"followed by a number indicating the district court
14 district the magistrate serves, then by a hyphen, and then by a number
15 indicating the seniority of the magistrate. The Division shall use the
16 number "9"to designate District Court Districts 9 and 9B.
- 17 (24) March of Dimes. – Issuable to the registered owner of a motor vehicle
18 in accordance with G.S. 20-81.12. The plate may bear a phrase or an
19 insignia representing the March of Dimes Foundation.
- 20 (25) Marshal. – Issuable to a United States Marshal. The plate shall bear the
21 phrase "U.S. Marshal"followed by a number that represents the district
22 the Marshal serves, with 1 being the Eastern District, 2 being the Middle
23 District, and 3 being the Western District.
- 24 (26) Military Reservist. – Issuable to a member of a reserve component of
25 the armed forces of the United States. The plate shall bear the name and
26 insignia of the appropriate reserve component. Plates shall be numbered
27 sequentially for members of a component with the numbers 1 through
28 5000 reserved for officers, without regard to rank.
- 29 (27) Military Retiree. – Issuable to an individual who has retired from the
30 armed forces of the United States. The plate shall bear the word
31 "Retired"and the name and insignia of the branch of service from which
32 the individual retired. The Division may not issue the plate authorized
33 by this subdivision unless it receives at least 300 applications for the
34 plate.
- 35 (28) National Guard Member. – Issuable to an active or a retired member of
36 the North Carolina National Guard. The plate shall bear the phrase
37 "National Guard". A plate issued to an active member shall bear a
38 number that reflects the seniority of the member; a plate issued to a
39 commissioned officer shall begin with the number "1"; a plate issued to
40 a noncommissioned officer with a rank of E7, E8, or E9 shall begin with
41 the number "1601"; a plate issued to an enlisted member with a rank of
42 E6 or below shall begin with the number "3001". The plate issued to a
43 retired or separated member shall indicate the member's retired status.

- 1 (28a) Native American. – Issuable to the registered owner of a motor vehicle.
2 The plate may bear a phrase or an insignia representing Native
3 Americans. The Division must receive 300 or more applications for the
4 plate before it may be developed.
- 5 (29) Olympic Games. – Issuable to the registered owner of a motor vehicle in
6 accordance with G.S. 20-81.12. The plate may bear a phrase or insignia
7 representing the Olympic Games.
- 8 (30) Partially Disabled Veteran. – Issuable to a veteran of the armed forces
9 of the United States who suffered a service connected disability of less
10 than 100%.
- 11 (31) Pearl Harbor Survivor. – Issuable to a veteran of the armed forces of the
12 United States who was present at and survived the attack on Pearl
13 Harbor on December 7, 1941. The plate will bear the phrase "Pearl
14 Harbor Survivor"and the insignia of the Pearl Harbor Survivors'
15 Association.
- 16 (32) Personalized. – Issuable to the registered owner of a motor vehicle. The
17 plate will bear the letters or letters and numbers requested by the owner.
18 The Division may refuse to issue a plate with a letter combination that is
19 offensive to good taste and decency. The Division may not issue a plate
20 that duplicates another plate.
- 21 (33) Prisoner of War. – Issuable to the following:
- 22 a. A member or veteran member of the armed forces of the United
23 States who has been captured and held prisoner by forces hostile
24 to the United States while serving in the armed forces.
- 25 b. The surviving spouse of a person who had a prisoner of war plate
26 at the time of death so long as the surviving spouse continues to
27 renew the plate and does not remarry.
- 28 (34) Professional Sports Fan. – Issuable to the registered owner of a motor
29 vehicle. The plate shall bear the logo of a professional sports team
30 located in North Carolina. The Division shall receive 300 or more
31 applications for a professional sports fan plate before a plate may be
32 issued. The Division shall not develop a professional sports fan plate
33 unless the professional sports team licenses, without charge, the State to
34 use the official team logo on the plate.
- 35 (35) Purple Heart Recipient. – Issuable to a recipient of the Purple Heart
36 award. The plate shall bear the phrase "Purple Heart Veteran, Combat
37 Wounded"and the letters "PH".
- 38 (36) Register of Deeds. – Issuable to a register of deeds. The plate shall bear
39 the words "Register of Deeds"and the letter "R"followed by a number
40 representing the county of the register of deeds. The number of a county
41 shall be the order of the county in an alphabetical list of counties that
42 assigns number one to the first county in the list.

- 1 (37) Scenic Rivers. – Issuable to the registered owner of a motor vehicle in
2 accordance with G.S. 20-81.12. The plate shall bear the words "Scenic
3 Rivers"and a picture representing the unique beauty of the scenic rivers
4 of North Carolina.
- 5 (38) School Technology. – Issuable to the registered owner of a motor
6 vehicle in accordance with G.S. 20-81.12. The plate may bear a phrase
7 or an insignia representing the public school system in North Carolina.
- 8 (39) Sheriff. – Issuable to a current sheriff or to a retired sheriff who served
9 as sheriff for at least 10 years before retiring. A plate issued to a current
10 sheriff shall bear the word "Sheriff"and the letter "S"followed by a
11 number that indicates the county the sheriff serves. A plate issued to a
12 retired sheriff shall bear the phrase "Sheriff, Retired", the letter
13 "S"followed by a number that indicates the county the sheriff served,
14 and the letter "X"indicating the sheriff's retired status.
- 15 (39a) Silver Star Recipient. – Issuable to a recipient of the Silver Star. The
16 plate shall bear the emblem of the Silver Star and the words "Silver
17 Star".
- 18 (40) Soil and Water Conservation. – Issuable to the registered owner of a
19 motor vehicle in accordance with G.S. 20-81.12. The plate may bear a
20 phrase and picture appropriate to the subject of water quality and
21 environmental protection in North Carolina.
- 22 (41) Special Olympics. – Issuable to the registered owner of a motor vehicle
23 in accordance with G.S. 20-81.12. The plate may bear a phrase or an
24 insignia representing the North Carolina Special Olympics.
- 25 (42) Square Dance Clubs. – Issuable to a member of a recognized square
26 dance organization exempt from corporate income tax under G.S. 105-
27 130.11(a)(5). The plate shall bear a word or phrase identifying the club
28 and the emblem of the club. The Division shall not issue a dance club
29 plate authorized by this subdivision unless it receives at least 300
30 applications for that dance club plate.
- 31 (43) State Government Official. – Issuable to elected and appointed members
32 of State government in accordance with G.S. 20-79.5.
- 33 (44) State Attraction. – Issuable to the registered owner of a motor vehicle in
34 accordance with G.S. 20-81.12. The plate may bear a phrase or an
35 insignia representing a publicly owned or nonprofit State or federal
36 attraction located in North Carolina.
- 37 (45) Street Rod Owner. – Issuable to the registered owner of a modernized
38 private passenger motor vehicle manufactured prior to the year 1949 or
39 designed to resemble a vehicle manufactured prior to the year 1949. The
40 plate shall bear the phrase "Street Rod". The Division may not issue the
41 plate authorized by this subdivision unless it receives at least 300
42 applications for the plate.

- 1 (46) Transportation Personnel. – Issuable to various members of the
 2 Divisions of the Department of Transportation. The plate shall bear the
 3 letters "DOT" followed by a number from 1 to 85, as designated by the
 4 Governor.
- 5 (47) U.S. Representative. – Issuable to a United States Representative for
 6 North Carolina. The plate shall bear the phrase "U.S. House" and shall
 7 be issued on the basis of Congressional district numbers.
- 8 (48) U.S. Senator. – Issuable to a United States Senator for North Carolina.
 9 The plates shall bear the phrase "U.S. Senate" and shall be issued on the
 10 basis of seniority represented by the numbers 1 and 2.
- 11 (49) Veterans of Foreign Wars. – Issuable to a member or a supporter of the
 12 Veterans of Foreign Wars. The plate shall bear the words "Veterans of
 13 Foreign Wars" or "VFW" and the emblem of the VFW. The Division
 14 may not issue the plate authorized by this subdivision unless it receives
 15 at least 300 applications for the plate.
- 16 (50) Vietnam Veteran. – Issuable to a veteran of the armed forces of the
 17 United States who served in Vietnam. The Division may not issue the
 18 plate authorized by this subdivision unless it receives at least 300
 19 applications for the plate.
- 20 (51) Wildlife Resources. – Issuable to the registered owner of a motor
 21 vehicle in accordance with G.S. 20-81.12. The plate shall bear a picture
 22 representing a native wildlife species occurring in North Carolina."

23 Section 2. G.S. 20-79.7(a) reads as rewritten:

24 "(a) Fees. – Upon request, the Division shall provide and issue free of charge one
 25 registration plate to a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, a 100% disabled
 26 veteran, and an ex-prisoner of war. All other special registration plates are subject to the
 27 regular motor vehicle registration fee in G.S. 20-87 or G.S. 20-88 plus an additional fee
 28 in the following amount:

<u>Special Plate</u>	<u>Additional Fee Amount</u>
30 Historical Attraction	\$30.00
31 State Attraction	\$30.00
32 Collegiate Insignia	\$25.00
33 Olympic Games	\$25.00
34 Special Olympics	\$25.00
35 <u>Kids First</u>	<u>\$25.00</u>
36 March of Dimes	\$20.00
37 Scenic Rivers	\$20.00
38 School Technology	\$20.00
39 Soil and Water Conservation	\$20.00
40 Wildlife Resources	\$20.00
41 Personalized	\$20.00
42 Active Member of the National Guard	None
43 Purple Heart Recipient	None

1 All Other Special Plates \$10.00."

2 Section 3. G.S. 20-79.7(b) reads as rewritten:

3 "(b) Distribution of Fees. – The Special Registration Plate Account and the
 4 Collegiate and Cultural Attraction Plate Account are established within the Highway
 5 Fund. The Division must credit the additional fee imposed for the special registration
 6 plates listed in subsection (a) among the Special Registration Plate Account (SRPA), the
 7 Collegiate and Cultural Attraction Plate Account (CCAPA), and the Natural Heritage
 8 Trust Fund (NHTF), which is established under G.S. 113-77.7, as follows:

9 <u>Special Plate</u>	<u>SRPA</u>	<u>CCAPA</u>	<u>NHTF</u>
10 Historical Attraction	\$10	\$20	0
11 In-State Collegiate Insignia	\$10	\$15	0
12 Out-of-state Collegiate Insignia	\$10	0	\$15
13 Personalized	\$10	0	\$10
14 Special Olympics	\$10	\$15	0
15 <u>Kids First</u>	<u>\$10</u>	<u>\$15</u>	<u>0</u>
16 Olympic Games	\$10	\$15	0
17 State Attraction	\$10	\$20	0
18 March of Dimes	\$10	\$10	0
19 Scenic Rivers	\$10	\$10	0
20 School Technology	\$10	\$10	0
21 Soil and Water Conservation	\$10	\$10	0
22 Wildlife Resources	\$10	\$10	0
23 All other Special Plates	\$10	0	0".

24 Section 4. G.S. 20-81.12 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

25 "(a1) Kids First Plates. – The Division must receive 300 or more applications for a
 26 Kids First plate before the plate may be developed. The Division shall transfer quarterly
 27 the money in the Collegiate and Cultural Attraction Plate Account derived from the sale
 28 of Kids First plates to the North Carolina Children's Trust Fund created pursuant to G.S.
 29 110-150."

30 Section 5. This act is effective when it becomes law.