

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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SENATE BILL 426

Transportation Committee Substitute Adopted 4/22/97

Finance Committee Substitute #2 Adopted 5/19/97

House Committee Substitute Favorable 7/797

Short Title: Magistrates/Truck Special Plates.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 19, 1997

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE SPECIAL REGISTRATION LICENSE PLATES ON CERTAIN COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES, TO PROVIDE SPECIAL REGISTRATION LICENSE PLATES FOR MAGISTRATES, AND TO ADVANCE THE DATE FOR ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL REGISTRATION LICENSE PLATES FOR SHERIFFS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 20-63(b), as amended by Chapter 36 of the 1997 Session Laws, reads as rewritten:

"(b) Every license plate shall have displayed upon it the registration number assigned to the vehicle for which it is issued, the name of the State of North Carolina, which may be abbreviated, and the year number for which it is issued or the date of expiration, expiration. and, if the A plate is issued for a commercial vehicle, as defined in G.S. 20-4.2(1), must bear the word 'commercial,' designating 'commercial vehicle.' The Division may not issue a plate bearing the word 'commercial' for a trailer, or a vehicle unless the plate is a special registration plate authorized in G.S. 20-79.4 or the commercial vehicle is a trailer or is licensed for 6,000 pounds or less.

1 A registration plate issued by the Division for a private passenger vehicle or for a
2 private hauler vehicle licensed for 6,000 pounds or less shall be a 'First in Flight' plate. A
3 'First in Flight' plate shall have the words 'First in Flight' printed at the top of the plate
4 above all other letters and numerals. The background of the plate shall depict the Wright
5 Brothers biplane flying over Kitty Hawk Beach, with the plane flying slightly upward and
6 to the right."

7 Section 2. G.S. 20-79.4(a) reads as rewritten:

8 "(a) General. – Upon application and payment of the required registration fees, a
9 person may obtain from the Division a special registration plate for a motor vehicle
10 registered in that person's name if the person qualifies for the registration plate. A special
11 registration ~~plate, with the exception of a personalized registration plate, plate~~ may not be
12 issued for a vehicle registered under the International Registration ~~Plan. Plan or for a~~
13 ~~commercial truck.~~ A special registration plate may be issued for a commercial vehicle that
14 is not registered under the International Registration Plan. A holder of a special
15 registration plate who becomes ineligible for the plate, for whatever reason, must return
16 the special plate within 30 days."

17 Section 3. G.S. 20-79.4(b) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

18 "(14a) Magistrate. – Issuable to a North Carolina magistrate. The plate shall
19 bear the letters 'MJ' followed by a number indicating the district court
20 district the magistrate serves, then by a hyphen, and then by a number
21 indicating the seniority of the magistrate. The Division shall use the
22 number '9' to designate District Court Districts 9 and 9B."

23 Section 4. Section 2 of Chapter 158 of the 1997 Session Laws reads as
24 rewritten:

25 "Section 2. This act is effective when it becomes law."

26 Section 5. Sections 1 and 2 of this act become effective January 1, 1998, and
27 apply to registration plates issued for periods beginning on or after that date. The
28 remaining sections of this act are effective when this act becomes law.