## **CHAPTER 133**

(HB 134)

AN ACT relating to motor vehicle registration.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

## SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 186 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) As used in this section and in Sections 2, 3, 7, and 8 of this Act:
  - (a) "Special license plate" means a unique license plate issued under this chapter to a group or organization that readily identifies the operator of the motor vehicle bearing the plate as a member of a group or organization, or a supporter of the work, goals, or mission of a group or organization. The term shall not include regular license plates issued under KRS 186.240;
  - (b) "Street rod" means a modernized private passenger motor vehicle manufactured prior to the year 1949, or designed or manufactured to resemble a vehicle manufactured prior to 1949;
  - (c) "SF" means the portion of an initial or renewal fee to obtain a special license plate that is dedicated for use by the Transportation Cabinet;
  - (d) "CF" means the portion of an initial or renewal fee to obtain a special license plate that is dedicated for use by a county clerk; and
  - (e) "EF" means the portion of an initial or renewal fee to obtain a special license plate that is mandated by this chapter to be dedicated for use by a particular group or organization.
- (2) The initial purchase fee and renewal fee for a special license plate created under this chapter shall be as established in this subsection and includes the name of group or organization and the total initial and renewal fee required for the plate. The amount in parentheses indicates how the total fee is required to be divided:
  - (a) Disabled veterans who receive assistance to purchase a vehicle from the United States Veterans' Administration and recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor:
    - 1. Initial Fee: \$0 (\$0 SF/\$0 CF/\$0 EF).
    - 2. Renewal Fee: \$0 (\$0 SF/\$0 CF/\$0 EF).
  - (b) Former prisoners of war and survivors of Pearl Harbor:
    - 1. Initial Fee: \$20 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$5 EF to the veterans' program trust fund established under KRS 40.460).
    - 2. Renewal Fee: \$3 (\$0 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
  - (c) Members of the Kentucky National Guard:
    - 1. Initial Fee: \$20 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$5 EF to the veterans' program trust fund established under KRS 40.460).
    - 2. Renewal Fee: \$8 (\$0 OSF/\$3 CF/\$5 EF to the veterans' program trust fund established under KRS 40.460).
  - (d) Recipients of the Purple Heart; members of the Civil Air Patrol; active, retired, veteran, reserve, or auxiliary members of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard; Merchant Marines who served between December 7, 1941, and August 15, 1945; and disabled veterans who have been declared to be at least seventy percent (70%) service-connected disabled by the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs, or who receive total service-connected disability rating for compensation on individual unemployability and have not received assistance from the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs toward the purchase of a motor vehicle:
    - 1. Initial Fee: \$20 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$5 EF to the veterans' program trust fund established under KRS 40.460).
    - 2. Renewal Fee: \$20 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$5 EF to the veterans' program trust fund established under KRS 40.460).
  - (e) Recipients of the Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or Air Force Cross:

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- 1. Initial Fee: \$3 (\$0 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
- 2. Renewal Fee: \$3 (\$0 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
- (f) Disabled license plates:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$15 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$15 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
- (g) Historic vehicles:
  - 1. Initial Fee for two plates: \$53 (\$50 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: Do not renew annually.
- (h) Members of Congress:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$40 (\$37 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$20 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$5 EF to the veterans' program trust fund established under KRS 40.460).
- (i) Volunteer firefighters:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$15 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$15 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
- (j) Disaster and emergency services:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$28 (\$25 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$15 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
- (k) Fraternal Order of Police:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$40 (\$37 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$15 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
- (l) Law Enforcement Memorial:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$75 (\$62 SF/\$3 CF/\$10 EF to the Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation, Inc.).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$25 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$10 EF to the Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation, Inc.).
- (m) Personalized plates:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$40 (\$37 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$40 (\$37 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
- (n) Street rods:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$40 (\$37 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$15 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
- (o) Nature plates:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$25 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$10 EF to Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund established under KRS 146.570).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$25 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$10 EF to Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund established under KRS 146.570).
- (p) Amateur radio:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$40 (\$37 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$15 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).

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- (q) Kentucky General Assembly:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$40 (\$37 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$20 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$5 EF to the veterans' program trust fund established under KRS 40.460).
- (r) Kentucky Court of Justice:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$40 (\$37 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$8 (\$0 SF/\$3 CF/\$5 EF to the veterans' program trust fund established under KRS 40.460).
- (s) Masons:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$28 (\$25 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$15 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
- (t) Collegiate plates:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$50 (\$37 SF/\$3 CF/\$10 EF to the general scholarship fund of the university whose name will be bourne on the plate).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$25 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$10 EF to the general scholarship fund of the university whose name will be bourne on the plate).
- (u) Independent Colleges:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$38 (\$25 SF/\$3 CF/\$10 EF to the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities for distribution to the general scholarship funds of the Association's members).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$25 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$10 EF to the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities for distribution to the general scholarship funds of the Association's members).
- (v) Child Victims:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$38 (\$25 SF/\$3 CF/\$10 EF to the child victims' trust fund established under KRS 41.400).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$20 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$5 EF to the child victims' trust fund established under KRS 41.400).
- (w) Kentucky Horse Council:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$38 (\$25 SF/\$3 CF/\$10 EF to the Kentucky Horse Council).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$20 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$5 EF to the Kentucky Horse Council).
- (x) Ducks Unlimited:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$38 (\$25 SF/\$3 CF/\$10 EF to Kentucky Ducks Unlimited).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$25 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$10 EF to Kentucky Ducks Unlimited).
- (y) Spay neuter:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$25 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$10 EF to the animal control and care fund established under KRS 258.119).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$20 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$5 EF to the animal control and care fund established under KRS 258.119).
- (z) Gold Star Mothers:
  - 1. Initial Fee: \$15 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).
  - 2. Renewal Fee: \$15 (\$12 SF/\$3 CF/\$0 EF).

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(3) Any special license plate may be combined with a personalized license plate for a twenty-five dollar (\$25) state fee in addition to all other fees for the particular special license plate established in this section and in subsection (3) of Section 2 of this Act. The twenty-five dollar (\$25) fee required under this subsection shall be divided between the cabinet and the county clerk of the county where the applicant is applying for the license plate with the cabinet receiving twenty dollars (\$20) and the county clerk receiving five dollars (\$5).

# SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 186 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) The SF portion of the fee required under Section 1 of this Act shall include the fee to reflectorize all license plates under KRS 186.240. All EF fees required under Section 1 of this Act shall be collected at the time of an initial or renewal application by the county clerk who shall forward the EF fee to the cabinet. The cabinet shall remit EF fees to the group or organization identified in Section 1 of this Act on a quarterly basis. The cabinet may retain any investment income earned from holding EF fees designated to be remitted under this subsection to offset administrative costs incurred by the cabinet in the administration of EF fees.
- (2) A special license plate shall be the color and design selected by the group or organization identified in subsection (13) of this section, contingent upon the approval of the Transportation Cabinet. In addition to the design selected for a special license plate, the name "Kentucky," an annual renewal decal, and any combination of letters or numerals required by the cabinet in the design shall also appear on the plate.
- (3) Except as provided in Section 1 of this Act, the total initial fee for a special license plate created under this chapter shall be twenty-eight dollars (\$28), of which the Transportation Cabinet shall receive twenty-five dollars (\$25) and the county clerk shall receive three dollars (\$3), and the total renewal fee shall be fifteen dollars (\$15), of which the Transportation Cabinet shall receive twelve dollars (\$12) and the county clerk shall receive three dollars (\$3). The twenty-five dollar (\$25) initial fee and twelve dollar (\$12) renewal fee received by the Transportation Cabinet under this subsection shall include an applicant's registration fee required under KRS 186.050.
- (4) An actual metal special license plate shall be issued on the same schedule as regular license plates are issued under KRS 186.240. The cabinet shall have the discretion to extend the time period that will exist between the date a metal special license plate is issued and the date that regular plates are issued under KRS 186.240. A renewal registration decal shall be issued all other years during the owner's or lessee's birth month, except as provided in subsection (2) of Section 5 of this Act, subsection (5) of Section 6 of this Act, and subsection (2) of Section 8 of this Act. A person seeking a special license plate for a vehicle provided as part of the person's occupation shall conform to the requirements of KRS 186.050(14).
- (5) (a) If a special license plate issued under this chapter deteriorates to the point that the lettering, numbering, or images on the face of the plate are not legible, the plate shall be replaced free of charge, if the owner or lessee has not transferred the vehicle to which the plate was issued during the current licensing period.
  - (b) If a special license plate issued under this chapter is lost, stolen, or damaged in an accident, the county clerk shall issue a new plate upon payment of a three dollar (\$3) county clerk fee, if the owner or lessee has not transferred the vehicle to which the plate was issued during the current licensing period.
- (6) Upon the sale, transfer, or termination of a lease of a vehicle with any special license plate issued under this chapter, the owner or lessee shall remove the special plate and return it and the certificate of registration to the county clerk. The county clerk shall reissue the owner or lessee a regular license plate and a certificate of registration upon payment of a three dollar (\$3) county clerk fee. If the owner or lessee requests, the county clerk shall reissue the special plate upon payment of a three dollar (\$3) county clerk fee for use on any other vehicle of the same classification and category owned by the person during the current licensing period. If the owner or lessee has the special plate reissued to another vehicle, the regular license plate that is being replaced shall be returned to the county clerk who shall forward the plate to the Transportation Cabinet.
- (7) A special license plate may be issued to the owner or lessee of a motor vehicle that is required to be registered under KRS 186.050(1), (3)(a), or (4)(a) except a special license plate shall not be issued to a taxicab, airport limousine, or U-Drive-It registered and licensed under this chapter or KRS Chapter 281. A person applying for a special license plate shall apply in the office of the county clerk in the county of the person's residence, except as provided in subsection (3) of Section 4 of this Act. All special license plates issued under this chapter may be combined with a personalized license plate under the provisions of KRS 186.174. The fee to combine a special license plate with a personalized license plate shall be as established in subsection (3) of Section 1 of this Act.

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- (8) Within thirty (30) days of termination from election to, appointment to, or membership with any group or organization, an applicant to whom a special license plate was issued under this chapter shall return the special license plate to the county clerk of the county of his or her residence, unless the person is merely changing his or her status with the group or organization to retired.
- (9) A group wanting to create a special license plate that is not authorized under this chapter on the effective date of this Act shall comply with the following conditions before being eligible to apply for a special license plate:
  - (a) The group shall be nonprofit and based, headquartered, or have a chapter in Kentucky;
  - (b) The group may be organized for, but shall not be restricted to, social, civic, or entertainment purposes;
  - (c) The group, or the group's lettering, logo, image, or message to be placed on the license plate, if created, shall not discriminate against any race, color, religion, sex, or national origin, and shall not be construed, as determined by the cabinet, as an attempt to victimize or intimidate any person due to the person's race, color, religion, sex, or national origin;
  - (d) The group shall not be a political party and shall not have been created primarily to promote a specific political belief;
  - (e) The group shall not have as its primary purpose the promotion of any specific faith, religion, or antireligion;
  - (f) The name of the group shall not be the name of a special product or brand name, and shall not be construed, as determined by the cabinet, as promoting a product or brand name; and
  - (g) The group's lettering, logo, image, or message to be placed on the license plate, if created, shall not be obscene, as determined by the cabinet.
- (10) If the cabinet denies to issue a group a special license plate based upon the conditions specified in subsection (9) of this section, the group may appeal the denial to the next regularly scheduled session of the General Assembly for review of the denial and action on the group's request for a special license plate. The cabinet shall, immediately upon denying to issue a group a special license plate, notify in writing the chairperson of both the House and Senate Transportation Committees of the General Assembly of the denial and the reasons upon which the cabinet based the denial. The House and Senate chairpersons shall be required to present the information to his or her respective committee for consideration within the first ten (10) days of the next regularly scheduled session of the General Assembly, if requested to do so in writing by the group who was denied a special license plate. A person seeking a personalized license plate under Section 8 of this Act shall be subject to the conditions specified in paragraphs (c) to (g) of subsection (9) of this section.
- (11) If the cabinet approves a request for a special license plate, the cabinet shall begin designing and printing the plate after the group collects a minimum of nine hundred (900) applications with each application being accompanied by a twenty-five dollar (\$25) state fee. The applications and accompanying fee shall be submitted to the cabinet at one (1) time as a whole and shall not be submitted individually or intermittently.
- (12) An initial applicant for, or an applicant renewing, his or her registration for a special license plate may, at the time of application, make a voluntary contribution that the county clerk shall forward to the cabinet. The cabinet shall, on an annual basis, remit the voluntary contributions to the appropriate group identified to be used for the declared purpose stated under subsection (13) of this section. The cabinet may retain any investment income earned from holding voluntary contributions designated to be remitted under this subsection to offset administrative costs incurred by the cabinet in the administration of the contributions. Any group or organization that receives a mandatory EF fee under Section 1 of this Act shall submit the information required under subsection (13)(a) and (c) of this section to the Transportation Cabinet within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Act.
- (13) If a group wants to receive a donation when the group or organization's special license plate is initially purchased or renewed under subsection (12) of this section, the group shall, at the time the nine hundred (900) applications are submitted to the Transportation Cabinet, also submit a notarized affidavit to the cabinet attesting to:
  - (a) The name, address, and telephone number for the group or organization. If the group or organization does not have its headquarters in the Commonwealth, then the name, address, and telephone number for the group or organization's Kentucky state chapter shall be required. The names of the officers of the group or organization shall also be required. If the entity receiving funds under subsection (12) of

- this section is not a state governmental agency, a program unit within a state governmental agency, or is a group or organization that does not have a statewide chapter, then an extra donation for use by the group or organization shall be prohibited;
- (b) The amount of the monetary donation the group wants to receive when a person purchases the group or organization's special license plate; and
- (c) The purpose for which the donated funds will be used by the group or organization. Donated funds shall not be limited for use by members of the group or organization, and shall not be used for administrative or personnel costs of the group or organization.
- (14) All funds received by a group or organization under subsection (12) of this section shall be deposited into an account separate from all other accounts the group or organization may have, and the account shall be audited yearly at the expense of the group or organization. The completed audit shall be forwarded to the Transportation Cabinet in Frankfort. One hundred percent (100%) of the funds received by a group or organization under subsection (12) of this section shall be used for the express purpose identified by the group in subsection (13) of this section. Any group or organization that receives a mandatory EF fee under Section 1 of this Act shall comply with the provisions of this subsection.
- (15) The secretary of the Transportation Cabinet shall promulgate administrative regulations under KRS Chapter 13A to establish additional rules to implement the issuance of special license plates issued under this chapter, including but not limited to:
  - (a) Documentation that will be required to accompany an application for a special license plate to provide proof of election to the United States Congress or the Kentucky General Assembly; election or appointment to the Kentucky Court of Justice; membership in a Masonic Order, Fraternal Order of Police, or disaster and emergency services organization; membership in the Gold Star Mothers of America; or ownership of an amateur radio operator license;
  - (b) The time schedule permissible for a group or organization to request a design change for the special license plate; and
  - (c) The procedures for review of proposed license plates and the standards by which proposed special license plates are approved or rejected in accordance with the provisions of subsection (9) of this section.
- (16) Any individual, group, or organization that fails to audit any funds received under this chapter, or that intentionally uses any funds received in any way other than attested to under subsection (13) of this section or for administrative or personnel costs in violation of subsection (13) of this section shall be guilty of a Class D felony and upon conviction shall, in addition to being subject to criminal penalties, be assessed a mandatory five thousand dollar (\$5,000) fine.

# SECTION 3. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 186 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) The Transportation Cabinet shall, unless directed otherwise by the General Assembly, perpetually produce the following special license plates: military license plates, U.S. Congressional license plates, volunteer firefighter license plates, disaster and emergency services license plates, Fraternal Order of Police license plates, Law Enforcement Memorial license plates, street rod license plates, nature license plates, amateur radio license plates, Kentucky General Assembly license plates, Kentucky Court of Justice license plates, Masonic Order license plates, collegiate license plates, independent college and university license plates, child victims' trust fund license plates, Kentucky Horse Council license plates, Ducks Unlimited license plates, Gold Star Mothers license plates, and spay neuter license plates.
- (2) The design of the plates identified for perpetual production under this section may be revised upon request of a group or organization requesting a design revision under the provisions of subsection (15) of Section 2 of this Act.

# SECTION 4. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 186 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(1) Any person may, when initially registering or renewing any motor vehicle registration, make a voluntary contribution to the veterans' program trust fund established under KRS 40.460(2)(b). Any monetary contribution shall be accepted and there shall not be a minimum amount that may be contributed. The county clerk shall forward contributions made under this section in the same manner as funds are forwarded under Section 2 of this Act.

- (2) The cabinet shall provide each county clerk's office with a poster to promote voluntary contributions to the veterans' program trust fund that meets the following specifications:
  - (a) It shall be bright and colorful and at a minimum measure thirty six (36) inches in width and thirty six (36) inches in length;
  - (b) It shall state the purpose of the veterans' program trust fund and the agency where the contributions are sent; and
  - (c) It shall list the specific ways in which money from the trust fund is used to assist veterans across the Commonwealth.
- (3) The design of the poster shall be developed collectively by the cabinet and the Kentucky Department of Veterans' Affairs. The poster may be redesigned periodically if the Kentucky Department of Veterans' Affairs determines that a new design will increase contributions to the veterans' program trust fund under this section.
  - Section 5. KRS 186.041 is amended to read as follows:
- (1) [The provisions of this section shall govern the issuance of all special military related license plates. Except as provided in subsection (9) of this section, a person who wants to purchase a special military related license plate shall apply to the county clerk in the county where the person lives on a form prescribed by the Transportation Cabinet. ]Each initial and renewal application for a special military license plate shall be accompanied by proof that the person is associated with the United States Army, United States Navy, United States Air Force, United States Marine Corps, United States Coast Guard, United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, Kentucky National Guard, Merchant Marines with service between December 7, 1941, and August 15, 1945, or Civil Air Patrol in one (1) of the following ways:
  - (a) An active component member;
  - (b) A retired member; or
  - (c) A veteran who received a discharge under honorable conditions, or the veteran's widow and:
    - 1. Performed twenty-four (24) months of active-duty service;
    - 2. Received an early release due to injuries or other medical condition, or at the convenience of the service;
    - 3. Received a hardship discharge;
    - 4. Was separated or retired due to a disability; or
    - 5. Was determined to have a service-connected disability incurred during the enlistment.
- (2) [Initial registration and renewal registration fees for special military-related license plates shall be charged as provided in this subsection and KRS 186.174:
  - (a) Disabled veterans and recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor licensed under subsection (5) of this section shall not be charged an initial registration fee and shall not be charged a renewal registration fee. The license plate and certificate of registration shall be issued free of charge.
  - (b) The initial registration fee shall be a seventeen dollar (\$17) state fee that shall be divided under the provisions of subsection (3) of this section and that includes the cost to reflectorize the plate under KRS 186.240(2)(c) and a three dollar (\$3) county clerk fee, and the renewal registration fee shall be a three dollar (\$3) county clerk fee for:
    - 1. Former prisoners of war licensed under subsection (11) of this section;
    - 2. Survivors of Pearl Harbor licensed under subsection (12) of this section; and
    - 3. Members of the National Guard licensed under subsection (13) of this section.
  - (c) The initial registration fee shall be a seventeen dollar (\$17) state fee that shall be divided under the provisions of subsection (3) of this section, and the renewal registration fee shall be a twelve dollar (\$12) state fee that includes the cost to reflectorize the plate under KRS 186.240(2)(c) and a three dollar (\$3) county clerk fee for:
    - 1. Disabled veterans licensed under subsection (6) of this section;

- 2. Purple Heart recipients licensed under subsection (10) of this section, except that if a Purple Heart recipient also qualifies as a disabled veteran under subsection (5) of this section, the Purple Heart recipient may receive either a Purple Heart or a disabled veteran's license plate, both initial and renewal, and the certificate of registration free of charge;
- 3. Members of the Civil Air Patrol licensed under subsection (14) of this section; and
- 4. Other active, retired, veteran, reserve, or auxiliary members of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, or Merchant Marines licensed under subsection (15) of this section.
- (d) Recipients of the Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or Air Force Cross licensed under subsection (9) of this section shall be charged an initial registration fee and a renewal registration fee of three dollars (\$3.00) that shall be retained by the county clerk. A recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or Air Force Cross licensed under subsection (9) of this section shall not be charged a state fee when initially receiving the plate or upon annual renewal of the plate.
- (e) The initial and renewal registration fee for a military license plate that has been combined with a personalized license plate under the provisions of this section shall be as provided under KRS 186.174.
- The initial state fee collected under subsections (2)(b) and (2)(c) of this section shall be divided between the Transportation Cabinet and the Department of Veterans' Affairs. The Transportation Cabinet shall receive twelve dollars (\$12) of the initial state fee and the Department of Veterans' Affairs shall receive five dollars (\$5) of the initial state fee. The county clerk shall forward money collected under subsections (2)(b) and (2)(c) of this section to the Transportation Cabinet who shall forward the money to the Department of Veterans' Affairs on a quarterly basis and the department shall deposit the money into the veterans' program trust fund established by KRS 40.460(2)(b). A person renewing a special military license plate issued under this section may donate five dollars (\$5) to support the veteran's program trust fund. Money donated under this subsection shall be paid to the county clerk who shall forward the money to the Transportation Cabinet who shall forward the money on a quarterly basis to the Department of Veterans' Affairs and the department shall deposit the money into the veteran's program trust fund established by KRS 40.460(2)(b).
- (4) (a) A special military related license plate may be issued for use on:
  - 1. A passenger car registered under KRS 186.050(1);
  - 2. A motorcycle or sidecar attachment registered under KRS 186.050(2); or
  - 3. A commercial vehicle registered under KRS 186.050(3)(a) that has a gross laden weight of six thousand (6,000) pounds or less.
  - (b) Except as provided in subsection (7) of this section and KRS 186.174, a license plate issued under this section shall have the renewal registration decal issued annually during the applicant's birth month and shall be a five (5) year license plate. The member, retired member, veteran, or reservist may purchase two (2) special military-related license plates annually for vehicles they own or lease. A disabled veterans license plate shall expire on July 31[A license plate issued under this section may be combined with a personalized license plate under the provisions of KRS 186.174.
- (5) A recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, a recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or Air Force Cross, or a disabled veteran who has been or shall be given financial assistance toward the purchase or lease of a motor vehicle by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs under the provisions of 38 U.S.C. sec. 1901, or any other public law that may be passed by the Congress of the United States shall initially and annually be issued a certificate of registration and a special military related license plate free of charge.
- (6) A veteran who has been declared to be at least seventy percent (70%) service connected disabled by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, or who is receiving total service-connected disability rating for compensation on individual unemployability, and who has not received financial assistance from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs toward the purchase or lease of a motor vehicle shall be eligible for a disabled veterans license plate upon payment of the initial registration fee required in subsection (2)(c) of this section.
- (7) A disabled veterans license plate shall be printed in red, white, and blue colors. Half of the license plate shall be in one (1) color, the other half a second color, and the figures and lettering in the third color. Each plate

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- shall contain the international symbol of access adopted by Rehabilitation International in 1969, the name of the state, the year, the registration number, and the words "Disabled Vet." A disabled veterans license plate shall have the renewal registration decal issued annually on July 31.
- (8) A recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor shall be eligible for a Congressional Medal of Honor license plate that shall be printed in blue and white colors and shall follow the color scheme for all figures and letters as prescribed for passenger cars. Each plate shall contain the name or an abbreviation of the state and the words "Medal of Honor" and a number uniquely identifying each recipient, in lieu of registration numbers].
- (3)(9)A recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or Air Force Cross shall be eligible for a Service Cross license plate upon submission of an application to the Kentucky Department of Veterans' Affairs. The recipient shall be required to include with the initial application for a Service Cross license plate a copy of the general order that authorized the award and the recipient's Department of Defense form number 214. The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall verify the documentation submitted with the application for a Service Cross license plate, and if the individual applying for the plate is confirmed to be a recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or Air Force Cross, the Department of Veterans' Affairs shall submit the applicant's name to the Transportation Cabinet's Division of Motor Vehicle Licensing not later than September 1 preceding the year that the Service Cross license plate is to be initially issued or renewed. When the Service Cross license plate is ready, the plate shall be sent to the county clerk in the county of the applicant's residence. The Transportation Cabinet's Division of Motor Vehicle Licensing shall inform each applicant in writing that the Service Cross license plate is ready and may be picked up at the county clerk's office. Each Service Cross license plate shall contain the name or an abbreviation for the state and an alphabetic or numeric designation uniquely identifying each recipient of a Service Cross license plate in lieu of registration numbers. The Transportation Cabinet shall have the authority to select three (3) designs and the appropriate color scheme for each design of the Service Cross license plate. In addition to the requirements of this subsection, the Transportation Cabinet shall have the authority to include other information on the Service Cross license plate.] The Transportation Cabinet shall prescribe the type of application form required by this subsection and shall supply the Department of Veterans' Affairs with the application form required by this subsection.
- [(10) A recipient of a Purple Heart medal shall be eligible for a Purple Heart license plate upon payment of the initial registration fee required in subsection (2)(c) of this section. A Purple Heart license plate shall bear the name "Purple Heart," a registration number, and an appropriate logo to be determined by the Transportation Cabinet.]
- (4)[(11)] A person who is a former prisoner of the enemy during World War I, World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War, or the spouse of a deceased former prisoner of war, shall be eligible for a former prisoner of war license plate [upon payment of the initial registration fee required in subsection (2)(b) of this section. The application shall be accompanied] by submitting written proof from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or other appropriate federal agency stating the period of time the person or person's spouse was a prisoner of war.[A former prisoner of war license plate shall be printed in red, white, and blue colors. Each plate shall contain the name of the state, the year, the registration number, and the words "Former P.O.W."] If a former prisoner of war dies with a vehicle licensed as authorized under this section, the person's surviving spouse may retain the license plate for use on the same vehicle or on another vehicle that complies with the provisions of subsection (7) of Section 2 of this Act[(4) of this section].
- (5)[(12)] A person who is certified by the Kentucky chapter of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association as being a survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor shall be eligible for a Pearl Harbor license plate and [upon payment of the initial registration fee required in subsection (2)(b) of this section. The Transportation Cabinet shall issue an applicant an appropriately designed plate identifying the vehicle as registered to a Pearl Harbor survivor. The person] shall be required to attach to the special military-related license plate application written evidence from the Kentucky chapter of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association that the person:
  - (a) Was a member of the United States Armed Forces on December 7, 1941;
  - (b) Was on station on December 7, 1941, during the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45 a.m., Hawaii time, at Pearl Harbor, the island of Oahu, or offshore at a distance not to exceed three (3) miles;
  - (c) Was discharged honorably from the United States Armed Forces; and
  - (d) Is certified by the Kentucky chapter of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association.

- [(13) A person who is a member of the Kentucky National Guard, or a retired member, shall be eligible for a National Guard license plate upon payment of the initial registration fee required in subsection (2)(b) of this section. A National Guard license plate shall bear the name "Kentucky National Guard," a registration number, and the logo of the National Guard. Upon termination of membership in the Kentucky National Guard, except for those who remain eligible through retirement, a person shall comply with the provisions of subsection (16) of this section.
- (14) A person who is a member of the Civil Air Patrol shall be eligible for a Civil Air Patrol license plate upon payment of the initial registration fee required in subsection (2)(c) of this section. A Civil Air Patrol license plate shall bear the name "Civil Air Patrol," a registration number, and an appropriate logo to be determined by the Transportation Cabinet. Upon termination of membership in the Civil Air Patrol, a person shall comply with the provisions of subsection (16) of this section.
- (15) (a) A person who meets the requirements of subsection (1) of this section shall be eligible for a military license plate upon payment of the initial registration fee required in subsection (2)(c) of this section. The plate shall bear:
  - 1. A seal indicating Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, or, in the case of the Merchant Marines, a seal indicating the branch of service issuing a discharge;
  - 2. A decal indicating whether the person's status is active duty, reserve duty, veteran, retired veteran, or widow; and, if applicable, a decal for auxiliary in the case of the Coast Guard or a decal for the Merchant Marines;
  - 3. A veteran's decal may further indicate a veteran's service in a wartime era; and
  - 4. A registration number.
  - (b) Upon termination of membership in the active component or reserves of the United States Armed Forces or the United States Coast Guard, a person shall comply with the provisions of subsection (16) of this section.
  - (c) The Transportation Cabinet, in coordination with the Department of Veterans' Affairs, shall promulgate an administrative regulation under KRS Chapter 13A defining criteria for the issuance of specific decals for veterans' wartime service.
- (16) Except for persons changing their status to retired, within thirty (30) days of termination of membership or reserve status in a group eligible for a special military related license plate, a person issued a military plate under this section or a combined personalized/special military license plate issued under KRS 186.174, shall return the plate to the county clerk of the county of his residence. Upon payment of a three dollar (\$3) county clerk fee, the county clerk shall issue the person a regular license plate to replace the plate being surrendered.
- (17) Upon the sale, transfer, or termination of a lease of a motor vehicle for which a special military related license plate has been issued, the owner shall return the military plate and the certificate of registration to the county clerk. The county clerk shall issue a regular license plate and certificate of registration upon payment of a twelve dollar (\$12) state fee which includes the fifty cent (\$0.50) fee to reflectorize the plate under KRS 186.240(2)(c) and a three dollar (\$3) county clerk fee. The twelve dollar (\$12) state fee shall be forwarded to the Transportation Cabinet. Upon request and payment of a three dollar (\$3) fee, the county clerk shall reissue the special military related license plate for use on any other vehicle owned by the same person who purchased the special plate for the current licensing period.
- (18) The cabinet shall promulgate administrative regulations to set forth the documentation required in order to establish a person's qualifications to receive any license plate issued under this section.
- (19) A person seeking a special military related license plate for a vehicle provided to that person pursuant to an occupation shall conform to the requirements of KRS 186.050(14).
- (20) If a special military-related license plate is lost, stolen, mutilated, or deteriorates to the point where the inscriptions or decals are not discernible, the person to whom the plate was issued may obtain a replacement plate free of charge.]
  - Section 6. KRS 186.042 is amended to read as follows:
- (1) For the purposes of this section, "persons with disabilities which limit or impair the ability to walk" means persons who, as determined by a licensed physician:

- (a) Cannot walk two hundred (200) feet or sixty-one (61) meters without stopping to rest;
- (b) Cannot walk without the use of, or assistance from, a brace, cane, crutch, another person, prosthetic device, wheelchair, or other assistant device;
- (c) Are restricted by lung disease to the extent that the person's forced respiratory and expiratory volume for one (1) second, when measured by spirometry, is less than one (1) liter, or the arterial oxygen tension is less than sixty (60) mm/hg on room air at rest;
- (d) Use portable oxygen;
- (e) Have a cardiac condition to the extent that the person's functional limitations are classified in severity as Class III or Class IV according to standards set by the American Heart Association; or
- (f) Are severely limited in their ability to walk due to an arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic condition.
- (2) On the application of any person with disabilities which limit or impair the ability to walk, who has lost the use of an arm or both arms, or who is blind, the Transportation Cabinet shall issue the person with a disability an accessible parking registration plate or renewal decal designating the vehicle licensed as being owned by or leased by a person with a disability. The license plate or renewal decal may be issued for a passenger car as set forth in KRS 186.050(1), for a motorcycle as set forth in KRS 186.050(2), or for a commercial vehicle as set forth in KRS 186.050(3)(a). The registration plates issued shall bear the international symbol of access adopted by Rehabilitation International in 1969, reading from left to right and shall be followed by numbers or letters the cabinet finds expedient. The cabinet shall not issue the registration plates so designated to any person other than a person with a disability as described above. The *fee for a disabled license plate shall be as established in Section 1 of this Act*[cabinet shall not charge any fee, other than the regular fee for annual registration, for the issuance of the registration plate or renewal decal].
- (3) The application for a license plate for a person with a disability shall be made on a form prepared by the Transportation Cabinet. For every person seeking this accessible parking license plate, proof of the disability shall be required by:
  - (a) The county clerk issuing the license plate ascertaining that the applicant is obviously disabled as described in this section; or
  - (b) A statement from a licensed physician that the applicant is a person with disabilities which limit or impair the ability to walk, a person who has lost the use of an arm, or any person who is blind.
- (4)[—Upon the sale, transfer, or termination of lease of a vehicle licensed as authorized under this section, the owner or lessee shall remove the license plate and return it and the certificate of registration to the county clerk. The clerk shall issue a regular license plate and certificate of registration upon the payment of an eleven dollar fifty cent (\$11.50) state fee and a three dollar (\$3) clerk's fee. When the accessible parking plate has been presented to the clerk, he shall reissue the plate, free of charge by the Transportation Cabinet and upon payment of a two dollar (\$2) clerk's fee, for use on any other vehicle owned or leased by the same person who purchased the accessible parking plate for the current licensing period. The license plate and decal on this other vehicle shall be turned in to the county clerk, who shall forward the license plate to Frankfort.
- (5)] When a motor vehicle bearing plates issued to a person with a disability as prescribed in this section is being operated by or for the benefit of the person with a disability, who is in the motor vehicle when the motor vehicle is being operated, the motor vehicle may be parked for a period of two (2) hours in excess of the legal parking period permitted by local authorities, except if local ordinances or police regulations prohibit parking on a highway for the purpose of creating a fire lane; if the ordinances or police regulations provide for the accommodation of heavy traffic during morning, afternoon, or evening hours; or if the motor vehicle is parked in such a manner as to clearly be a traffic hazard.
- (5)[(6)Any person with a disability seeking to obtain a license plate according to this section who has been provided an automobile pursuant to an occupation shall conform to the requirements of KRS 186.050(14).
- (7)] Registration under this section shall expire July 31.
- [(8) The cabinet may promulgate the administrative regulations necessary to further the purpose of this section.]
  - Section 7. KRS 186.043 is amended to read as follows:

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- (1) In enacting this section, it is the intention of the General Assembly to recognize the special value of historic vehicles to the Commonwealth, and also to recognize that historic vehicles, because of their limited use and easily identifiable characteristics, do not require the same degree of regulation as other vehicles.
- (2) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires, "historic vehicle" shall mean all motor vehicles twenty-five (25) years old or older, which are used primarily for exhibition in shows, parades, tours, and other special uses, but not for general transportation.
- (3) Historic vehicles shall be registered and licensed by the Transportation Cabinet. The registration shall be in lieu of registration and license required by KRS 186.020 to 186.270.
- (4) Upon payment of *the fee established in Section 1 of this Act*[a fee of fifty dollars (\$50)] and an application in accordance with regulations issued by the Transportation Cabinet, the secretary of the Transportation Cabinet shall issue a certificate of registration and two (2) special license plates of a different color and design than the regular license plate, which, in the judgment of the secretary of the Transportation Cabinet, will best advertise, popularize, and promote the Commonwealth of Kentucky. These plates, besides the word "Kentucky" shall have the words, "Historic Motor Vehicle" inscribed in a conspicuous manner and carry no year date. These plates shall have a serial number beginning with the number "100" and continue in a consecutive numerical sequence.
- (5) Historic vehicles may display an authentic Kentucky license plate, twenty-five (25) years or older, or a reproduction of such a plate, if the historic motor vehicle plate and the registration receipt are kept in the vehicle at all times.
- (6) The registration license and license plates of historic motor vehicles shall be valid without renewal as long as the vehicle is in existence. If the historic motor vehicle is sold, the registration and license shall be assigned and transferred to the new owner on the records of the Transportation Cabinet upon receipt of an application in accordance with regulations issued by the cabinet and payment of a fee of three dollars (\$3).
- [(7) The secretary of the cabinet may promulgate administrative regulations he deems necessary to further the purpose of this section.]
  - Section 8. KRS 186.174 is amended to read as follows:
- (1) For purposes of this section, "personalized license plate" means a license plate issued with personal letters or numbers significant to the applicant and it also means a license plate that *is issued under this section and has been combined with a special license plate*[combines personal letters or numbers significant to the applicant with a special military related license plate issued under KRS 186.041].
- (2) [Except as provided in this subsection,] Any owner or lessee of a motor vehicle that is required to be registered under the provisions of KRS 186.050(1), [or] (3)(a), or (4)(a) [except taxicabs, airport limousines, and rental motor vehicles], or any owner or lessee of a motorcycle required to be registered under the provisions of KRS 186.050(2) may[, in addition to registration under KRS 186.050(1) or (3)(a),] obtain a personalized license plate by applying for a personalized license plate in the office of the county clerk and upon payment of the fee required in Section 1 of this Act[a twenty five dollar (\$25) fee]. A person initially applying for a personalized license plate shall submit the initial application and appropriate SF fee twenty five dollar (\$25) fee for a personalized license plate] in person to the county clerk, but may submit the annual application to renew the personalized license plate and entire fee required in Section 1 of this Act[with the twenty five (\$25) fee] by mail to the county clerk. Applications and fees for personalized license plates pursuant to this section must be received by the Transportation Cabinet on or before September 1 preceding the year that the plate or renewal is to be issued. A personalized license plate shall be replaced annually unless the applicant chooses to receive a renewal registration decal. A county clerk shall immediately forward the application and the fee required in Section 1 of this Act[twenty five dollar (\$25) fee] for a personalized license plate to the Transportation Cabinet. Personalized plates issued under this section expire December 31 each year. The initial fee for a personalized license plate that has been combined with special license plate shall be as established in subsection (3) of Section 1 of this Actfa military license plate under KRS 186.041 shall be thirty dollars (\$30). The thirty dollar (\$30) fee shall be divided between the Transportation Cabinet, which shall receive twenty five dollars (\$25), and the Department of Veterans' Affairs, which shall receive five dollars (\$5). The county clerk shall forward the money collected under this subsection for a personalized license plate that has been combined with a military license plate to the Transportation Cabinet who shall forward on a quarterly basis the money to the Department of Veterans' Affairs, which shall deposit the money into the veterans' program trust fund established by KRS 40.460(2)(b). A person renewing a combination personalized/special military license plate

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- under this section may donate five dollars (\$5) to support the veterans' program trust fund. Money donated to the fund shall be forwarded by the county clerk to the Transportation Cabinet who shall forward the money on a quarterly basis to the Department of Veterans' Affairs, which shall deposit the money into the veterans' program trust fund established by KRS 40.460(2)(b)].
- (3) A personalized plate shall not be issued that would conflict with or duplicate the alphabetical-numerical system used for regular license plates or any other license plates issued in the Commonwealth, and shall not contain a combination of more than six (6) letters of the alphabet and Arabic numerals, including spaces. A personalized plate shall not be issued if the cabinet determines the request fails to comply with the conditions specified in paragraphs (c) to (g) of subsection (9) of Section 2 of this Act[, in the discretion of the cabinet, it carries a letter or number combinations that carry connotations offensive to good taste and decency]. The owner or lessee shall submit an application and fee[twenty five dollar (\$25) fee annually] to renew a personalized license plate pursuant to the provisions of subsection (2) of this section. Once an applicant obtains a personalized plate, he or she will have first priority on that plate for each of the following years that he or she makes timely and proper application.
- [(4) When registering a vehicle required to be registered under KRS 186.050(1) or (3)(a), the cabinet shall send the personalized plate to the county clerk in the county in which the applicant would be required to register his motor vehicle. The county clerk of the county of residence shall issue the personalized license plate and receive fourteen dollars fifty cents (\$14.50), of which three dollars (\$3) shall constitute the clerk's fee and eleven dollars fifty cents (\$11.50) shall constitute the cabinet's fee.
- (5) When registering a motorcycle, the cabinet shall send the personalized plate to the county clerk in the county in which the applicant would be required to register his motorcycle. The clerk shall issue the personalized plate and receive three dollars (\$3) and three dollars (\$3) for each sidecar attachment.
- (6) (a) Upon the sale, transfer, or termination of lease of the motor vehicle bearing the personalized plate, the owner or lessee shall remove it and return it and the certificate of registration to the county clerk. The clerk shall issue a regular license plate and certificate of registration upon payment of an eleven dollar fifty cent (\$11.50) state fee and a three dollar (\$3) clerk's fee. The vehicle may then be transferred as provided by KRS Chapter 186.
  - (b) When the personalized plate has been presented to the clerk, he shall reissue it free of charge by the Transportation Cabinet and upon payment of a two dollar (\$2) clerk's fee, for use on any other vehicle of the same classification and category owned or leased by the same person purchasing the personalized plate for the current license period. The license plate and decal on this other vehicle shall be turned in to the county clerk, who will forward the license plate to Frankfort.
- (7) Any applicant seeking a license plate according to this section for a vehicle provided to him pursuant to an occupation shall conform to the requirements set forth in KRS 186.050(14).
- (8) If a personalized plate deteriorates, if he has not transferred a vehicle during the current license period, the applicant may obtain a regular plate free.
- (9) The secretary of the Transportation Cabinet may promulgate administrative regulations pursuant to KRS Chapter 13A necessary to further the purposes of this section.]
  - Section 9. KRS 41.400 is amended to read as follows:
- (1) The child victims' trust fund is created as a separate fund in the office of the State Treasurer. The fund shall be expended only as provided in this section.
- (2) The State Treasurer shall credit to the trust fund all amounts received for this purpose and any amounts received under KRS 141.440.
- (3) The State Treasurer shall invest trust fund money in the same manner as surplus funds are invested. Earnings shall be credited to the trust fund.
- (4) Until the total amount of assets in the trust fund exceeds twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000), not more than one-half of the money contributed to the trust fund each year, plus the earnings credited to the trust fund during the previous fiscal year, and the money earned by the sale of child victims' trust fund license plates pursuant to KRS *Chapter 186*[186.1867], shall be available for disbursement upon the authorization of the state board as provided in KRS 15.935. After such time that the State Treasurer certifies that the assets in the trust fund

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- exceed twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000), only the earnings credited to the trust fund shall be available for disbursement upon the authorization of the state board as provided in KRS 15.935.
- (5) Funds granted or funds received as gifts or donations to the child victims' trust fund shall be available for disbursement upon appropriation by the General Assembly, and funds authorized for expenditure shall not be considered assets for purposes of subsection (4) of this section.
  - Section 10. KRS 186.065 is amended to read as follows:
- (1) Every state-owned motor vehicle, except as provided in subsection (2), shall have an official license plate. Except as provided in subsections (2), (3), and (4) on one (1) door on each side of every state-owned vehicle shall be the great seal of the Commonwealth and the words "For Official Use Only."
- (2) The Cabinets of Revenue, Transportation, Justice, Public Protection and Regulation, and the Attorney General may authorize registration under KRS 186.020 and be issued regular license plates for vehicles used for investigatory purposes. The Administrative Office of the Courts may authorize registration under KRS 186.020 and be issued regular license plates for vehicles used by justices and judges of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals.
- (3) The Governor and the Lieutenant Governor may each use one (1) state-owned motor vehicle on which it shall not be necessary to have the state seal or the words "For Official Use Only."
- (4) The Justices and Judges of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals may each use state-owned motor vehicles on which it shall not be necessary to have the state seal or the words "For Official Use Only."
  - Section 11. The following KRS sections are repealed:
- 186.171 Special license plates for members of Congress.
- 186.1721 Special license plate for disaster and emergency services staff members.
- 186.1723 Special license plate for member of Fraternal Order of Police.
- 186.1724 Special license plates for law enforcement memorial.
- 186.1751 Special license plate for "Street Rod" vehicle.
- 186.1761 Nature license plates.
- 186.177 Special license plates bearing amateur radio call letters.
- 186.178 Special license plates for General Assembly members.
- 186.179 Special license plates for Justices or Judges of the Court of Justice.
- 186.1831 Special license plates for members of a Masonic order.
- 186.1835 Special license plates for members of the Knights of Columbus.
- 186.184 Special PTA license plate -- PTA program fund.
- 186.185 Collegiate license plate.
- 186.186 Application for special license plates pursuant to KRS 186.186 to 186.1867 -- Vehicles leased or provided pursuant to an occupation -- Renewal, fees, administrative regulations.
- 186.18651 Special license plates for independent college or university.
- 186.1867 Special license plates for child victims' trust fund.
- 186.1868 Special Kentucky Horse Council license plate.
- 186.18685 Special license plates for Ducks Unlimited.
- 186.187 Special spay neuter license plate.
- 186.188 Special Louisville Zoo license plate.
- 186.189 Special license plates for special groups or special purposes.

# Approved March 18, 2005.