

CHAPTER 190**(SB 124)**

AN ACT relating to special license plates.

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

Section 1. KRS 186.166 is amended 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 KRS 186.164(15).
- (3) ***The design of a Purple Heart license plate shall not include any representation of the word "Kentucky" that is a registered trademark or slogan which appears on a general issue license plate.***

Section 2. KRS 186.162 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) As used in this section and in KRS 186.043, 186.164, 186.166, and 186.174:
 - (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 *or motorcycle* 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 SF/\$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:
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: ~~\$38~~~~[\$75]~~ (~~\$25~~~~[\$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).
- (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 borne 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 borne 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).
- (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 KRS 186.164(3). 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).
- (4) ***Owners and lessees of motorcycles registered under subsection (2) of Section 3 of this Act may be eligible to receive special license plates issued under this section or established under the provisions of KRS 186.164 after the cabinet has received three hundred (300) applications and initial state fees from the sponsoring organization. Applicants for a special license plate for a motorcycle shall be required to pay the fee for a special plate as prescribed in this section or in KRS 186.164. The fee paid for the special plate for a motorcycle shall be in lieu of the registration fee required under subsection (2) of Section 3 of this Act.***

Section 3. KRS 186.050 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The annual registration fee for motor vehicles, including taxicabs, airport limousines, and U-Drive-Its, primarily designed for carrying passengers and having provisions for not more than nine (9) passengers, including the operator, and pickup trucks and passenger vans which are not being used on a for-hire basis shall be eleven dollars fifty cents (\$11.50).
- (2) Except as provided in KRS 186.041 ***and in Section 2 of this Act***, the annual registration fee for each motorcycle shall be nine dollars (\$9), and for each sidecar attachment, seven dollars (\$7).
- (3) (a) All motor vehicles having a declared gross weight of vehicle and any towed unit of six thousand (6,000) pounds or less, except those mentioned in subsections (1) and (2) of this section and those engaged in hauling passengers for hire, operating under certificates of convenience and necessity, are classified as commercial vehicles and the annual registration fee, except as provided in subsections (4) to (14) of this section, shall be eleven dollars and fifty cents (\$11.50).
- (b) All motor vehicles except those mentioned in subsections (1) and (2) of this section, and those engaged in hauling passengers for hire, operating under certificates of convenience and necessity, are classified as commercial vehicles and the annual registration fee, except as provided in subsections (3)(a) and (4) to (14) of this section, shall be as follows:

Declared Gross Weight of Vehicle and Any Towed Unit	Registration Fee
6,001-10,000	\$24.00
10,001-14,000	30.00
14,001-18,000	50.00
18,001-22,000	132.00

22,001-26,000	160.00
26,001-32,000	216.00
32,001-38,000	300.00
38,001-44,000	474.00
44,001-55,000	669.00
55,001-62,000	1,007.00
62,001-73,280	1,250.00
73,281-80,000	1,410.00

- (4) (a) Any farmer owning a truck having a gross weight of thirty-eight thousand (38,000) pounds or less may have it registered as a farmer's truck and obtain a license for eleven dollars and fifty cents (\$11.50). The applicant's signature upon the certificate of registration and ownership shall constitute a certificate that he is a farmer engaged in the production of crops, livestock, or dairy products, that he owns a truck of the gross weight of thirty-eight thousand (38,000) pounds or less, and that during the next twelve (12) months the truck shall not be used in for-hire transportation and may be used in transporting persons, food, provender, feed, machinery, livestock, material, and supplies necessary for his farming operation, and the products grown on his farm.
- (b) Any farmer owning a truck having a declared gross weight in excess of thirty-eight thousand (38,000) pounds shall not be required to pay the fee set out in subsection (3) of this section and, in lieu thereof, shall pay forty percent (40%) of the fee set out in subsection (3) of this section and shall be exempt from any fee charged under the provisions of KRS 281.752. The applicant's signature upon the registration receipt shall be considered to be a certification that he is a farmer engaged solely in the production of crops, livestock or dairy products, and that during the current registration year the truck will be used only in transporting persons, food, provender, feed, and machinery used in operating his farm and the products grown on his farm.
- (5) Any person owning a truck or bus used solely in transporting school children and school employees may have the truck or bus registered as a school bus and obtain a license for eleven dollars fifty cents (\$11.50) by filing with the county clerk, in addition to other information required, an affidavit stating that the truck or bus is used solely in the transportation of school children and persons employed in the schools of the district, that he has caused to be printed on each side of the truck or bus and on the rear door the words "School Bus" in letters at least six (6) inches high, and of a conspicuous color, and the truck or bus will be used during the next twelve (12) months only for the purpose stated.
- (6) Any church or religious organization owning a truck or bus used solely in transporting persons to and from a place of worship or for other religious work may have the truck or bus registered as a church bus and obtain a license for eleven dollars and fifty cents (\$11.50) by filing with the county clerk, in addition to other information required, an affidavit stating that the truck or bus will be used only for the transporting of persons to and from a place of worship, or for other religious work, and that there has been printed on the truck or bus in large letters the words "Church Bus," with the name of the church or religious organization owning and using the truck or bus, and that during the next twelve (12) months the truck or bus will be used only for the purpose stated.
- (7) Any person owning a motor vehicle with a gross weight of fourteen thousand (14,000) pounds or less on which a wrecker crane or other equipment suitable for wrecker service has been permanently mounted may register the vehicle and obtain a license for eleven dollars fifty cents (\$11.50) by filing with the county clerk, in addition to other information required, an affidavit that a wrecker crane or other equipment suitable for wrecker service has been permanently mounted on such vehicle and that during the next twelve (12) months the vehicle will be used only in wrecker service. If the gross weight of the vehicle exceeds fourteen thousand (14,000) pounds, the vehicle shall be registered in accordance with subsection (3) of this section. The gross weight of a vehicle used in wrecker service shall not include the weight of the vehicle being towed by the wrecker.
- (8) Motor vehicles having a declared gross weight in excess of eighteen thousand (18,000) pounds, which when operated in this state are used exclusively for the transportation of property within the limits of the city named

in the affidavit hereinafter required to be filed, or within ten (10) miles of the city limits of the city if it is a city of the first, second, third, or fourth class, or within five (5) miles of its limits if it is a city of the fifth or sixth class, or anywhere within a county containing an urban-county government, shall not be required to pay the fee as set out in subsection (3) of this section, and in lieu thereof shall pay seventy-five percent (75%) of the fee set forth in subsection (3) of this section and shall be exempt from any fee charged under the provisions of KRS 281.752. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit any right of nonresidents to exemption from registration under any other provisions of the laws granting reciprocity to nonresidents. Operations outside of this state shall not be considered in determining whether or not the foregoing mileage limitations have been observed. When claiming the right to the reduced fee, the applicant's signature on the certificate of registration and ownership shall constitute a certification or affidavit stating that the motor vehicle when used within this state is used only for the transportation of property within the city to be named in the affidavit and the area above set out and that the vehicle will not be used outside of a city and the area above set out during the current registration period.

- (9) Motor vehicles having a declared gross weight in excess of eighteen thousand (18,000) pounds, which are used exclusively for the transportation of primary forest products from the harvest area to a mill or other processing facility, where such mill or processing facility is located at a point not more than fifty (50) air miles from the harvest area or which are used exclusively for the transportation of concrete blocks or ready-mixed concrete from the point at which such concrete blocks or ready-mixed concrete is produced to a construction site where such concrete blocks or ready-mixed concrete is to be used, where such construction site is located at a point not more than thirty (30) air miles from the point at which such concrete blocks or ready-mixed concrete is produced shall not be required to pay the fee as set out in subsection (3) of this section, and in lieu thereof, shall pay seventy-five percent (75%) of the fee set out in subsection (3) of this section and shall be exempt from any fee charged under the provisions of KRS 281.752. The applicant's signature upon the certificate of registration and ownership shall constitute a certification that the motor vehicle will not be used during the current registration period in any manner other than that for which the reduced fee is provided in this section.
- (10) Any owner of a commercial vehicle registered for a declared gross weight in excess of eighteen thousand (18,000) pounds, intending to transfer same and desiring to take advantage of the refund provisions of KRS 186.056(2), may reregister such vehicle and obtain a "For Sale" certificate of registration and ownership for one dollar (\$1). Title to a vehicle so registered may be transferred, but such registration shall not authorize the operation or use of the vehicle on any public highway. No refund may be made under the provisions of KRS 186.056(2) until such time as the title to such vehicle has been transferred to the purchaser thereof. Provided, however, that nothing herein shall be so construed as to prevent the seller of a commercial vehicle from transferring the registration of such vehicle to any purchaser thereof.
- (11) The annual registration fee for self-propelled vehicles containing sleeping or eating facilities shall be twenty dollars (\$20) and the multiyear license plate issued shall be designated "Recreational vehicle." The foregoing shall not include any motor vehicle primarily designed for commercial or farm use having temporarily attached thereto any sleeping or eating facilities, or any commercial vehicle having sleeping facilities.
- (12) The registration fee on any vehicle registered under this section shall be increased fifty percent (50%) when the vehicle is not equipped wholly with pneumatic tires.
- (13) (a) The Department of Vehicle Regulation is authorized to negotiate and execute an agreement or agreements for the purpose of developing and instituting proportional registration of motor vehicles engaged in interstate commerce, or in a combination of interstate and intrastate commerce, and operating into, through or within the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The agreement or agreements may be made on a basis commensurate with, and determined by, the miles traveled on, and use made of, the highways of this Commonwealth as compared with the miles traveled on and use made of highways of other states, or upon any other equitable basis of proportional registration. Notwithstanding the provisions of KRS 186.020, the cabinet shall promulgate administrative regulations concerning the registration of motor vehicles under any agreement or agreements made under this section and shall provide for direct issuance by it of evidence of payment of any registration fee required under such agreement or agreements. Any proportional registration fee required to be collected under any proportional registration agreement or agreements shall be in accordance with the taxes established in this section.

- (b) Any owner of a commercial vehicle who is required to title his motor vehicle under this section shall first title such vehicle with the county clerk pursuant to KRS 186.020 for a state fee of one dollar (\$1). Title to such vehicle may be transferred; however title without proper registration shall not authorize the operation or use of the vehicle on any public highway. Any commercial vehicle properly titled in Kentucky may also be registered in Kentucky, and, upon payment of the required fees, the department may issue an apportioned registration plate to such commercial vehicle.
 - (c) Any commercial vehicle that is properly titled in a foreign jurisdiction, which vehicle is subject to apportioned registration, as provided in paragraph (a) of this subsection, may be registered in Kentucky, and, upon proof of proper title, and payment of the required fees, the department may issue an apportioned registration plate to the commercial vehicle. The department shall promulgate administrative regulations in accordance with this section.
- (14) Any person seeking to obtain a special license plate for an automobile that has been provided to him pursuant to an occupation shall meet both of the following requirements:
- (a) The automobile shall be provided for the full-time exclusive use of the applicant; and
 - (b) The applicant shall obtain permission in writing from the vehicle owner or lessee on a form provided by the cabinet to use the vehicle and for the vehicle to bear the special license plate.

Approved April 21, 2006.