SENATE BILL No. 174

By Committee on Transportation

AN ACT concerning motor vehicles; relating to license plates; fees; license plate manufacturing fee fund; amending K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 8-147 and repealing the existing section.

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

New Section 1. There is hereby created in the state treasury the license plate manufacturing fee fund. All moneys credited to the license plate manufacturing fee fund shall be used by the department of revenue only for the purpose of funding the administration and operation, training, marketing, software maintenance and enhancement, equipment maintenance and purchase, shipping or postage associated with the issuance of vehicle registration license plates. All expenditures from the license plate manufacturing fee fund shall be made in accordance with appropriation acts upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the secretary of the department of revenue.

New Sec. 2. The division of vehicles shall remit the license plate manufacturing fees received by the division under K.S.A. 8-147(d), and amendments thereto, to the state treasurer in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments thereto. Upon receipt of each such remittance, the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount in the state treasury and credit such fees to the license plate manufacturing fee fund. Moneys credited to the license plate manufacturing fee fund as provided herein shall be used to supplement existing appropriations and shall not be used to supplant general fund or other special revenue fund appropriations to the Kansas division of vehicles of the department of revenue.

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 8-147 is hereby amended to read as follows: 8-147. (a) As used in this section "license plate" means the plate used to externally evidence registration of a vehicle under chapter 8 of Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto. Prior to November 1 of each year, the director of vehicles shall furnish the secretary of revenue with complete and detailed specifications for the manufacture of all license plates and registration decals, together with the number required for delivery in the succeeding year for use during the following year, and the state corporation commission shall furnish the secretary of revenue with
complete and detailed specifications for the manufacture of identification
tags together with the number required for delivery in the succeeding year
for use in the following year. The secretary of revenue shall cause to be
manufactured all license plates and registration decals and state
corporation commission identification tags based on such specifications
and estimates.

(b) For such purpose of issuing state corporation commission
identification tags and license plates to an owner of any vehicle registered
with the division of vehicles, the secretary of revenue shall enter into a
contract for the manufacture of license plates, tags and decals with any
organization or institution designated in K.S.A. 39-1208, and amendments
thereto. Any such contract may provide that the secretary of revenue shall
furnish or cause to be furnished the materials and supplies necessary for
the manufacture and distribution of license plates, tags and decals if, in the
opinion of the secretary of revenue, a reduction in the cost of
manufacturing and distribution of the license plates, tags and decals under
such contract will be achieved. Subject to the foregoing, the cost to the
state for the manufacture of the license plates, tags and decals pursuant to
any contract entered into under this section shall be substantially
equivalent to such costs under prior contracts, with the cost of license
plates increased in the amount of the cost of coating with reflective-
material, but any such contract shall not be subject to the provisions of
K.S.A. 75-3739, and amendments thereto.

(c) Except as authorized by other provisions of law, license plates,
beginning in the year in which new license plates are issued pursuant to
K.S.A. 8-132, and amendments thereto, shall be lettered, numbered and
designed as provided in this section. Each license plate shall contain a
combination of three letters followed by a combination of three numerals,
except that once all allowable combinations of letters and numerals have
been used, each license plate shall contain an arrangement of numerals or
letters, or both, as shall be assigned by the secretary of revenue. The
arrangement of numerals and letters of license plates shall be uniform
throughout each classification of registration. The secretary may provide
for the arrangement of the numerals and letters in groups or otherwise and
for other distinguishing marks on such license plates. The secretary of
revenue shall design decals to be affixed to the license plates to identify
the county by two letters chosen from the name of the county distinctly
indicative of the name of the county in which the vehicle is registered and
the date registration is to expire. The letters and numerals of such license
plates shall be in such contrast of colors to the background of the license
plate as to make such letters and numerals easily read. As new license
plates are issued, the face of every license plate shall be completely coated
with a reflective material. The reflectorized material shall be of such
nature as to provide effective and dependable performance in the promotion of highway safety and vehicle identification throughout the service period for which the license plates are issued. The sum of $0.50 shall be added to the cost of each reflectorized license plate. The director shall change the color of such license plates every time new license plates are issued under subsection (b) of K.S.A. 8-132(b), and amendments thereto. The quantity of license plates and registration decals to be furnished each county shall be computed upon the basis of the number of motor vehicles registered and reregistered in such county for the preceding year, and additional license plates and decals shall be furnished as required.

(d) The secretary of revenue shall prescribe a fee of not more than $8 for the manufacturing of the license plate. Upon payment of such fee prescribed by the secretary for manufacture of a new license plate, the payment of the registration fee required by K.S.A. 8-143, 8-143a, 8-143j or 8-172, and amendments thereto, and all other associated required fees and taxes, the division shall cause a new license plate to be manufactured according to the type of license plate for which the owner or lessee made application.

(e) Any contract entered into pursuant to this section for the manufacture of license plates and decals shall provide that the license plates and decals, other than prorate license plates and prorate backing plates, shall be shipped: (1) Directly to the owner or lessee who made application for registration of the vehicle; or (2) to the treasurer of the county where they are to be used in any instance deemed necessary by the secretary of revenue. Any such contract for the manufacture of state corporation commission identification tags shall provide that such tags shall be shipped directly to the state corporation commission.

Sec. 4. K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 8-147 is hereby repealed.

Sec. 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.