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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Jennings DATE TYPED 03/02/05 HB _____

SHORT TITLE Retired State Police Officer License Plates SB 976

ANALYST Ford

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
			Minimal— See Narrative		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Attorney General (AGO)
 Department of Public Safety (DPS)
 Department of Transportation (DOT)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 976 removes restrictions on the design on special registration plates for retired New Mexico state police officers. Current law requires that the design conform to the general specifications in Section 66-3-424 NMSA 1978 and requires the secretary of taxation and revenue to approve the final logo. This bill removes both those provisions, presumably leaving the design of the special plates to the discretion of the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) of the Taxation and Revenue Department (TRD).

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

MVD will incur minimal costs to design and approve a special license plate that departs from its standardized design.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Section 66-3-424 NMSA 1978 provides for a standardized plate with a space for a unique logo for individual associations or causes. This section was enacted in response to the numerous requests for specialty plates that, while worthy of consideration, had the potential to overwhelm the resources of the MVD. This bill departs from that standardized approach. Creating and approving a unique design for one license plate is not likely to be burdensome to MVD; however, it may erode the standardized approach and lead to future requests for unique designs. These requests could prove costly to MVD.

EF/lg