RELATING TO SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES; PROVIDING FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF A PORTION OF SPECIAL PET CARE REGISTRATION PLATE FEES TO THE ANIMAL CARE AND FACILITY FUND; AMENDING SECTIONS OF THE NMSA 1978; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 66-3-424.3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003, Chapter 175, Section 2) is amended to read:

"66-3-424.3. SPECIAL PET CARE REGISTRATION PLATES.--

A. The division shall issue a standardized pet care special registration plate with a logo specified in Section 66-3-424 NMSA 1978 indicating that the recipient supports pet care.

- B. The division, with the advice and consultation of animal control offices and animal shelters in communities around the state, shall determine the color and design of the pet care special registration logo and provide for its issuance.
- C. For a fee of thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) in addition to the regular motor vehicle registration fees, an owner of a motor vehicle may apply for the issuance of a pet care special registration plate. The owner of a motor vehicle shall apply and pay the fee each year that the owner wishes to retain and renew a pet care special registration

plate.

- D. The revenue from the pet care special registration plates shall be distributed as follows:
- (1) ten dollars (\$10.00) of the fee collected for each pet care special registration plate shall be retained by and is appropriated to the division for the manufacture and issuance of the registration plates; and
- (2) twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) of the fee collected for each pet care special registration plate shall be paid to the state treasurer for credit to the animal care and facility fund."
- Section 2. Section 77-1B-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2007, Chapter 60, Section 4) is amended to read:
- "77-1B-4. ANIMAL CARE AND FACILITY FUND CREATED--ADMINISTRATION.--
- A. The "animal care and facility fund" is created in the state treasury. All fees collected pursuant to the Animal Sheltering Services Act shall be deposited in the fund.
- B. The animal care and facility fund shall consist of money collected by the board pursuant to the Animal Sheltering Services Act; income from investment of the fund; and money appropriated to the fund or accruing to it through fees or administrative penalties, cooperative research agreements, income, gifts, grants, donations, bequests, sales

of promotional items, handbooks or educational materials or any other source. Money in the fund shall not be transferred to another fund or encumbered or expended except for expenditures authorized pursuant to the Animal Sheltering Services Act.

- C. Money in the fund is subject to appropriation by the legislature to the department to be used to help animal shelters and communities defray the cost of implementing the board's initiatives conducted pursuant to the Animal Sheltering Services Act. The fund shall be administered by the department to carry out the purposes of the Animal Sheltering Services Act.
- D. Each fiscal year, an amount of money in the fund appropriated pursuant to this section that is equal to the total amount of money credited to the fund for that fiscal year from special registration plates issued pursuant to Section 66-3-424.3 NMSA 1978 shall be administered so that spay and neuter programs in a county receive money attributable to the number of those special registration plates issued in that county.
- E. A disbursement from the fund shall be made only upon a warrant drawn by the secretary of finance and administration pursuant to a voucher signed by the superintendent of regulation and licensing or the superintendent's designee.

1	F. Unexpended and unencumbered balances in the	
2	fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the	
3	general fund."	
4	Section 3. EFFECTIVE DATEThe effective date of the	
5	provisions of this act is July 1, 2009	SB 185
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