

1 SENATE CORPORATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
2 SENATE BILL 273

3 **54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019**

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10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO LICENSE PLATES; CREATING A STANDARDIZED
12 REGISTRATION PLATE TO ACCOMMODATE SPECIAL REGISTRATION DECALS
13 DESIGNED BY NEW MEXICO'S INDIAN NATIONS, TRIBES AND PUEBLOS;
14 CREATING THE NAVAJO CODE TALKER SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATE;
15 MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

16
17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

18 SECTION 1. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code is
19 enacted to read:

20 "[NEW MATERIAL] STANDARDIZED REGISTRATION PLATES--TRIBALLY
21 DESIGNED SPECIAL REGISTRATION DECALS.--

22 A. For a fee of ten dollars (\$10.00), which shall
23 be in addition to the regular motor registration fee, the
24 department shall issue standardized registration plates with
25 space for a tribally designed special registration decal

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1 approved by the department. The fee collected for each
2 registration plate shall be retained by the department and is
3 appropriated to the department for the manufacture and issuance
4 of the registration plate and for tribally designed special
5 registration decals. No two owners shall be issued identically
6 lettered or numbered registration plates.

7 B. Tribally designed special registration plates,
8 on the standardized areas, shall:

9 (1) display the colors of the state flag, with
10 red lettering on a yellow background;

11 (2) display the phrases "New Mexico USA" and
12 "Land of Enchantment";

13 (3) provide a space for applying a special
14 registration decal, centered at the left edge of the plate
15 between the attachment holes, beginning one-fourth inch in from
16 the edge of the plate and having the following dimensions:

17 (a) four and one-eighth inches in
18 height; and

19 (b) three and one-eighth inches in
20 width; and

21 (4) provide a vehicle registration number, to
22 be assigned by the department, that consists of five
23 alphanumeric characters displayed to the right of the special
24 decal area.

25 C. Tribally designed special registration decals,

1 except for the standard dimensions specified in Paragraph (3)
 2 of Subsection B of this section, shall be left to the design
 3 discretion of each federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or
 4 pueblo located wholly or partially in New Mexico, in
 5 consultation with and as approved by the department.

6 D. Each federally recognized Indian nation, tribe
 7 or pueblo located wholly or partially in New Mexico that
 8 designs a special registration decal shall provide a sample of
 9 the decal design in a format specified by the department.

10 E. The department may promulgate rules for the
 11 implementation of the provisions of this section."

12 SECTION 2. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code is
 13 enacted to read:

14 "[NEW MATERIAL] NAVAJO CODE TALKER SPECIAL REGISTRATION
 15 PLATE--PROCEDURE--FEE.--

16 A. The department shall establish and issue a
 17 standardized special registration plate with a logo specified
 18 in Section 66-3-424 NMSA 1978 featuring artwork related to
 19 Navajo code talkers. The department shall adopt procedures for
 20 application for and issuance of the Navajo code talker special
 21 registration plate.

22 B. The department, in consultation with the Navajo
 23 Nation, shall determine the color and design of the Navajo code
 24 talker special registration logo, and the division shall
 25 provide for its issuance.

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 [bracketed material] = delete

1 C. For a fee of ten dollars (\$10.00), which shall
2 be in addition to the regular motor vehicle registration fee,
3 any owner of a motor vehicle may apply for the issuance of a
4 Navajo code talker special registration plate. The owner of a
5 motor vehicle shall apply and pay a fee each year that the
6 owner wishes to retain and renew the Navajo code talker special
7 registration plate.

8 D. The fee collected for each Navajo code talker
9 special registration plate shall be retained by the department
10 and is appropriated to the department for the manufacture and
11 issuance of the special registration plate. No two owners
12 shall be issued identically lettered or numbered registration
13 plates."

14 **SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**--The effective date of the
15 provisions of this act is July 1, 2019.