

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0039

Wildlife conservation license plates.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Blake, Allen, Brown, Crank,  
Gierau, Haley, Pelkey and Sommers and  
Senator(s) Emerich and Hastert

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to motor vehicle license plates;  
2 authorizing wildlife conservation license plates;  
3 specifying requirements; authorizing fees; creating an  
4 account; providing for termination of the issuance of the  
5 plates as specified; requiring a report upon termination;  
6 authorizing rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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8 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

9

10 **Section 1.** W.S. 31-2-231 is created to read:

11

12 **31-2-231. Wildlife conservation license plates;**  
13 **wildlife conservation account.**

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1           (a) Any person required to register a vehicle in  
2 Wyoming pursuant to this article may apply to the  
3 department for a statement of eligibility for wildlife  
4 conservation license plates for any motor vehicle that is  
5 not a commercial vehicle or multipurpose vehicle owned or  
6 leased by that person upon registration of the vehicle.  
7 Upon payment by the applicant of a fee of one hundred fifty  
8 dollars (\$150.00) to the department, the department shall  
9 issue a written statement of eligibility for wildlife  
10 conservation license plates. The department shall assess an  
11 annual fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for a person to retain  
12 eligibility for wildlife conservation plates, but this  
13 annual fee shall not be charged in the year the person pays  
14 the one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) eligibility fee.

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16           (b) The fees collected under subsection (a) of this  
17 section shall be payable to the department and shall be  
18 accounted for separately. The fees collected shall be  
19 distributed to the wildlife conservation account within the  
20 state highway fund, which is hereby created. Funds in the  
21 wildlife conservation account shall only be used to provide  
22 for wildlife conservation efforts related to the

1 transportation system, including signage, wildlife  
2 corridors, wildlife crossings and game fences.

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4 (c) Applicants shall apply at least thirty (30) days  
5 before registration is required for the vehicle for which  
6 the plates are intended. Except as provided in this  
7 section, application for, issuance and renewal of the  
8 wildlife conservation license plates under this section  
9 shall be subject to the same requirements and fees as  
10 provided in this article in addition to the fee collected  
11 under subsection (a) of this section. The license plate  
12 fees required under W.S. 31-3-102(a)(viii) shall accompany  
13 each application. The license plates under this section  
14 shall be issued by the county treasurer of each county and  
15 shall be displayed only upon the vehicle for which they are  
16 issued.

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18 (d) The department shall prescribe the design of the  
19 wildlife conservation license plates authorized by this  
20 section in consultation with the public and other  
21 interested parties, which shall include an image of the  
22 bucking horse and rider described in W.S. 8-3-117. License  
23 plates authorized by this section need not include Arabic

1 numerals designating the county. The department shall  
2 arrange for production of the license plates. Following  
3 initial approval, wildlife conservation license plates  
4 shall be subject to redesign on the same schedule as all  
5 license plates beginning with the year 2025 reissuance.

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7 (e) The department may prepare any special forms and  
8 promulgate any rules necessary to carry out this section.

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10 (f) Unless one thousand (1,000) sets of license  
11 plates are issued under this section before December 31,  
12 2023, the plates authorized under this section shall be  
13 eliminated from production and the department shall report  
14 the cessation of production to the legislature not later  
15 than January 15, 2025.

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17 **Section 2.** The department of transportation shall  
18 prescribe the design of the wildlife conservation license  
19 plates authorized by this act and promulgate any rules  
20 necessary to implement this act on or before January 1,  
21 2019.

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1           **Section 3.** For purposes of accounting and investing  
2 only, the wildlife conservation account may be treated as a  
3 separate account from the state highway fund.

4

5           **Section 4.**

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7           (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this  
8 section, this act is effective January 1, 2019.

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10           (b) Section 2 of this act is effective immediately  
11 upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become  
12 law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming  
13 Constitution.

14

15

(END)