

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0237

License plate issuance.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Wylie, Andrew, Brown, L, Clouston, Filer, Geringer, Larsen, L, Larson, JT, Lawley, Neiman, Tarver, Thayer and Williams and Senator(s) Crum, Jones, Landen and McKeown

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; requiring license plates  
 2 to be issued by the department of transportation;  
 3 clarifying the number of license plates to be provided;  
 4 removing the requirement that license plates be replaced  
 5 after a specified time; making conforming amendments;  
 6 requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

7

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

9

10 **Section 1.** W.S. 31-2-204(a), (b) and (f), 31-2-213(b)  
 11 and (h)(viii), 31-2-215(c), 31-2-216(a), 31-2-217(a), (j)  
 12 and (m), 31-2-218(b), 31-2-220(b), 31-2-222, 31-2-223(c),  
 13 31-2-229(d), 31-2-230(c), 31-2-231(c) and 31-2-232(c) are  
 14 amended to read:

1

2           **31-2-204. Issuance of certificates of registration**  
3 **and license plates by county; form.**

4

5           (a) Upon receipt of an approved application and  
6 payment of fees the county treasurer shall issue to the  
7 applicant a certificate of registration conforming with the  
8 facts set forth in the application ~~together with~~ and not  
9 later than thirty (30) days after the application is  
10 approved the department shall issue one (1) license plate  
11 or validation sticker ~~for motorcycles, multipurpose~~  
12 ~~vehicles, trailers, including house trailers, and vehicles~~  
13 ~~operated with dealer license plates and~~ to the applicant if  
14 the vehicle being registered does not have a front plate  
15 bracket or two (2) license plates or proper validation  
16 stickers ~~for any other vehicle~~ to the applicant if a front  
17 plate bracket is present on the vehicle being registered as  
18 indicated on the application. A physical or electronic  
19 copy of the certificate of registration shall be carried at  
20 all times in the motor vehicle for which it is valid and  
21 shall be displayed upon demand of any peace officer. A  
22 certificate of registration issued by a county treasurer  
23 may be provided in electronic form.

1

2 (b) Except as otherwise provided, license plates  
3 shall be of metal not less than twelve (12) inches long in  
4 the left-hand end of which shall be arabic numerals for the  
5 county in which issued, followed by the bucking horse and  
6 rider emblem and a distinctive number assigned to the  
7 vehicle, set forth in numerals and letters as determined by  
8 the department and above or underneath such numerals shall  
9 be the word "Wyoming" and arabic numerals for the year of  
10 issue or validation. License plates issued to dealers and  
11 for state or federal official forestry vehicles,  
12 motorcycles, multipurpose vehicles and trailers shall  
13 contain appropriate identification which may be in lieu of  
14 the bucking horse and rider emblem. After the county number  
15 on the left-hand end, the license plate may also contain a  
16 distinctive symbol or letters, as determined by the  
17 department, indicating vehicle type. License plates shall  
18 be changed or validated annually. There shall be a marked  
19 contrast between the color of the plate and that of the  
20 numerals and letters and the background of all plates shall  
21 be fully reflectorized. Plates for light utility trailers  
22 under one thousand (1,000) pounds, motorcycles and  
23 multipurpose vehicles shall not be less than three (3)

1 inches wide and six (6) inches long. Antique license plates  
2 shall bear no date and shall bear the inscription "Pioneer  
3 Wyo". Distinctive license farm stickers shall be issued by  
4 the ~~county treasurer~~department upon request for trucks and  
5 trailers used by any farmer or rancher for the  
6 transportation of livestock, feed or unprocessed  
7 agricultural products owned and produced by the farmer or  
8 rancher from the place of production to market and of ranch  
9 supplies intended solely for the use of the farmer or  
10 rancher, and not for sale, on the return trip, and not for  
11 the transportation of goods and persons for hire. Farm  
12 stickers shall bear the inscription "Farm".

13

14 (f) Any person may apply for one (1) set of decals  
15 for breast cancer awareness for any license plate issued  
16 under this article. A decal supporting breast cancer  
17 awareness shall bear the breast cancer ribbon symbol and  
18 shall be attached in the lower left corner of the license  
19 plate without obscuring any other symbols, letters or  
20 numbers on the license plate. Application forms shall be  
21 available at all county treasurer's offices. Each applicant  
22 for a decal under this subsection shall submit an  
23 administration fee with the application. The fee shall be

1 in an amount determined by the department to be sufficient  
2 to recover reasonable administrative costs of the decal,  
3 but not more than five dollars (\$5.00) per set of decals  
4 for any one (1) vehicle. Upon completion of the  
5 application, receipt of the administration fee and issuance  
6 or renewal of a license plate under this article, the  
7 ~~county treasurer~~ department shall issue to the applicant  
8 the number of decals corresponding to the number of license  
9 plates issued or renewed. Decals issued under this  
10 subsection shall not be required to be renewed upon renewal  
11 of a license plate. The replacement fee for a decal under  
12 this subsection shall be the same as for the original  
13 decal.

14

15 **31-2-213. Department to supply registration**  
16 **certificates, plates and stickers; removable windshield**  
17 **placards.**

18

19 (b) The department may issue license plates, except  
20 permanent, dealer and antique motor vehicle license plates,  
21 which shall be valid, ~~for not more than eight (8) years~~ if  
22 annual validation stickers are attached in the upper left  
23 corner of the license plate with the month and year of

1 expiration clearly visible, until the numbers or letters on  
2 the plate are no longer readable or recognizable by a peace  
3 officer as defined by W.S. 7-2-101. If a license plate has  
4 been determined to be unreadable or unrecognizable, a  
5 person shall apply to the department for a replacement  
6 license plate in a manner and on a form prescribed by the  
7 department. The department shall establish a fee for a  
8 replacement license plate under this subsection. Department  
9 authorized license plates and annual stickers shall be of  
10 colors that are readily distinguishable from the previous  
11 year.

12

13 (h) Effective January 1, 1993, any person eligible  
14 for a special placard under subsection (c) of this section  
15 may apply to the county treasurer for special license  
16 plates for a motor vehicle owned by that person. Special  
17 license plates shall not be issued to any person who is  
18 eligible only for a temporary removable windshield placard  
19 under subsection (g) of this section. Special plates issued  
20 under this subsection are subject to the following:

21

22 (viii) The ~~county treasurer~~ department shall  
23 issue a set of plates for each vehicle and a special

1 license plate for each motorcycle or multipurpose vehicle  
2 registered to a qualified applicant under this subsection  
3 upon payment of required fees.

4

5 **31-2-215. Disabled veteran's license plates.**

6

7 (c) The ~~county treasurer~~department shall only issue  
8 one (1) pair of license plates annually that are exempt as  
9 provided by W.S. 31-3-101(b)(xv) to each applicant under  
10 this section.

11

12 **31-2-216. Special plates; former prisoners of war.**

13

14 (a) The ~~county treasurer~~department shall issue one  
15 (1) set of special license plates for either a passenger  
16 car, truck or motor home owned or leased by a former  
17 prisoner of war in accordance with this section for the  
18 year 1988 and thereafter.

19

20 **31-2-217. Special plates; Pearl Harbor survivors;**  
21 **national guard members; armed forces veterans; purple heart**  
22 **recipients; women armed forces veteran decals.**

23

1           (a) The ~~county treasurer~~department shall issue one  
2 (1) set of special license plates to each applicant for  
3 either a passenger car, truck, motorcycle, handicapped  
4 motorcycle or motor home owned or leased by a survivor of  
5 Pearl Harbor, a member of the Wyoming army or air national  
6 guard, a purple heart recipient or honorably discharged  
7 veteran of the United States armed forces and, if applied  
8 for and eligible, one (1) set of decals designating the  
9 person is an honorably discharged woman veteran of the  
10 United States armed forces in accordance with this section.  
11 These license plates shall be displayed upon the vehicle  
12 for which they are issued. A decal designating the person  
13 is an honorably discharged woman veteran shall be attached  
14 in the lower left corner of a license plate issued under  
15 this section.

16

17           (j) Each applicant for an armed forces special  
18 license plate shall submit an application fee of twenty  
19 dollars (\$20.00) upon which the Wyoming veteran's  
20 commission shall issue a written statement establishing the  
21 applicant's eligibility to receive an armed forces license  
22 plate from the ~~county treasurer~~department. Fees collected  
23 under this subsection shall be deposited into the veterans'

1 commission expendable trust fund. Application for and any  
2 renewal of an armed forces special license plate shall be  
3 subject to the requirements of this article and the payment  
4 of the fee required by W.S. 31-3-102(a)(viii).

5

6 (m) The decal designating a woman veteran of the  
7 United States armed forces shall bear a distinctive symbol  
8 or letters identifying the registrant as an honorably  
9 discharged woman veteran of the United States armed forces.  
10 Each applicant for a decal under this subsection shall  
11 submit an administration fee with the application. The fee  
12 shall be in an amount determined by the department to be  
13 sufficient to recover reasonable administrative costs of  
14 the decal, but not more than five dollars (\$5.00) per set  
15 of decals for any one (1) vehicle. Upon completion of the  
16 application, receipt of the administration fee,  
17 determination of eligibility and issuance or renewal of  
18 special license plates under this section, the ~~county~~  
19 ~~treasurer~~department shall issue to the applicant the  
20 number of decals corresponding to the number of license  
21 plates issued or renewed under this section to be attached  
22 to the license plates issued or renewed under this section.

1 The replacement fee for a decal under this subsection shall  
2 be the same as for the original decal.

3

4 **31-2-218. Firefighter's license plates.**

5

6 (b) Application for license plates under subsection  
7 (a) of this section shall be annually made to the county  
8 treasurer as provided by this article. The written  
9 statement of eligibility required under subsection (a) of  
10 this section shall be presented to the county treasurer  
11 before a license plate may be issued by the department,  
12 provided that the written statement shall only be required  
13 for a retired firefighter at the time of first application  
14 and shall not be required for renewals or subsequent  
15 applications by the same retired firefighter. Application  
16 forms shall be available at all county treasurer's offices.  
17 The fee required under W.S. 31-3-102(a)(viii) shall  
18 accompany each application.

19

20 **31-2-220. Emergency medical technician's license**  
21 **plates.**

22

1           (b) Application for license plates under subsection  
2 (a) of this section shall be annually made to the county  
3 treasurer as provided by this article. A written statement  
4 of eligibility, accompanied by a copy of the applicant's  
5 current emergency medical technician certification, shall  
6 be presented to the county treasurer before a license plate  
7 or renewal sticker may be issued by the department.  
8 Application forms shall be available at all county  
9 treasurer's offices. The normal registration fees and the  
10 fee required under W.S. 31-3-102(a)(viii) shall accompany  
11 each application. A person issued distinctive license  
12 plates pursuant to this section who is no longer a  
13 certified emergency medical technician shall apply for  
14 regular license plates pursuant to this article before  
15 registration of the vehicle expires.

16

17           **31-2-222. Radio amateur license plates.**

18

19 A resident who is the owner of a motor vehicle that is not  
20 a commercial vehicle or multipurpose vehicle and who is  
21 licensed by the federal communications commission to engage  
22 in private and experimental two-way radio operation and  
23 holding a bona fide novice class license or higher may

1 apply to the department for radio amateur license plates  
2 for one (1) passenger car and one (1) pickup truck only  
3 whereby the distinctive license plate number assigned to  
4 the motor vehicles shall consist of the figures and letters  
5 that make up the call sign of the radio amateur as issued  
6 by the federal communications commission. Upon payment of  
7 the regular registration fees and the additional radio  
8 amateur license plate fee the department shall furnish  
9 radio amateur license plates of such size and design as  
10 prescribed by the department to ~~the county treasurer of the~~  
11 ~~county in which the approved applicant resides. The county~~  
12 ~~treasurer shall issue the plates to the applicant. upon~~  
13 ~~payment of the regular registration fees.~~ A request for  
14 renewal of the registration for the radio amateur license  
15 plate may be made to a county treasurer for issuance of a  
16 renewal registration and validation sticker. The department  
17 may promulgate rules and regulations as provided by the  
18 Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act to implement the  
19 provisions of this section.

20

21 **31-2-223. Antique motor vehicles.**

22

1           (c) Upon receipt of an approved application and  
2 payment of fees the vehicle shall be registered and license  
3 plates shall be issued ~~therefor~~ by the department. The  
4 registration expires upon transfer of ownership of the  
5 vehicle. Notwithstanding W.S. 31-2-205(a)(i)(A), a license  
6 plate shall only be required to be displayed on the rear of  
7 those antique motor vehicles that were originally  
8 manufactured to have one (1) license plate.

9

10           **31-2-229. Special plates; gold star.**

11

12           (d) The department shall prescribe the design of the  
13 gold star license plate authorized by this section in  
14 consultation with the Wyoming veteran's commission and  
15 shall arrange for production of the license plates.  
16 Following initial approval, the gold star license plates  
17 shall be subject to redesign on the same schedule as all  
18 license plates beginning with the year 2017 reissuance.  
19 The license plates shall be issued by the ~~county treasurer~~  
20 of each county department.

21

22           **31-2-230. Tribal license plates.**

23

1 (c) The department shall arrange for production of  
2 the license plates authorized by this section. The ~~county~~  
3 ~~treasurer of each county~~ department shall issue the license  
4 plates.

5  
6 **31-2-231. Wildlife conservation license plates;**  
7 **wildlife conservation account; authority to receive and**  
8 **expend monies.**

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

23

1           **31-2-232. Specified off-road vehicle licensing and**  
2 **registration.**

3  
4           (c) Upon receipt of an approved application and  
5 payment of fees the ~~county treasurer~~ department shall issue  
6 to the applicant a certificate of registration together  
7 with one (1) license plate or validation sticker. The  
8 registration fee for off-road recreational vehicles shall  
9 be the same rate as for motorcycles. The registration  
10 expires annually in accordance with W.S. 31-2-206(a) and  
11 upon transfer of ownership of the vehicle. License plates  
12 on the off-road recreational vehicle shall be displayed in  
13 accordance with W.S. 31-2-205.

14

15           **Section 2.** The department of transportation shall  
16 adopt rules necessary to implement this act not later than  
17 January 1, 2027.

18

1           **Section 3.**

2

3           (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this  
4 section, this act is effective immediately upon completion  
5 of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided  
6 by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

7

8           (b) Section 1 of this act is effective January 1,  
9 2027.

10

11

(END)