



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

Raised Bill No. 6521

LCO No. 3696

03696_____HED

Referred to Committee on Higher Education and Employment
Advancement

Introduced by:
(HED)

**AN ACT CONCERNING COLLEGIATE COMMEMORATIVE NUMBER
PLATES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 14-19a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

3 (a) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall adopt regulations in
4 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 to establish (1) standards
5 for the issuance of a special certificate of registration and special
6 number plates to a member of an organization which qualifies for
7 issuance, (2) qualifications of organizations whose members wish to
8 apply for such special registrations, (3) procedures for application for
9 such special registration, and (4) a fee for such special number plates
10 which shall cover at least the entire cost of making the plates and
11 which shall be in addition to the fee for registration of the motor
12 vehicle. The regulations shall provide that a labor union shall be a
13 qualifying organization.

14 [(b) The Department of Motor Vehicles, in consultation with the

15 Board of Governors of the Department of Higher Education, shall
16 adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to
17 establish standards for the issuance and renewal of collegiate special
18 number plates with the logos or emblems of Connecticut public and
19 independent institutions of higher education to individuals who meet
20 the requirements established by the regulations adopted pursuant to
21 this subsection. The regulations shall: (1) Establish the criteria
22 necessary for a Connecticut institution of higher education to be
23 eligible to have a special number plate issued with the logo or emblem
24 of the institution; (2) provide for the issuance or renewal of such a
25 plate upon the receipt of a form certified by the institution that a
26 contribution of at least fifty dollars was made to a scholarship fund or
27 scholarship account at such an institution prior to each such issuance
28 and renewal. Each such renewal shall occur at the time of each renewal
29 of the motor vehicle's registration; (3) the fee established in subdivision
30 (4) of subsection (a) of this section; (4) any registration fee required by
31 the commissioner pursuant to section 14-12; and (5) any additional
32 information or fees required by the commissioner. All contributions to
33 the scholarship fund or scholarship account of a participating
34 institution of higher education shall be distributed on the basis of
35 financial need.]

36 [(c)] (b) On or after July 1, 2004, the commissioner may issue special
37 certificates of registration and special number plates in accordance
38 with the regulations adopted under subsection (a) of this section
39 provided he may not issue a set of special number plates bearing the
40 same numerals as any other plate issued by the department. The
41 commissioner may discontinue the issuance of any such special
42 number plates issued for a qualified organization, or special plates
43 issued in accordance with the provisions of sections 14-21f to 14-21p,
44 inclusive, and section 2 of this act at any time, upon written notice to
45 the organization if, in the opinion of the commissioner, the demand for
46 such plates is insufficient to support the costs of production.

47 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) (a) On and after January 1,

48 2010, upon the demonstration by an institution of higher education in
49 this state that there is a demand for not less than four hundred
50 collegiate commemorative number plates with a design containing the
51 logo or emblem of such institution of higher education, the
52 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall issue collegiate commemorative
53 number plates of a design to enhance public awareness of such
54 institution of higher education. Such design shall be determined by
55 agreement between each such institution of higher education and the
56 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. No use shall be made of such plates
57 except as official registration marker plates.

58 (b) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall adopt regulations, in
59 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes,
60 which provide for a one-time fee of fifty-five dollars to be charged for
61 collegiate commemorative number plates in addition to the regular fee
62 or fees prescribed for the registration of a motor vehicle. Fifteen dollars
63 of such one-time fee shall be deposited into an account by the
64 Department of Motor Vehicles to be used for administrative costs of
65 carrying out the provisions of this section. Such number plates shall
66 have letters and numbers selected by the Commissioner of Motor
67 Vehicles. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may establish a higher
68 fee for: (1) Such number plates that contain any combination of letters
69 or numbers requested by the registrant as authorized by section 14-49
70 of the general statutes, in addition to the fee or fees prescribed for
71 plates issues under said section; and (2) such number plates which are
72 low number plates, in accordance with section 14-160 of the general
73 statutes, in addition to the fee or fees prescribed for plates issued
74 under said section.

75 (c) The biennial renewal fee for the registration certificate of a motor
76 vehicle for which a collegiate commemorative number plate has been
77 issued shall include, in each renewal year subsequent to the year of
78 issuance, a collegiate commemorative number plate fee in the amount
79 of fifteen dollars, of which five dollars shall be allocated for
80 administrative costs to the Department of Motor Vehicles, which shall

81 be in addition to the fee for the renewal of registration certificate. No
82 additional renewal fee shall be charged for renewal of registration for
83 any motor vehicle bearing collegiate commemorative number plates
84 which contain letters in place of numbers, or low number plates, in
85 excess of the renewal fee for collegiate commemorative number plates
86 with letters and numbers selected by the Commissioner of Motor
87 Vehicles. No additional fee shall be charged for the transfer of an
88 existing registration to or from a registration with collegiate
89 commemorative number plates.

90 (d) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, in consultation with the
91 Commissioner of Higher Education and a representative of each
92 independent institution of higher education on behalf of which a
93 collegiate commemorative number plate with a design containing its
94 logo or emblem has been issued, shall adopt regulations, in accordance
95 with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to establish
96 procedures for the issuance, renewal and replacement of collegiate
97 commemorative number plates.

98 (e) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall notify eligible
99 motorists of the opportunity to obtain collegiate commemorative
100 number plates by including a notice with all motor vehicle registration
101 renewals and by posting appropriate posters or signs in all division
102 facilities and offices. The notices, posters and signs shall be designed
103 by the Commissioner of Higher Education and a representative from
104 each independent institution of higher education on behalf of which a
105 collegiate commemorative number plate with a design containing its
106 logo or emblem has been issued in consultation with the
107 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.

108 (f) All fees established and collected pursuant to this section, other
109 than those moneys designated for administrative costs of the
110 Department of Motor Vehicles, shall be deposited in the collegiate
111 commemorative account established under section 3 of this act.

112 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) (a) There is established an

113 account to be known as the "collegiate commemorative account" which
114 shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The
115 account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in
116 the account.

117 (b) The moneys in said account shall be distributed quarterly by the
118 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management to each institution of
119 higher education for which moneys have been deposited into said
120 account for the issuance or renewal of a collegiate commemorative
121 number plate. Said moneys shall be expended by such institutions of
122 higher education to provide funding for scholarships and alumni
123 outreach efforts.

124 (c) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management may
125 receive private donations for purposes of said account and any such
126 donations shall be deposited in said account.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	14-19a
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To create a more streamlined process of issuing collegiate special number plates on behalf of institutions of higher education in this state.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]