
OLR Bill Analysis

HB 5290

AN ACT CONCERNING THE SALE, VIA INTERNET AUCTION, OF LICENSE PLATES ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES.

SUMMARY:

This bill requires the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to develop a program to sell certain vehicle number plates through an Internet auction. The program must establish the procedures for selling and buying a number plate, including procedures for transferring the plate and for issuing new registrations to the buyer and seller. The seller must surrender any number plate that he or she sells to DMV before it is conveyed to the buyer. By law, number plates are state property. The bill is not clear about who will sell or transfer the plates, who will receive the sale proceeds, and the relationships between DMV and the buyer or the seller.

The program must specify the categories of number plates eligible for sale. These cannot include number plates issued to people, firms, corporations, or groups eligible for special number plates because of their qualifications, occupations, or businesses (see BACKGROUND).

DMV must notify everyone who holds a current registration about the program, and the auction must be conducted according to requirements DMV establishes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2011

BACKGROUND

Special Number Plates

By law, certain people and organizations qualify for special number plates. These people and organizations include volunteer firefighters (CGS § 14-20a), veterans (CGS § 14-20b), immediate family members of residents killed in action with the armed forces (CGS § 14-20c), former

prisoners of war (CGS § 14-21d), and licensed amateur radio operators (CGS § 14-21).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 32 Nay 4 (03/18/2011)