

REFERENCE TITLE: first responder special plates.

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-second Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2015

## **HB 2344**

Introduced by  
Representative Fann

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 28-2351 AND 28-2403, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING TITLE 28, CHAPTER 7, ARTICLE 12, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 28-2452; AMENDING SECTIONS 28-6501, 28-6991 AND 28-6993, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 28-2351, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4 28-2351. License plate provided; design

5 A. The department shall provide to every owner one license plate for  
6 each vehicle registered. At the request of the owner and on payment of any  
7 required fee, the department shall provide either one or two license plates  
8 for a vehicle for which a special plate is requested pursuant to this  
9 chapter, except that the department shall provide one license plate if the  
10 special plate is issued pursuant to section 28-2416 or 28-2416.01.

11 B. The license plate shall display the number assigned to the vehicle  
12 and to the owner of the vehicle and the name of this state, which may be  
13 abbreviated. The director shall coat the license plate with a reflective  
14 material that is consistent with the determination of the department  
15 regarding the color and design of license plates and special plates. The  
16 director shall design the license plate and the letters and numerals on the  
17 license plate to be of sufficient size to be plainly readable during daylight  
18 from a distance of one hundred feet. In addition to the standard license  
19 plate issued for a trailer before August 12, 2005, the director shall issue a  
20 license plate for trailers that has a design that is similar to the standard  
21 size license plate for trailers but that is the same size as the license  
22 plate for motorcycles. The trailer owner shall notify the department which  
23 size license plate the owner wants for the trailer.

24 C. Notwithstanding any other law, the department shall not contract  
25 with a nongovernmental entity to purchase or secure reflective material for  
26 the plates issued by the department unless the department has made a  
27 reasonable effort to secure qualified bids or proposals from as many  
28 individual responsible respondents as possible.

29 D. The department shall determine the color and design of the license  
30 plate. All other plates issued by the department, except the plates issued  
31 pursuant to sections 28-2404, 28-2412, 28-2413, 28-2414, 28-2416, 28-2416.01,  
32 28-2417 through ~~28-2451~~ 28-2452, 28-2472, 28-2473, 28-2474, 28-2475 and  
33 28-4533 and article 14 of this chapter, shall be the same color as and  
34 similar in design to the license plate as determined by the department.

35 E. A passenger motor vehicle rented without a driver shall receive the  
36 same type of license plate as issued for a private passenger motor vehicle.

37 Sec. 2. Section 28-2403, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:  
38 28-2403. Special plates; transfers; violation; classification

39 A. Except as otherwise provided in this article, the department shall  
40 issue or renew special plates in lieu of the regular license plates pursuant  
41 to the following conditions and procedures and only if the requirements  
42 prescribed by this article for the requested special plates are met:

43 1. Except as provided in sections 28-2416 and 28-2416.01, a person who  
44 is the registered owner of a vehicle registered with the department or who  
45 applies for an original or renewal registration of a vehicle may submit to

1 the department a completed application form as prescribed by the department  
2 with the fee prescribed by section 28-2402 for special plates in addition to  
3 the registration fee prescribed by section 28-2003.

4 2. Except for plates issued pursuant to sections 28-2404, 28-2412,  
5 28-2413, 28-2414, 28-2416, 28-2416.01, 28-2417 through ~~28-2451~~ 28-2452,  
6 28-2472, 28-2473, 28-2474 and 28-2475 and article 14 of this chapter, the  
7 special plates shall be the same color as and similar to the design of the  
8 regular license plates that is determined by the department.

9 3. Except as provided in section 28-2416, the department shall issue  
10 special plates only to the owner or lessee of a vehicle that is currently  
11 registered, including any vehicle that has a declared gross weight, as  
12 defined in section 28-5431, of twenty-six thousand pounds or less.

13 4. Except as provided in sections 28-2416 and 28-2416.01, the  
14 department shall charge the fee prescribed by section 28-2402 for each annual  
15 renewal of special plates in addition to the registration fee prescribed by  
16 section 28-2003.

17 B. Except as provided in sections 28-2416 and 28-2416.01, on  
18 notification to the department and on payment of the transfer fee prescribed  
19 by section 28-2402, a person who is issued special plates may transfer the  
20 special plates to another vehicle the person owns or leases. Persons who are  
21 issued special plates for hearing impaired persons pursuant to section  
22 28-2408 and international symbol of access special plates pursuant to section  
23 28-2409 are exempt from the transfer fee. If a person who is issued special  
24 plates sells, trades or otherwise releases ownership of the vehicle on which  
25 the plates have been displayed, the person shall immediately report the  
26 transfer of the plates to the department or the person shall surrender the  
27 plates to the department as prescribed by the director. It is unlawful for a  
28 person to whom the plates have been issued to knowingly permit them to be  
29 displayed on a vehicle except the vehicle authorized by the department.

30 C. The special plates shall be affixed to the vehicle for which  
31 registration is sought in lieu of the regular license plates.

32 D. A person is guilty of a class 3 misdemeanor who:

33 1. Violates subsection B of this section.

34 2. Fraudulently gives false or fictitious information in the  
35 application for or renewal of special plates or placards issued pursuant to  
36 this article.

37 3. Conceals a material fact or otherwise commits fraud in the  
38 application for or renewal of special plates or placards issued pursuant to  
39 this article.

40 Sec. 3. Title 28, chapter 7, article 12, Arizona Revised Statutes, is  
41 amended by adding section 28-2452, to read:

42 ~~28-2452.~~ First responder special plates; fund

43 A. IF, BY DECEMBER 31, 2015, A PERSON PAYS THIRTY-TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS  
44 TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT  
45 SHALL ISSUE FIRST RESPONDER SPECIAL PLATES. THE PERSON WHO PROVIDES THE

1 THIRTY-TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS SHALL DESIGN THE FIRST RESPONDER SPECIAL PLATES.  
2 THE DESIGN AND COLOR OF THE FIRST RESPONDER SPECIAL PLATES ARE SUBJECT TO THE  
3 APPROVAL OF THE DEPARTMENT. THE DIRECTOR MAY ALLOW A REQUEST FOR FIRST  
4 RESPONDER SPECIAL PLATES TO BE COMBINED WITH A REQUEST FOR PERSONALIZED  
5 SPECIAL PLATES. IF THE DIRECTOR ALLOWS SUCH A COMBINATION, THE REQUEST SHALL  
6 BE IN A FORM PRESCRIBED BY THE DIRECTOR AND IS SUBJECT TO THE FEES FOR THE  
7 PERSONALIZED SPECIAL PLATES IN ADDITION TO THE FEES REQUIRED FOR THE FIRST  
8 RESPONDER SPECIAL PLATES.

9 B. OF THE TWENTY-FIVE DOLLAR FEE REQUIRED BY SECTION 28-2402 FOR THE  
10 ORIGINAL SPECIAL PLATES AND FOR RENEWAL OF SPECIAL PLATES, EIGHT DOLLARS IS A  
11 SPECIAL PLATE ADMINISTRATION FEE AND SEVENTEEN DOLLARS IS AN ANNUAL DONATION.

12 C. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEPOSIT, PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 35-146 AND  
13 35-147, ALL SPECIAL PLATE ADMINISTRATION FEES IN THE STATE HIGHWAY FUND  
14 ESTABLISHED BY SECTION 28-6991 AND ALL DONATIONS COLLECTED PURSUANT TO THIS  
15 SECTION IN THE FIRST RESPONDER SPECIAL PLATE FUND ESTABLISHED BY THIS  
16 SECTION.

17 D. THE FIRST RESPONDER SPECIAL PLATE FUND IS ESTABLISHED CONSISTING OF  
18 MONIES DEPOSITED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. THE DIRECTOR SHALL ADMINISTER THE  
19 FUND. THE FIRST THIRTY-TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS IN THE FUND SHALL BE REIMBURSED  
20 TO THE PERSON WHO PAID THE IMPLEMENTATION FEE TO THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO  
21 SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION. NOT MORE THAN TEN PERCENT OF THE MONIES  
22 DEPOSITED IN THE FUND ANNUALLY SHALL BE USED FOR THE COST OF ADMINISTERING  
23 THE FUND. MONIES IN THE FUND ARE CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED.

24 E. THE DIRECTOR SHALL ANNUALLY ALLOCATE MONIES FROM THE FUND TO AN  
25 ENTITY THAT IS A CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION THAT IS QUALIFIED UNDER SECTION  
26 501(c)(3) OF THE UNITED STATES INTERNAL REVENUE CODE FOR FEDERAL INCOME TAX  
27 PURPOSES. THE ENTITY MUST OFFER IMMEDIATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, EMOTIONAL  
28 SUPPORT, PEER TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL REFERRAL SERVICES TO FAMILIES OF  
29 PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS AND FIREFIGHTERS WHO ARE SERIOUSLY INJURED OR KILLED  
30 IN THE LINE OF DUTY. THE ENTITY MUST OFFER SCHOLARSHIPS TO FAMILY MEMBERS OF  
31 PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS AND FIREFIGHTERS WHO WISH TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION  
32 BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL. THE ENTITY MUST HAVE BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR AT LEAST  
33 FORTY-FIVE YEARS.

34 F. ON NOTICE FROM THE DIRECTOR, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL INVEST AND  
35 DIVEST MONIES IN THE FUND AS PROVIDED BY SECTION 35-313, AND MONIES EARNED  
36 FROM INVESTMENT SHALL BE CREDITED TO THE FUND.

37 Sec. 4. Section 28-6501, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:  
38 28-6501. Definition of highway user revenues

39 In this article, unless the context otherwise requires or except as  
40 otherwise provided by statute, "highway user revenues" means all monies  
41 received in this state from licenses, taxes, penalties, interest and fees  
42 authorized by the following:

43 1. Chapters 2, 7, 8 and 15 of this title, except for:

44 (a) The special plate administration fees prescribed in sections  
45 28-2404, 28-2412 through ~~28-2451~~ 28-2452 and 28-2514.

1 (b) The donations prescribed in sections 28-2404, 28-2412 through  
2 28-2415, 28-2417 through ~~28-2451~~ 28-2452, 28-2473, 28-2474 and 28-2475.

3 2. Section 28-1177.

4 3. Chapters 10 and 11 of this title.

5 4. Chapter 16, articles 1, 2 and 4 of this title, except as provided  
6 in sections 28-5926 and 28-5927.

7 Sec. 5. Section 28-6991, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:  
8 28-6991. State highway fund; sources

9 A state highway fund is established that consists of:

10 1. Monies distributed from the Arizona highway user revenue fund  
11 pursuant to chapter 18 of this title.

12 2. Monies appropriated by the legislature.

13 3. Monies received from donations for the construction, improvement or  
14 maintenance of state highways or bridges. These monies shall be credited to  
15 a special account and shall be spent only for the purpose indicated by the  
16 donor.

17 4. Monies received from counties under cooperative agreements,  
18 including proceeds from bond issues. The state treasurer shall deposit these  
19 monies to the credit of the fund in a special account on delivery to the  
20 treasurer of a concise written agreement between the department and the  
21 county stating the purposes for which the monies are surrendered by the  
22 county, and these monies shall be spent only as stated in the agreement.

23 5. Monies received from the United States under an act of Congress to  
24 provide aid for the construction of rural post roads, but monies received on  
25 projects for which the monies necessary to be provided by this state are  
26 wholly derived from sources mentioned in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this section  
27 shall be allotted by the department and deposited by the state treasurer in  
28 the special account within the fund established for each project. On  
29 completion of the project, on the satisfaction and discharge in full of all  
30 obligations of any kind created and on request of the department, the  
31 treasurer shall transfer the unexpended balance in the special account for  
32 the project into the state highway fund, and the unexpended balance and any  
33 further federal aid thereafter received on account of the project may be  
34 spent under the general provisions of this title.

35 6. Monies in the custody of an officer or agent of this state from any  
36 source that is to be used for the construction, improvement or maintenance of  
37 state highways or bridges.

38 7. Monies deposited in the state general fund and arising from the  
39 disposal of state personal property belonging to the department.

40 8. Receipts from the sale or disposal of any or all other property  
41 held by the department and purchased with state highway monies.

42 9. Monies generated pursuant to section 28-410.

43 10. Monies distributed pursuant to section 28-5808, subsection B,  
44 paragraph 2, subdivision (d).

45 11. Monies deposited pursuant to sections 28-1143, 28-2353 and 28-3003.

- 1           12. Except as provided in section 28-5101, the following monies:  
2           (a) Monies deposited pursuant to section 28-2206 and section 28-5808,  
3 subsection B, paragraph 2, subdivision (e).  
4           (b) One dollar of each registration fee and one dollar of each title  
5 fee collected pursuant to section 28-2003.  
6           (c) Two dollars of each late registration penalty collected by the  
7 director pursuant to section 28-2162.  
8           (d) The air quality compliance fee collected pursuant to section  
9 49-542.  
10          (e) The special plate administration fees collected pursuant to  
11 sections 28-2404, 28-2412 through 28-2416, 28-2416.01, 28-2417 through  
12 ~~28-2451~~ 28-2452 and 28-2514.  
13          (f) Monies collected pursuant to sections 28-372, 28-2155 and 28-2156  
14 if the director is the registering officer.  
15          13. Monies deposited pursuant to chapter 5, article 5 of this title.  
16          14. Donations received pursuant to section 28-2269.  
17          15. Dealer and registration monies collected pursuant to section  
18 28-4304.  
19          16. Abandoned vehicle administration monies deposited pursuant to  
20 section 28-4804.  
21          17. Monies deposited pursuant to section 28-710, subsection D,  
22 paragraph 2.  
23          18. Monies deposited pursuant to section 28-2065.  
24          19. Monies deposited pursuant to section 28-7311.  
25          20. Monies deposited pursuant to section 28-7059.  
26          21. Monies deposited pursuant to section 28-1105.  
27          22. Monies deposited pursuant to section 28-2448, subsection D.  
28          23. Monies deposited pursuant to section 28-3415.  
29          Sec. 6. Section 28-6993, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:  
30          28-6993. State highway fund; authorized uses  
31          A. Except as provided in subsection B of this section and section  
32 28-6538, the state highway fund shall be used for any of the following  
33 purposes in strict conformity with and subject to the budget as provided by  
34 this section and by sections 28-6997 through 28-7003:  
35           1. To pay salaries, wages, necessary travel expenses and other  
36 expenses of officers and employees of the department and the incidental  
37 office expenses, including telegraph, telephone, postal and express charges  
38 and printing, stationery and advertising expenses.  
39           2. To pay for both:  
40           (a) Equipment, supplies, machines, tools, department offices and  
41 laboratories established by the department.  
42           (b) The construction and repair of buildings or yards of the  
43 department.

- 1           3. To pay the cost of both:
- 2           (a) Engineering, construction, improvement and maintenance of state
- 3 highways and parts of highways forming state routes.
- 4           (b) Highways under cooperative agreements with the United States that
- 5 are entered into pursuant to this chapter and an act of Congress providing
- 6 for the construction of rural post roads.
- 7           4. To pay land damages incurred by reason of establishing, opening,
- 8 altering, relocating, widening or abandoning portions of a state route or
- 9 state highway.
- 10          5. To reimburse the department revolving account.
- 11          6. To pay premiums on authorized indemnity bonds and on compensation
- 12 insurance under the workers' compensation act.
- 13          7. To defray lawful expenses and costs required to administer and
- 14 carry out the intent, purposes and provisions of this title, including
- 15 repayment of obligations entered into pursuant to this title, payment of
- 16 interest on obligations entered into pursuant to this title, repayment of
- 17 loans and other financial assistance, including repayment of advances and
- 18 interest on advances made to the department pursuant to section 28-7677, and
- 19 payment of all other obligations and expenses of the board and department
- 20 pursuant to chapter 21 of this title.
- 21          8. To pay lawful bills and charges incurred by the state engineer.
- 22          9. To acquire, construct or improve entry roads to state parks or
- 23 roads within state parks.
- 24          10. To acquire, construct or improve entry roads to state prisons.
- 25          11. To pay the cost of relocating a utility facility pursuant to
- 26 section 28-7156.
- 27          12. For the purposes provided in subsections C, D and E of this section
- 28 and sections 28-1143, 28-2353 and 28-3003.
- 29          13. To pay the cost of issuing an Arizona centennial special plate
- 30 pursuant to section 28-2448.
- 31          B. For each fiscal year, the department of transportation shall
- 32 allocate and transfer monies in the state highway fund to the department of
- 33 public safety for funding a portion of highway patrol costs in eight
- 34 installments in each of the first eight months of a fiscal year that do not
- 35 exceed ten million dollars.
- 36          C. Subject to legislative appropriation, the department may use the
- 37 monies in the state highway fund as prescribed in section 28-6991, paragraph
- 38 12 to carry out the duties imposed by this title for registration or titling
- 39 of vehicles, to operate joint title, registration and driver licensing
- 40 offices, to cover the administrative costs of issuing the air quality
- 41 compliance sticker, modifying the year validating tab and issuing the
- 42 windshield sticker and to cover expenses and costs in issuing special plates
- 43 pursuant to sections 28-2404, 28-2412 through ~~28-2451~~ 28-2452 and 28-2514.

1           D. The department shall use monies deposited in the state highway fund  
2 pursuant to chapter 5, article 5 of this title only as prescribed by that  
3 article.

4           E. Monies deposited in the state highway fund pursuant to section  
5 28-2269 shall be used only as prescribed by that section.

6           F. Monies deposited in the state highway fund pursuant to section  
7 28-710, subsection D, paragraph 2 shall only be used for state highway work  
8 zone traffic control devices.

9           G. The department may exchange monies distributed to the state highway  
10 fund pursuant to section 28-6538, subsection A, paragraph 1 for local  
11 government surface transportation program federal monies suballocated to  
12 councils of government and metropolitan planning organizations if the local  
13 government scheduled to receive the federal monies concurs. An exchange of  
14 state highway fund monies pursuant to this subsection shall be in an amount  
15 that is at least equal to ninety ~~per-cent~~ PERCENT of the federal obligation  
16 authority that exists in the project for which the exchange is proposed.