



Joseph G. Aninao

Bill Analysis
Legislative Service Commission

S.B. 259

123rd General Assembly
(As Passed by the Senate)

Sens. White, Wachtmann, Johnson, Blessing, Carnes, Hottinger, Gardner, Mumper, Spada, Latta, Cupp, Watts, Nein, McLin, Kearns, Schafrath, DiDonato, Latell, Brady, Drake

BILL SUMMARY

- Authorizes the issuance of a Future Farmers of America license plate bearing identifying words or markings representing Future Farmers of America, and approved by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles.
- Requires the Registrar to collect a contribution in the amount of \$15 for each application for registration and registration renewal that involves Future Farmers of America license plates.
- Requires the contributions collected from persons who are issued the license plates to be deposited into the Future Farmers of America License Plate Fund and paid to the Future Farmers of America Foundation to be used for educational and scholarship purposes of the Foundation.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Future Farmers of America license plates

(sec. 4503.50)

Under the bill, the owner or lessee of any passenger car, noncommercial motor vehicle, motor home, or other vehicle of a class approved by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles may apply to the Registrar for the registration of the vehicle and issuance of Future Farmers of America license plates (see **COMMENT 1**). The application for the license plates may be combined with a request for a special reserved license plate (also commonly known as "vanity plates") provided in current law. Upon receipt of the completed application and payment of the applicable taxes and fees as explained below, the Registrar is required to issue to the applicant the appropriate vehicle registration and a set of Future Farmers of

America license plates with a validation sticker, or a validation sticker alone once the person already has Future Farmers of America plates. (See **COMMENT 2**.)

In addition to the letters and numbers ordinarily inscribed on license plates, Future Farmers of America license plates must be inscribed with identifying words or markings representing the Future Farmers of America and approved by the Registrar. The license plates must bear county identification stickers that identify the county of registration by name or number.

Future Farmers of America license plates and validation stickers are issued upon payment of a contribution of \$15 that is deposited in the Future Farmers of America License Plate Fund, payment of the regular state and local taxes and fees prescribed in current law, a fee of \$10 for the purpose of compensating the Bureau of Motor Vehicles for additional services required in the issuing of Future Farmers of America license plates, and compliance with all other applicable laws relating to the registration of motor vehicles. If the application for Future Farmers of America license plates is combined with a request for a vanity plate, the applicant also must pay the additional fee specified for those plates.

The Registrar must transmit the \$15 contribution to the Treasurer of State for deposit in the Future Farmers of America License Plate Fund, which the bill creates. The Registrar also is required to deposit in the existing State Bureau of Motor Vehicles Fund the additional \$10 fee that the applicant for registration pays for the purpose of compensating the Bureau.

Future Farmers of America License Plate Fund

(sec. 4501.40)

The bill creates the Future Farmers of America License Plate Fund in the state treasury. The Fund consists of the contributions that are paid to the Registrar by applicants who choose to obtain Future Farmers of America license plates. The contributions deposited in the Fund are paid to the Future Farmers of America Foundation, which must deposit the contributions into its general account to be used for educational and scholarship purposes of the Foundation. All investment earnings of the Fund are retained by the Fund.

COMMENT

1. The FFA is a national organization fostering careers in the science, business, and technology of agriculture. Members are students from high school age to age 21. The Ohio FFA Association has approximately 21,000 members.

The Ohio FFA Foundation is a charitable organization raising funds for FFA awards, scholarships, and programs.

2. Under law unaffected by the bill, the Registrar is not required to implement legislation creating a nonstandard special license plate if he receives fewer than 1,000 statements indicating intent to obtain the plate. Also, a special license plate may be terminated if fewer than 1,000 plates of that type are sold annually. (Secs. 4503.77 and 4503.78, not in the bill.) The Ohio FFA reportedly has the necessary number of statements.

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	03-15-00	p. 1450
Reported, S. Highways & Transportation	03-29-00	p. 1538
Passed Senate (33-0)	03-29-00	p. 1540

S0259-PS.123/jc

