

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## HB 1829

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**As Reported by House Committee On:**  
Transportation

**Title:** An act relating to creating the LeMay-America's Car Museum special license plate.

**Brief Description:** Creating the LeMay-America's Car Museum special license plate.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Fey and Barkis.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:**

Transportation: 2/20/23, 2/23/23 [DPS].

**Brief Summary of Substitute Bill**

- Creates the LeMay-America's Car Museum special vehicle license plate.
- Establishes original and renewal fees for the special vehicle license plate.
- Directs proceeds from the special vehicle license plate towards education and job training related to automobiles.

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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

**Majority Report:** The substitute bill be substituted therefor and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by 27 members: Representatives Fey, Chair; Donaghy, Vice Chair; Timmons, Vice Chair; Barkis, Ranking Minority Member; Hutchins, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Low, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Robertson, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Berry, Bronoske, Chapman, Cortes, Dent, Doglio, Duerr, Entenman, Goehner, Griffey, Hackney, Klicker, Mena, Orcutt, Ramel, Ramos, Schmidt, Taylor, Volz and Wylie.

**Minority Report:** Without recommendation. Signed by 1 member: Representative Walsh.

**Staff:** Michael Hirsch (786-7195).

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

**Background:**

The Department of Licensing (DOL) issues special vehicle license plates that may be used in lieu of standard plates. An organization seeking to sponsor a special vehicle license plate must be a nonprofit organization, a professional sports franchise working in conjunction with a nonprofit organization, or a government agency. The sponsoring organization may choose one of two ways of creating a special vehicle license plate.

*Application Process and Legislation.* In this method, a sponsoring organization submits an application to the DOL prior to pursuing legislation. The application packet must include the design of the special vehicle license plate, proof of 3,500 signatures in support of the special vehicle license plate, and the start-up fee of \$6,300. After the DOL approves the application, the sponsoring organization must pursue legislation to create the special vehicle license plate.

*Legislation Without the Department of Licensing's Review.* In this method, a sponsoring organization pursues legislation without applying to the DOL first. Once the bill is enacted, the sponsoring organization must provide the design of the special vehicle license plate and the startup fee of \$6,300 to the DOL within 30 days.

In both methods, if the sponsoring organization can prove that they are unable to provide the start-up fee up front, then revenues from the sale of the special vehicle license plate will be used to pay this fee. On an annual basis, the sponsoring organization must submit a financial report to the DOL detailing actual revenues from the sale of the special vehicle license plate. The DOL compiles these reports and presents them to the Transportation Committees of the Legislature.

The DOL collects special vehicle license plate fees and, for administrative expenses, deducts an amount not to exceed \$12 for new plate issuance and \$2 for renewal. After these expenses are paid, the State Treasurer (Treasurer) deposits the proceeds into the Motor Vehicle Account until the DOL determines that the start-up fee for a special vehicle license plate is paid. Once the start-up fee is paid, the Treasurer credits the remaining special vehicle license plate fee amounts into an account specified for the sponsoring organization.

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**Summary of Substitute Bill:**

The LeMay-America's Car Museum special vehicle license plate is created. In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon application for a vehicle registration, a fee of \$40 is charged for the original issuance of a LeMay-America's Car Museum special vehicle license plate, and a \$30 fee is charged for the renewal of the plate. Revenues from the sales of the special vehicle license plates support education and job training related to automobiles.

**Substitute Bill Compared to Original Bill:**

The substitute bill changes the description of the LeMay-America's Car Museum special vehicle license plate.

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**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Effective Date of Substitute Bill:** The bill takes effect on October 1, 2023.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony:**

(In support) This bill creates special vehicle license plate that raises funds for a car museum and is related to transportation. Museums across the state have struggled with revenues, and the LeMay-America's Car Museum anchors an arts district in Tacoma. The proceeds will defray costs for the museum going forward to support the understanding of the role of automobiles in our culture and our economy through education, job training, and interpretative programs. The automotive community supports this bill.

(Opposed) None.

**Persons Testifying:** Representative Jake Fey, prime sponsor; and Michael Transue and Alan Granberg, LeMay-America's Car Museum.

**Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying:** None.