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Senate Bill 193 (Substitute S-3 as reported by the Committee of the Whole)

Sponsor: Senator Bruce Patterson

Committee: Local, Urban and State Affairs

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to require the Secretary of State (SOS) to develop a State-sponsored Ducks Unlimited fund-raising registration plate; and require fund-raising donations collected for the plate to be credited to the Michigan Chapter of Ducks Unlimited for the protection, enhancement, restoration, management, and acquisition of wetlands and associated uplands in this State. The bill would take effect January 1, 2004. It is tie-barred to Senate Bill 785, which would require a \$15,000 start-up fee and set sales goals for new fund-raising plates.

The SOS could issue a State-sponsored Ducks Unlimited registration plate, instead of a standard registration plate, to an applicant for use on a motor vehicle. An application for a Ducks Unlimited plate would have to be submitted to the SOS according to procedures prescribed in Section 217 of the Code (which governs the vehicle registration application process).

An application for an original or renewal Ducks Unlimited plate would have to be accompanied by payment of the regular vehicle registration tax in addition to a \$25 fund-raising donation and a \$10 service fee. An application for renewal of a fund-raising plate would have to be accompanied by payment of the regular registration tax and a \$10 donation.

The SOS would have to transfer Ducks Unlimited fund-raising donations to the State Treasurer. On a quarterly basis, the State Treasurer would have to credit the money to the Michigan Chapter of Ducks Unlimited, Inc., which would have to give the Department of Treasury an annual accounting of money received and used under the bill.

MCL 257.811e et al.

Legislative Analyst: Julie Koval

FISCAL IMPACT

Pursuant to MCL 257.811f, an application for a Michigan university or State-sponsored fund-raising registration plate must be accompanied by a \$25 fund-raising donation, payment of the regular vehicle registration tax, and a \$10 service fee. Renewal of a fund-raising registration plate must be accompanied by payment of the regular vehicle registration tax and a \$10 fund-raising donation.

In FY 2001-02, fund-raising plates for special causes totaled 75,307 transactions generating \$1,535,900 in revenue sent to the special causes. Transactions for University plates totaled 69,890 in FY 2001-02 with \$1,089,775 in revenue sent to universities.

Substitute (S-3) would make this bill consistent with Senate Bill 785, which would provide for a start-up fee for new plates and minimum sales goals for continuation of the plates.

Date Completed: 12-2-03

Fiscal Analyst: Bill Bowerman