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Senate Bill 785 (Substitute S-2 as reported by the Committee of the Whole)  
Sponsor: Senator Bruce Patterson  
Committee: Transportation

### **CONTENT**

The bill would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to do all of the following:

- Remove the current seven-plate limit on fund-raising license plates.
- Allow the Secretary of State (SOS), beginning January 1, 2004, to develop and issue fund-raising license plates and collector plates, if authorized by a Public Act.
- Require a start-up fee of \$15,000 for a new fund-raising license plate.
- Set sales goals for new fund-raising plates of 2,000 plates in the first year and 500 each subsequent year, and allow the SOS to discontinue a plate not meeting the goals.
- Authorize the SOS to develop, market, and promote a collector plate only with funds available from the collection of service fees.
- Require a plate sponsor to pay \$2,000 for the plate to be redesigned.
- Reduce the maximum duration of a temporary permit for a fund-raising plate from 60 to 30 days.
- Require royalty fees from the SOS-authorized use of a fund-raising or collector plate design, to be credited to the Transportation Administration Collection Fund, instead of the Michigan Transportation Fund.
- Repeal the October 1, 2005, sunset date for current fund-raising license plate provisions that prescribe the application process and fees and allow the SOS to issue fund-raising plates recognizing water quality, children, lighthouses, nongame critical wildlife habitat, and agricultural heritage.
- Authorize the Department of History, Art, and Libraries, rather than the SOS, to administer funds from the sale of lighthouse preservation specialty plates.
- Repeal a provision requiring a monthly fee for an Olympic Education-training Center fund-raising plate.
- Exempt a trailer coach attached to a motor vehicle from a \$2.25 regulatory fee and a \$5.75 service fee.

MCL 257.217d et al.

Legislative Analyst: Julie Koval

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

For the first two quarters of FY 2002-03 (October 1, 2002, through March 31, 2003), the Department of State reported 40,467 special cause transactions that generated \$587,805 for the special cause, and 39,215 university transactions that generated \$517,640 for the universities. The new start-up fee and redesign fee for fund-raising plates would offset costs of creating, producing, and issuing fund-raising plates which are currently absorbed by the Department of State. The bill also would exclude the permanent trailer plate from the service fee and regulatory fee.

Date Completed: 11-12-03

Fiscal Analyst: Bill Bowerman