



HOUSE BILL 80: RiverLink Plate Background

2015-2016 General Assembly

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| Committee: | Transportation, if favorable, Finance, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House | Date: | March 17, 2015 |
| Introduced by: | Reps. Fisher, B. Turner, Ager | Prepared by: | Wendy Graf Ray Committee Counsel |
| Analysis of: | First Edition | | |

SUMMARY: *House Bill 80 would authorize the RiverLink special registration plate to be produced without a "First in Flight" background if it receives the required number of applications.*

CURRENT LAW: North Carolina offers a number of special registration plates. Upon application and payment of the required registration fees, a person may obtain from the Division of Motor Vehicles a special registration plate for a motor vehicle registered in that person's name if the person qualifies for the registration plate. The issuance of most authorized plates is contingent upon the receipt by the Division of at least 300 applications for the particular plate. Generally, special registration plates are required to be "First in Flight" plates with a designated segment of the plate set aside for a unique design representing the group or interest. Under G.S. 20-63(b1), certain plates are authorized to be developed with a full-color background without the "First in Flight" design. These plates must receive an additional 200 applications.

The RiverLink special registration plate was authorized in 2013 and must receive 300 applications before it can be produced. Additional funds from the plate are to be transferred to RiverLink, Inc. to support the economic and environmental revitalization of the French Broad River. It is required to be a "First in Flight" plate. The authorization for this plate is set to expire on July 1, 2015, if it does not receive the required number of applications.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 80 would amend the law to authorize the RiverLink plate to be produced as a full-color plate without the "First in Flight" background. It would have to receive 200 applications in addition to the 300 currently required before it could be issued by the Division.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act would be effective when it becomes law.

