



# HOUSE BILL 169: Kappa Alpha Psi/Special Plate Fee.

2017-2018 General Assembly

<b>Committee:</b>	House Transportation. If favorable, re-refer to Finance	<b>Date:</b>	March 7, 2017
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Hanes, Reives, Willingham	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Wendy Ray
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		Staff Attorney

**OVERVIEW:** House Bill 169 would increase the fee for the Kappa Alpha Psi special registration plate, with the additional funds going to Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc. to provide for scholarships, education, and professional development.

[As introduced, this bill was identical to S128, as introduced by Sen. Lowe, which is currently in Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate.]

**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 plate. The issuance of most authorized plates is contingent upon the receipt by the Division of at least 300 applications for the particular plate, or 500 applications for full-color background plates.

As a general rule, the fee for a special registration plate is the regular vehicle registration fee plus a \$10 special registration plate fee. The \$10 special registration plate fee is credited to the Special Registration Plate Account. After deducting the cost of the plates from this account, \$1.3 million is appropriated to provide operating assistance for Visitor Centers. The remaining revenue in the account is transferred quarterly to the Department of Transportation for highway beautification (50%) and the Highway Fund for the Roadside Vegetation Management Program (50%).

The cost of some special plates includes a fee in addition to the \$10 special registration plate fee. In those instances, the first \$10 goes to the special registration plate fund and the remainder is transferred quarterly to designated beneficiaries of the additional fee amount.

The Kappa Alpha Psi special plate was originally authorized in 2006. The authorization was amended in 2015 to make it a full-color background plate. The fee for the plate is currently the regular vehicle registration fee plus the \$10 special registration plate fee.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** House Bill 169 would increase the fee for the Kappa Alpha Psi special registration plate by \$10. The additional \$10 fee would be transferred to the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. to provide funding for scholarships, education, and professional development, or similar programs.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The act would become effective July 1, 2017.

Karen Cochrane-Brown  
Director



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