

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 801

BY REPRESENTATIVES MARTINEZ, ADAMS, BAYHAM, BEAULLIEU, BERAULT, BILLINGS, BOUDREAUX, BOYER, BRYANT, BUTLER, CARPENTER, CARRIER, WILFORD CARTER, CHASSION, DICKERSON, DOMANGUE, FISHER, FREIBERG, GREEN, HEBERT, HENRY, JACKSON, MIKE JOHNSON, LACOMBE, JACOB LANDRY, TERRY LANDRY, LARVADAIN, MENA, MURRAY, NEWELL, SPELL, TURNER, WALTERS, WYBLE, AND ZERINGUE AND SENATOR KLEINPETER

MTR VEHICLE/LICEN PLATES: Creates the "Classic Black" specialty license plate

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 47:463.243, relative to motor vehicle special prestige license plates; to
3 establish the "Classic Black" special prestige license plate; to provide for the
4 creation, issuance, design, implementation, fees, distribution, and rule promulgation
5 applicable to the license plate; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 47:463.243 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §463.243. Special prestige license plate; Classic Black plate

9 A.(1) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall
10 establish a special prestige motor vehicle license plate to be known as the "Classic
11 Black" plate, provided that there is a minimum of one thousand applicants for such
12 plate. The plate shall be restricted to use on passenger cars, pickup trucks,
13 recreational vehicles, motorcycles, and vans.

14 (2) The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor
15 vehicles, shall create this special prestige license plate when the applicable statutory
16 provisions are met and the department's electronic vehicle and registration system
17 is updated to accommodate the creation of the new plates.

1 B. The design shall display the license plate number as a white alpha-
2 numeric series on a black background in compliance with R.S. 47:463(A)(3). The
3 design shall include a white border with "LOUISIANA" centered at the top of the
4 plate.

5 C. The special prestige license plate shall be issued, upon application, to any
6 citizen of Louisiana in the same manner as any other motor vehicle license plate.

7 D. The department shall collect an annual royalty fee of twenty-five dollars
8 that shall be disbursed in accordance with Subsection E of this Section. This royalty
9 fee shall be in addition to the standard motor vehicle license tax imposed by Article
10 VII, Section 5 of the Constitution of Louisiana and a handling fee of three dollars
11 and fifty cents for each plate to be retained by the department to offset a portion of
12 administrative costs.

13 E. The annual royalty fee shall be collected by the department and forwarded
14 to the Donald J. Thibodeaux Training Center in Zachary, Louisiana. The monies
15 received from the royalty fees shall be used for emergency vehicle operations
16 training for local governments pursuant to R.S. 40:1375.

17 F. The secretary shall promulgate and adopt rules and regulations as are
18 necessary to implement the provisions of this Section.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 801 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

Martinez

Abstract: Creates the "Classic Black" special prestige license plate and provides for the creation, issuance, design, implementation, fees, distributions, and rule promulgation applicable to this license plate.

Proposed law requires the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections (DPS&C), office of motor vehicles (OMV), issue a special prestige license plate to be known as the "Classic Black" license plate, provided that there is a minimum of 1,000 applicants for such plates.

Proposed law specifies that the plate is restricted to use on passenger cars, pickup trucks, recreational vehicles, motorcycles, and vans. Further directs the DPS&C, OMV, to create the special prestige license plate when applicable statutory provisions are met and the department's electronic vehicle and registration system is updated to accommodate creation of the new plates.

Proposed law requires the plate to display the license plate number as a white alpha-numeric series on a black background. Requires the design include a white border with "LOUISIANA" centered at the top of the plate.

Proposed law specifies that the plate will be issued, upon application, to any citizen of the state in the same manner as any other motor vehicle license plate.

Proposed law requires a one-time fee of \$25 in addition to the standard motor vehicle license tax imposed in present law and a handling fee of \$3.50 for each plate to be retained by the department to offset a portion of administrative costs.

Proposed law requires the annual royalty be fee collected by the department and forwarded to the Donald J. Thibodeaux Training Center in Zachary, La. Further requires the monies received from the royalty fees be used for emergency vehicle operations training for local governments pursuant to present law.

Proposed law requires the secretary promulgate and adopt rules and regulations as are necessary to implement the provision of proposed law.

(Adds R.S. 47:463.243)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Change the referenced location for the Donald J. Thibodeaux Training Center from Holden to Zachary.
3. Redesignate uncodified language to a statutory provision that requires the office of motor vehicles to create the "Classic Black" special prestige license plate when applicable statutory requirements are met and the department's electronic vehicle and registration system is updated to accommodate creation of the new plates.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Change the description of the characters on the "Classic Black" plate from white alpha-numeric series of the license plate numbers to the license plate number as a white alpha-numeric series.