

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 363

BY REPRESENTATIVE TARVER

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

MTR VEHICLE/LICEN PLATES: Provides relative to the Protect Wild Dolphins special prestige license plates

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 47:463.139(C), (E), and (F) and to repeal R.S. 47:463.139(G),  
3 relative to the Protect Wild Dolphins special prestige license plate; to provide for  
4 design consultation; to provide relative to the annual royalty fee; to provide relative  
5 to the purpose of the plate; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related  
6 matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 47:463.139(C), (E), (F), and (G) are hereby amended and reenacted  
9 to read as follows:

10 §463.139. Special prestige license plate; Protect Wild Dolphins

11 \* \* \*

12 C. The secretary shall design the plates, which shall bear the dolphin logo  
13 and slogan "Protect Wild Dolphins". The license plate shall be designed in  
14 consultation with ~~EarthEcho International, Incorporated~~ Protect Wild Dolphins  
15 Alliance, Inc.

16 \* \* \*

17 E. The annual royalty fee shall be collected by the department and forwarded  
18 to ~~EarthEcho International, Incorporated~~ Protect Wild  
19 Dolphins Alliance, Inc. The monies received from the royalty fees shall be used  
20 solely for the support of scientific research, conservation, and educational programs

1 that serve to restore and protect the ocean environment and freshwater systems and  
 2 to protect wild dolphins ~~by EarthEcho International, Incorporated.~~ Twenty-five  
 3 percent of the funds may be utilized for continuing promotion and marketing of the  
 4 license plate and cause.

5 ~~F. The purpose of such plate is to recognize and support the many~~  
 6 ~~contributions to environmental protection by EarthEcho International, Incorporated.~~

7 ~~G. F.~~ The secretary shall adopt rules and regulations as are necessary to  
 8 implement the provisions of this Section.

9 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
 10 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
 11 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
 12 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
 13 effective on the day following such approval.

#### 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 363 Original

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Tarver

**Abstract:** Modifies provisions governing the Protect Wild Dolphins license plate as follows: changes the entity to be consulted for design and the entity designated to receive the annual royalty fee, removes language limiting use of the fee, and modifies the purpose of the license plate.

Present law establishes a "Protect Wild Dolphins" special prestige license plate and provides that the secretary of the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections shall design the plate in consultation with EarthEcho International, Inc. Proposed law changes the entity to be consulted in the design of the plate from EarthEcho International, Inc. to Protect Wild Dolphins Alliance, Inc.

Present law requires the department to forward the annual royalty fee collected from such plates to EarthEcho International, Inc., for use of the group's logo. Proposed law changes the entity receiving the annual royalty fee from EarthEcho International, Inc. to Protect Wild Dolphins Alliance, Inc., and removes language indicating that the fee is forwarded for use of the group's logo.

Present law requires that the royalty fees be used to support scientific research, conservation, and educational programs that serve to restore and protect the ocean environment and freshwater systems and to protect wild dolphins by EarthEcho International, Inc., and that 25% of the funds may be used for promotion and marketing. Proposed law removes the requirement that the research, conservation, and educational programs be provided by EarthEcho International, Inc., but otherwise retains present law.

Present law provides that the purpose of the license plate is to recognize and support contributions to environmental protection by EarthEcho International, Inc. Proposed law deletes present law.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 47:463.139(C), (E), and (F); Repeals R.S. 47:463.139(G))