



Henry McMaster
Governor

Kevin A. Shwedo
Executive Director

State of South Carolina

Department of Motor Vehicles

July 1, 2022

The Honorable Wm. Weston J. Newton
228 Blatt Building
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Chairman Newton:

It is my pleasure to inform you that the General Assembly in concert with the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles (SCDMV) has completed two additional recommendations from the agency's 2018-2019 House Legislative Oversight Committee study.

Of the recommendations the Committee made to the General Assembly, #14 said, "Standardize the fees and eligibility requirements for different types of military license plates." This recommendation was completed in May 2022 with the implementation of Acts No. 38 of 2021 and No. 216 of 2022.

These two bills categorized military-related license plates into the following: valorous awards, distinguished service awards, exemplary service awards, service-connected disability, campaign medals, meritorious services, military service, and military-related private organizations. Simultaneously, the fees and privileges that come with each individual license plate in the category apply to all license plates in that category. Further, the law now requires that any additional military license plate must be listed in the most fitting category to ensure consistency remains for years to come.

The FY23 Appropriations Act also contained another recommendation that came from your Committee. Recommendation #17 said, "Clarify that fees DMV collects in accordance with Section 30-4-30 of the Freedom of Information Act that are not covered under Section 56-9-330 relating to the sale of motor vehicle records are to be retained by the Department." In FY22, Proviso 82.2 was updated to include recommendation #7, but this year, the agency ensured that recommendation #17 was also included in the same proviso. Proviso 82.2 now includes the sentence, "With the exception of the cost associated with fulfilling a FOIA request, revenue generated by the fees imposed by this provision must be placed into the State Highway Fund as established by Section 57-11-20 of the 1976 Code and be distributed as provided in Section 11-43-167."

I look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff to implement the recommendations from the House Legislative Oversight Committee and either myself or the agency's Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs, Lauren Phillips, will continue to keep you updated on progress towards implementing each of them.

Respectfully,


Kevin A. Shwedo
Executive Director, SCDMV

We really appreciated the time we spent with oversight & believe that common sense solutions will make a real difference in this State. Thank you for pressing and supporting these issues.

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