**South Carolina General Assembly**

118th Session, 2009-2010

**H. 4571**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. Edge, Barfield, Clemmons, Hardwick, Hayes, Hearn, Viers and G.A. Brown

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Introduced in the House on February 17, 2010

Currently residing in the House Committee on **Education and Public Works**

Summary: Special license plates

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

2/17/2010 House Introduced and read first time [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\02-17-10.docx)‑11

2/17/2010 House Referred to Committee on **Education and Public Works** [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\02-17-10.docx)‑12

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[2/17/2010](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\4571_20100217.docx)

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING ARTICLE 108 TO CHAPTER 3, TITLE 56 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES MAY ISSUE BEACH MUSIC LICENSE PLATES.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Chapter 3, Title 56 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Article 108

Beach Music Special License Plates

Section 56‑3‑10810. (A) The department may issue ‘Beach Music’ special motor vehicle license plates to owners of private passenger‑carrying motor vehicles having an empty weight of seven thousand pounds or less and a gross weight of nine thousand pounds or less registered in their names. The special license plate may have imprinted on it an emblem or other symbol chosen by the department in consultation with the South Carolina Arts Commission reflecting the status of beach music as the official state popular music pursuant to Section 1‑1‑689. License plate number ‘one’ for the beach music license plate is reserved for the president of the Beach Music Association International or its successor organization if that individual is otherwise eligible to register a qualifying motor vehicle in this State. License plate number ‘two’ for the beach music license plate is reserved for the Chairman of the board of trustees of Coastal Carolina University if that individual is otherwise eligible to register a motor vehicle in this State. The special license plate must be issued or revalidated for a biennial period which expires twenty‑four months from the month it is issued. The fee for this special license plate is the regular motor vehicle registration fee contained in Article 5, Chapter 3 of this title and a special motor vehicle license fee of twenty dollars.

(B) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, from the fees collected pursuant to this section, the Comptroller General shall place sufficient funds into a special restricted account to be used by the Department of Motor Vehicles to defray the expenses of the department in producing and administering the special license plates. The remaining funds collected from the special motor vehicle license fee must be placed in the state’s general fund.

(C) Before the department produces and distributes a plate authorized under this section, it must receive:

(1) four hundred or more prepaid applications for the special license plate or a deposit of four thousand dollars from the individual or organization seeking issuance of the license plate. If a deposit of four thousand dollars is made by an individual or organization pursuant to this section, the department must refund the four thousand dollars once an equivalent amount of license plate fees is collected for that organization’s license plate. If the equivalent amount is not collected within four years of the first issuance of the license plate, then the department must retain the deposit; and

(2) a plan to market the sale of the special license plate that must be approved by the department.

(D) If the department receives less than three hundred biennial applications and renewals for a particular special license plate authorized under this section, it shall not produce additional special license plates in that series. The department shall continue to issue special license plates of that series until the existing inventory is exhausted.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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