

**STATE and LOCAL  
FISCAL IMPACT**

**Drafting Number:** LLS 14-0054  
**Prime Sponsor(s):** Rep. Holbert

**Date:** January 9, 2014  
**Bill Status:** House Transportation and Energy  
**Fiscal Analyst:** Kristen Koehler (303-866-4918)

**SHORT TITLE:** LEGISLATIVE LICENSE PLATES

Fiscal Impact Summary*	FY 2014-2015	FY 2015-2016
<b>State Revenue</b>		
<b>State Expenditures</b>	<b>(\$564)</b>	<b>(\$564)</b>
Cash Funds - License Plate Cash Fund	(\$564)	(\$564)
<b>FTE Position Change</b>		
<b>Appropriation Required: None</b>		

\* This summary shows changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. Parentheses indicate a decrease in funds.

**Summary of Legislation**

This bill repeals the provision in current law that authorizes the Department of Revenue (DOR) to issue special legislative license plates to members of the Colorado General Assembly and members of the U.S. Congress who are from Colorado.

**Background**

Under current law, legislative license plates are issued directly by the DOR to members of the Colorado General Assembly and to Colorado's Congressional members. County Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) locations are not authorized to issue the plates. The legislative license plate is a digital plate manufactured annually for each legislator. The plates are currently registered as a secondary registration to the legislator and may be used on any vehicle owned by that legislator. Plates are not returned to the DOR after a legislator's term of service has ended. All standard vehicle registration fees and taxes are paid by each legislator on the primary registration of the vehicle in the county where the legislator lives. The legislator does not pay any fees for the special legislative license plate.

**State Expenditures**

**Overall, this bill is expected to reduce state cash fund expenditures by \$564 in FY 2014-15, and by the same amount in each year thereafter.** This note assumes that all 100 state legislators currently receive a set of legislative license plates annually, and that no plates are currently issued to Colorado's members of Congress.

**Department of Revenue.** The DOR will be required to update rules, forms, manuals, and the department's website to reflect this change in law. The department will also provide training to authorized agents, Title and Registration Sections staff, and law enforcement. Any costs and workload increases associated with these activities can be accommodated without a new appropriation.

The Non-Standards Plate program, which is a sub-program of the Colorado State Title and Registration System (CSTARS) through which legislative license plates are issued, will not require re-programming for the purposes of this bill and can simply be "turned off" to end the issuance of the four legislative license plate types (State Senator, State Representative, member of U.S. Senate, member of U.S. Congress).

**Department of Corrections.** The material cost incurred in creating legislative license plates is \$5.64 per set. The material fee is not recovered by the DOR upon issuance of the plate. The Department of Corrections (DOC) currently absorbs the costs of creating the legislative license plates through reappropriated funds from the License Plate Cash Fund (LPCF). Under this bill, spending from the LPCF is expected to be reduced by \$564 per year beginning in FY 2014-15.

### **Local Government Impact**

Local governments may experience an increase in revenues collected by tolling and parking authorities and by law enforcement. Because legislative license plates are designated by the DOR as a secondary registration, tolling and parking authorities and law enforcement are unable to search for vehicle owner information based on a legislative license plate. With the elimination of this plate, legislators will use the primary plate registered to the vehicle, which is searchable in all enforcement systems and will enable local authorities to issue fines and penalties as necessary.

### **Effective Date**

The bill takes effect August 6, 2014, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 7, 2014, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Corrections

Revenue