

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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SENATE BILL 426

Transportation Committee Substitute Adopted 4/22/97

Finance Committee Substitute #2 Adopted 5/19/97

Short Title: Magistrates/Truck Special Plates.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 19, 1997

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE SPECIAL REGISTRATION LICENSE PLATES ON
2 CERTAIN COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES AND TO PROVIDE SPECIAL
3 REGISTRATION LICENSE PLATES FOR MAGISTRATES.
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5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 Section 1. G.S. 20-63(b), as amended by Chapter 36 of the 1997 Session
7 Laws, reads as rewritten:

8 "(b) Every license plate shall have displayed upon it the registration number
9 assigned to the vehicle for which it is issued, the name of the State of North Carolina,
10 which may be abbreviated, and the year number for which it is issued or the date of
11 ~~expiration, expiration. and, if the~~ A plate is issued for a commercial vehicle, as defined in
12 G.S. 20-4.2(1), must bear the word 'commercial,' ~~designating 'commercial vehicle.'~~ The
13 Division may not issue a plate bearing the word 'commercial' for a trailer, or a vehicle unless the
14 plate is a special registration plate authorized in G.S. 20-79.4 or the commercial vehicle
15 is a trailer or is licensed for 6,000 pounds or less.

16 A registration plate issued by the Division for a private passenger vehicle or for a
17 private hauler vehicle licensed for 6,000 pounds or less shall be a 'First in Flight' plate. A
18 'First in Flight' plate shall have the words 'First in Flight' printed at the top of the plate

1 above all other letters and numerals. The background of the plate shall depict the Wright
2 Brothers biplane flying over Kitty Hawk Beach, with the plane flying slightly upward and
3 to the right."

4 Section 2. G.S. 20-79.4(a) reads as rewritten:

5 "(a) General. – Upon application and payment of the required registration fees, a
6 person may obtain from the Division a special registration plate for a motor vehicle
7 registered in that person's name if the person qualifies for the registration plate. A special
8 registration ~~plate, with the exception of a personalized registration plate,~~ plate may not be
9 issued for a vehicle registered under the International Registration Plan. ~~Plan or for a~~
10 ~~commercial truck.~~ A special registration plate may be issued for a commercial vehicle that
11 is not registered under the International Registration Plan. A holder of a special
12 registration plate who becomes ineligible for the plate, for whatever reason, must return
13 the special plate within 30 days."

14 Section 3. G.S. 20-79.4(b) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

15 "(14a) Magistrate. – Issuable to a North Carolina magistrate. The plate shall
16 bear the letters 'MJ' followed by a number indicating the district court
17 district the magistrate serves, then by a hyphen, and then by a number
18 indicating the seniority of the magistrate. The Division shall use the
19 number '9' to designate District Court Districts 9 and 9B."

20 Section 4. Sections 1 and 2 of this act become effective January 1, 1998, and
21 apply to registration plates issued for periods beginning on or after that date. The
22 remaining sections of this act are effective when this act becomes law.