

HB 1598-FN-A – AS INTRODUCED

2014 SESSION

14-2108
03/10

HOUSE BILL ***1598-FN-A***

AN ACT authorizing friends of animals number plates.

SPONSORS: Rep. Massimilla, Graf 1; Rep. Bailey, Graf 14; Rep. Whittemore, Rock 5;
Rep. Doolan, Graf 1; Rep. K. Rogers, Merr 28

COMMITTEE: Transportation

ANALYSIS

This bill authorizes friends of animals number plates to fund grants to animal welfare organizations.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struck through.~~]
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Fourteen

AN ACT authorizing friends of animals number plates.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 New Subparagraph; General Fund; Exceptions. Amend RSA 6:12, I(b) by inserting after
2 subparagraph (316) the following new subparagraph:

3 (317) The designated portion of moneys received under RSA 261:97-g, which shall be
4 credited to the friends of animals number plate trust fund established in RSA 261:97-h.

5 2 New Subdivision; Friends of Animals Number Plates and Friends of Animals Number Plate
6 Trust Fund. Amend RSA 261 by inserting after section 97-f the following new subdivision:

7 Friends of Animals Number Plates and Friends
8 of Animals Number Plate Trust Fund

9 261:97-g Friends of Animals Number Plates.

10 I. The director is hereby authorized to issue special friends of animals number plates, in lieu
11 of other number plates. The design of these special plates shall be determined as provided in
12 RSA 261:97-i. The plates shall retain the “live free or die” logo. Such plates shall be issued only
13 upon application and upon payment of a \$30 fee that shall be in addition to the regular motor vehicle
14 registration fee and any other number plate fees otherwise required.

15 II. The director is also authorized to issue vanity friends of animals number plates. The fee
16 for any such vanity friends of animals number plate shall be the fee as provided in RSA 261:97-g, in
17 addition to the fees for vanity plates which are otherwise established by law. The vanity plate
18 portion of the fee shall be distributed as provided in RSA 261:89 and RSA 263:52.

19 III. Plates shall be renewed on an annual basis for \$30 per set. Of this sum, the department
20 shall retain an amount as is necessary to recover production and administrative costs as approved by
21 the fiscal committee of the general court. The remaining funds shall be paid to the state treasurer
22 and distributed as provided in RSA 261:97-h. The cost of replacement number plates shall be
23 identical to the cost of initial number plates and the revenue from replacement number plates shall
24 be distributed in the same manner as revenue derived from initial number plates.

25 261:97-h Friends of Animals Number Plate Trust Fund.

26 I. There is hereby established a friends of animals number plate trust fund under the
27 administration of the state treasurer. The fund shall be used to provide grants to animal welfare
28 organizations incorporated under the laws of this state. An organization receiving a grant shall
29 expend the funds in support of projects devoted to animal welfare purposes, including, but not
30 limited to, programs for the spaying and neutering of dogs and cats. The fund shall be nonlapsing.

31 II. The state treasurer shall distribute grants to the organizations selected and in the

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1 amounts determined by the friends of animals number plate advisory committee established in
2 RSA 261:97-i.

3 261:97-i New Hampshire Friends of Animals Number Plate Advisory Committee; Duties;
4 Meetings.

5 I. A New Hampshire friends of animals number plate advisory committee is hereby
6 established. The friends of animals number plate advisory committee shall be composed of the
7 following:

8 (a) The commissioner of safety, or designee.

9 (b) The state veterinarian, or designee.

10 (c) Two house members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

11 (d) Two senators appointed by the president of the senate.

12 (e) Three persons appointed annually by the governor with the consent of the council.

13 II. The first appointed house member shall act as chairperson of the committee.

14 III. The committee shall:

15 (a) Jointly determine the plate design with final approval by the commissioner of safety.

16 The commissioner of safety shall establish a numbering system and method of distribution.

17 (b) Register the design with the secretary of state. The commissioner of safety, with the
18 approval of the governor and council, shall have the authority to enter into contractual arrangements
19 for the commercial use of the friends of animals plate design. Any royalties derived from such
20 contracts shall be deposited into the friends of animals number plate trust fund created under
21 RSA 261:97-h.

22 (c) Select the organizations to receive grants from the friends of animals number plate
23 trust fund and determine the amount of each grant in accordance with RSA 261:97-h. The
24 committee shall inform the treasurer of its determinations.

25 (d) Monitor the implementation of the projects for which grants have been made.

26 IV. The committee shall meet at least annually, but more often if necessary. The members
27 shall serve without compensation, except that legislative members of the committee shall receive
28 mileage at the legislative rate. The committee chairperson shall appoint a secretary from among the
29 other members of the committee to keep a detailed record of all proceedings.

30 V. Any vacant position shall be filled by the appropriate authority.

31 VI. It shall be the duty of legislative members of the committee to initiate appropriate
32 legislation to ensure that the purposes and goals of the friends of animals number plate program are
33 being achieved.

34 261:97-j Plate Use. Plates may be used on passenger motor vehicles and recreation vehicles.

35 261:97-k Report.

36 I. The New Hampshire friends of animals number plate advisory committee shall submit a
37 report to the governor, the senate president, and the speaker of the house of representatives no later

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1 than December 31 of each year.

2 II. The report shall contain the following:

3 (a) A statement from the department of safety indicating:

4 (1) The total number of friends of animals number plates sold during the preceding
5 year, including the number of initial plates and the number of renewals.

6 (2) The gross revenue derived from the sale of friends of animals number plates.

7 (3) The amount retained by the department of safety to cover administrative costs of
8 the program.

9 (4) The amount paid to the state treasurer for deposit into the New Hampshire
10 friends of animals number plate trust fund during the preceding fiscal year.

11 (b) A statement from the committee indicating:

12 (1) The name of each organization receiving a grant from the friends of animals
13 number plate trust fund during the preceding fiscal year and the amount of each grant.

14 (2) Total funds expended.

15 (3) Accomplishments achieved pursuant to RSA 261:97-h during the preceding fiscal
16 year.

17 (4) An outline of the projects and programs to which the committee has assigned
18 priority in the ensuing fiscal year.

19 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.

HB 1598-FN-A - FISCAL NOTE

AN ACT authorizing friends of animals number plates.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Department of Safety states this bill, as introduced, will increase state revenues by \$150,000 in FY 2015 and each year thereafter, increase state expenditures by \$432,100 in FY 2015, and by \$150,000 in FY 2016 and each year thereafter, and increase local expenditures by an indeterminable amount in FY 2015 and each year thereafter. There will be no impact on county revenues or expenditures, or local revenues.

METHODOLOGY:

The Department of Safety states this bill establishes a Friends of Animals license plate, which would be issued and renewed by an annual payment of \$30. The Department states all additional revenues collected from the issuance of these plates, less the Department's administrative costs (estimated to be \$3.00 per set of plates), would be deposited in a trust fund to be distributed through grants to animal welfare organizations as determined by a newly established advisory committee. The Department estimates there may be 5,000 sets of plates issued and is unable to estimate this new plate type's effect on other specialized license plate issuances (conservation license plates, state park license plates, etc...). Also, the Department assumes costs for vendor system programming changes and testing for the new plate type will not be recovered through Friends of Animals license plate revenue, but rather a draw on the highway fund. The Department estimates the following impact on state revenues and expenditures:

	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Friends of Animals Trust Fund Revenue (5,000 Sets of Plates @ \$27)	\$135,000	\$135,000	\$135,000	\$135,000
Department of Safety Admin Revenue (5,000 Sets of Plates @ \$3)	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
Total Restricted Revenue	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
Friends of Animals Trust Fund Expenditures	\$135,000	\$135,000	\$135,000	\$135,000
Department of Safety Admin Costs	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
Total Restricted Expenditures	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000

Vendor Programming and Testing Costs (1,612 Labor Hours @ \$175/Hour)	\$282,100	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Highway Fund Expenditures	\$282,100	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Expenditures	\$432,100	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000

The Department states local governments may also have an indeterminable increase in expenditures under this bill due to vendor software changes.