

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Les Donovan at 8:30 a.m. on February 18, 2003 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department  
Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes  
Marian F. Holeman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Senator Mark Taddiken  
Sheila Walker, Dir., Division of Vehicles, KDOR

Others attending: See attached list

**SB 68: Helping schools license plates**

Senator Mark Taddiken, testified in support of the bill. He pointed out the intent is to create an additional source of funding for classroom supplies and equipment in K-12 schools (Attachment 1). This will be considered a donation so it will not be counted as a deduction against state aid. Provisions contained in the bill are similar to other license plate statutes.

Sheila Walker, Director Division of Motor Vehicles, Kansas Department of Revenue introduced Diane Albert, Deputy Director and the person who manages license plate production with contractor center in Wichita. Ms. Walker appeared before the committee primarily to provide information regarding procedures, number requirements and costs for this type of plate (Attachment 2). This bill exempts the subject plate from the \$40.00 personalized license plate fee. The attachment includes a listing of current distinctive plates, fee exemptions, and other associated fees. It costs more to produce a license plate with more than two colors.

Mark Desetti, Kansas National Education Association, provided written testimony (Attachment 3). Research staff provided a handout containing information on a similar Missouri license plate (Attachment 4).

No one spoke in opposition to the bill. Chairman Donovan closed the hearing on **SB 68**. Committee discussion of the bill addressed the KNEA concerns. It appears there really are no problems. The design issue will be handled through the Division. Senator Harrington moved to recommend SB 68 favorable for passage. Senator Schodorf seconded the motion. Motion carried. Senator Taddiken will carry the bill.

**Approval of minutes**

Senator Gooch moved to approve minutes of the February 13, 2003 meeting. Senator Harrington seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

The next meeting is to be announced





TOPEKA

SENATE CHAMBER

MARK W. TADDIKEN  
 SENATOR, 21ST DISTRICT  
 CLAY, CLOUD, MARSHALL  
 NEMAHA, WASHINGTON, RILEY  
 AND A PORTION OF  
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COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS  
 VICE-CHAIRMAN: ENERGY & NATURAL  
 RESOURCES  
 MEMBER: AGRICULTURE  
 ASSESSMENT & TAXATION  
 UTILITIES

**Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 68  
 the Helping Schools License Plate  
 By Senator Mark Taddiken  
 February 18, 2003**

Mr. Chairman, thank you for allowing me to testify in support of Senate Bill 68, which would create the helping schools license plate. The intent of this bill is to create an additional source of funding for classroom supplies and equipment in our K-12 Schools.

Given the current fiscal situation it is important that we be creative in finding funding methods to give our classrooms the supplies and equipment that our students need. All too often we hear about classrooms that have inadequate supplies or of teachers dipping into their own pockets to buy needed classroom materials. The creation of the Helping Schools license plate would help change that situation.

- The provisions in SB 68 are similar to other license plate statues. It would cost \$50 to purchase the tag and 500 would have to be purchased before the tags were issued. The purchaser of the tag would be able to designate which school district would receive the proceeds, allowing flexibility to the process. The State Board of Education would be authorized to determine the logo and would receive reimbursement for administrative costs. Funds raised would have to be used for classroom supplies and equipment.
- The creation of the Helping Schools plate certainly would not alleviate the concerns about school funding that we face, but it provides valuable assistance. Attached to my testimony is a photograph of the plate currently being used in Alabama. Last year, Alabama sold 63,286 plates @ \$15 per plate to raise \$736,016.18. Closer to home, the Kansas State University Alumni Association nets around \$90,000 per year by selling their plates for \$50.
- In addition to the direct monetary benefit, we could have thousands of “mini billboards” traveling our streets and highways constantly reminding other drivers of our schools and their need for our assistance. Maybe the logo on the bottom of the plate should read “schools need our help.”

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Mr. Chairman, we have the opportunity here today to start the process in providing our schools much needed classroom supplies and equipment without costing the taxpayers of Kansas a single dime. I ask that you give Senate Bill 68 favorable consideration and allow Kansas drivers to step forward and help our schools.

Thank you for your time and I will be glad to stand for questions.



# K A N S A S

JOAN WAGNON, ACTING SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE  
DIVISION OF VEHICLES

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, GOVERNOR

**TO:** Senator Les Donovan, Chairman  
Senate Transportation Committee Members

**FROM:** Sheila J. Walker, Director of Vehicles *Sheila J. Walker*

**DATE:** February 18, 2003

**SUBJECT:** Senate Bill 68 – Helping Schools License Plate

Chairman Donovan and members of the Senate Transportation Committee, my name is Sheila Walker, and I serve as Director of the Kansas Department of Revenue's Division of Vehicles. I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony today regarding Senate Bill 68.

Senate Bill 68 creates a new distinctive "Helping Schools" license plate for Kansans who own or lease an automobile or truck registered for a gross weight of not more than 20,000 pounds and make proper application as provided by the Director of Vehicles. Under this bill, applicants would apply for the new distinctive plate in not less than 60 days prior to the expiration of their current registration.

K.S.A. 8-1,141 requires that any new distinctive license plate authorized for issuance on and after July 1, 1994, be subject to the \$40.00 personalized license plate fee prescribed by subsection ( c ) of K.S.A. 8-132, and amendments thereto. Senate Bill 68 amends K.S.A. 8-1,141, exempting the "Helping School" license plate from the \$40.00 personalized plate fee. Other current distinctive plates that are exempt from the \$40.00 personalized plate fee include the Congressional Medal of Honor plate, the U.S. Veteran plate, and the Children's Trust Fund plate. The guarantee of an initial issuance of at least 500 license plates, also required of new distinctive license plates in K.S.A. 8-1,141, would still apply.

For your reference, I have attached a listing of current distinctive plates and the fees associated with each.

The costs associated with the production of distinctive plates are related to raw materials and labor. Generally, the state produces 2,000 new plates and distributes them to county treasurers' offices for issuance to persons who have reserved a plate with the sponsoring agency. This initial run of 2,000 plates costs \$7,500 for initial production of a new distinctive plate with two colors.

I appreciate the opportunity to appear before the Committee and provide testimony on this bill, and I am pleased to stand for any questions you may have.

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**COMPARISON OF PLATE FEES FOR DISTINCTIVE LICENSE PLATES**

2003

PLATE TYPE	REGIS'N FEES KSA 8-143	COUNTY SERVICE FEE KSA 8-145(d)	REFLECTORIZED PLATE FEE ONE TIME ONLY KSA 8-147	PERSONALIZED PLATE FEE KSA 8-132(c) KSA 8-1,141	OTHER	ROYALTY FEE	500 RESERV'S KSA 8-1,141	TOTAL	
									(Not a distinctive plate, listed for comparison purposes only)
PASSENGER CARS	KSA 8-143	\$30.00	\$3.00	\$0.50		N/A	N/A	\$33.50	
ANTIQUE (Vehicles over 35 yrs old)	KSA 8-166 KSA 8-172	\$40.00 (one time)	\$3.00	\$0.50	Exempt per KSA 8-1,141, tag est. prior to 7/1/94	\$5.00 antique vehicle fee KSA 8-167	N/A	Exempt per KSA 8-1,141, tag est. prior to 7/1/94	\$48.50
ANTIQUE PERSONALIZED	KSA 8-166 KSA 8-172	\$40.00 (one time)	\$3.00	\$0.50	\$40.00	\$5.00 antique vehicle fee KSA 8-167	N/A	Exempt per KSA 8-1,141, tag est. prior to 7/1/94	\$88.50
AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR	KSA 8-162	\$30.00	\$3.00	\$0.50	Exempt per KSA 8-1,141, tag est. prior to 7/1/94	\$1.00 Fed. Comm. Fee	N/A	Exempt per KSA 8-1,141, tag est. prior to 7/1/94	\$34.50
SPECIAL INTEREST (Vehicles 20 yrs old not modified OR veh mfg. prior to 1949 modified as "street rod")	KSA 8-194 KSA 8-195	\$30.00	\$3.00	\$0.50	Exempt per KSA 8-1,141, tag est. prior to 7/1/94	22.25 (One time to obtain special interest number)	N/A	Exempt per KSA 8-1,141, tag est. prior to 7/1/94	\$55.75
<b>MILITARY:</b>									
DISABLED VETERAN	KSA 8-161	Exempt per KSA 8-161	N/A	\$0.50	Exempt per KSA 8-1,141, tag est. prior to 7/1/94			Exempt per KSA 8-1,141, tag est. prior to 7/1/94	\$0.50
US VETERAN	KSA 8-1,146	\$30.00	\$3.00	\$0.50	Exempt per KSA 8-1,141			Exempt per KSA 8-1,141	\$33.50
NATIONAL GUARD	KSA 8-177a	\$30.00	\$3.00	\$0.50	Exempt per KSA 8-1,141, tag est. prior to 7/1/94			Exempt per KSA 8-1,141, tag est. prior to 7/1/94	\$33.50

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**COMPARISON OF PLATE FEES FOR DISTINCTIVE LICENSE PLATES**

2003

PLATE TYPE	REGIS'N FEES	COUNTY SERVICE FEE	REFLECTORIZED PLATE FEE ONE TIME ONLY	PERSONALIZED PLATE FEE	OTHER	ROYALTY FEE	500 RESERV'S	TOTAL	
EX-POW	KSA 8-177c	Exempt per KSA 8-177c	NO	\$0.50	Exempt per KSA 8-1,141, tag est. prior to 7/1/94		Exempt per KSA 8-1,141, tag est. prior to 7/1/94	\$0.50	
CONG. MEDAL OF HONOR	KSA 8-1,145	Exempt per KSA 8-1,145	NO	NO	Exempt per KSA 8-1,141		Exempt per KSA 8-1,141	\$0.00	
COMBAT WOUNDED PURPLE HEART	KSA 8-1,140	\$30.00	\$3.00	\$0.50	Exempt per KSA 8-1,141, tag est. prior to 7/1/94		Exempt per KSA 8-1,141, tag est. prior to 7/1/94	\$33.50	
PEARL HARBORSURVIVOR	KSA 8-1,139	\$30.00	\$3.00	\$0.50	Exempt per KSA 8-1,141, tag est. prior to 7/1/94		Exempt per KSA 8-1,141, tag est. prior to 7/1/94	\$33.50	
<b>ORGAINIZATIONS:</b>									
CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND	KSA 8-1,148	\$30.00	\$3.00	\$0.50	Exempt per KSA 8-1,141	\$25 - \$100	Attained	\$33.50	
PUBLIC SAFETY MBR	KSA 8-1,149	\$30.00	\$3.00	\$0.50	\$40.00	No Sponsor or fee specified in statute	Not Attained Yet	\$73.50	
AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM	KSA 8-1,150	\$30.00	\$3.00	\$0.50	\$40.00	\$25 - \$100	Attained	\$73.50	
SHRINE	KSA 8-1,151	\$30.00	\$3.00	\$0.50	\$40.00	\$25 - \$100	Attained	\$73.50	
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS	KSA 8-1,142					Alumni KSA 8-1,142 Associations			
K. U.		\$30.00	\$3.00	\$0.50	\$40.00	\$5.00	\$25 - \$100	Attained	\$78.50
K STATE		\$30.00	\$3.00	\$0.50	\$40.00	\$5.00	\$25 - \$100	Attained	\$78.50
PITTSBURG		\$30.00	\$3.00	\$0.50	\$40.00	\$5.00	\$25 - \$100	Attained	\$78.50
WICHITA		\$30.00	\$3.00	\$0.50	\$40.00	\$5.00	\$25 - \$100	Attained	\$78.50
BAKER		\$30.00	\$3.00	\$0.50	\$40.00	\$5.00	\$25 - \$100	Attained	\$78.50
EMPORIA		\$30.00	\$3.00	\$0.50	\$40.00	\$5.00	\$25 - \$100	Attained	\$78.50
FORT HAYS		\$30.00	\$3.00	\$0.50	\$40.00	\$5.00	\$25 - \$100	Not Attained Yet	\$78.50
WASHBURN		\$30.00	\$3.00	\$0.50	\$40.00	\$5.00	\$25 - \$100	Not Attained Yet	\$78.50
							Attained	\$78.50	

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**Senate Bill 68**, the Helping Schools License Plate bill, is an interesting idea. While we don't believe this bill would raise a significant amount of money, we like the idea of finding a way to provide a little bit extra to offset the amount of money teachers now take from their own pockets to buy classroom supplies.

As you consider this bill, we hope you will keep a few issues in mind:

1. How much money is this bill likely to raise and will that money be counted as a deduct against state aid?
2. Is the administration percentage enough to cover the demands placed on the State Board of Education? There are on-going demands on the state Department of Education – including collecting the fees, issuing the authorizations, and distribution of the funds – that will put a strain on their workforce. We have no desire to do anything that would stretch the staff at the department even more thinly than they are now. Unless a large number of such plates were sold, the collection of administrative fees would not cover the costs to the department.
3. The plate would have to be designed prior to sales. How would this be paid for? The state department does not have the money to do this at this time.

In short, while our schools would certainly appreciate the help with supplies and we appreciate the positive promotion of our public schools the plates would bring, we hope that there would be no unintended consequences creating a burden on the State Board of Education or State Department of Education as a result. Please consider carefully the impact on the state department before making a final determination on this bill.

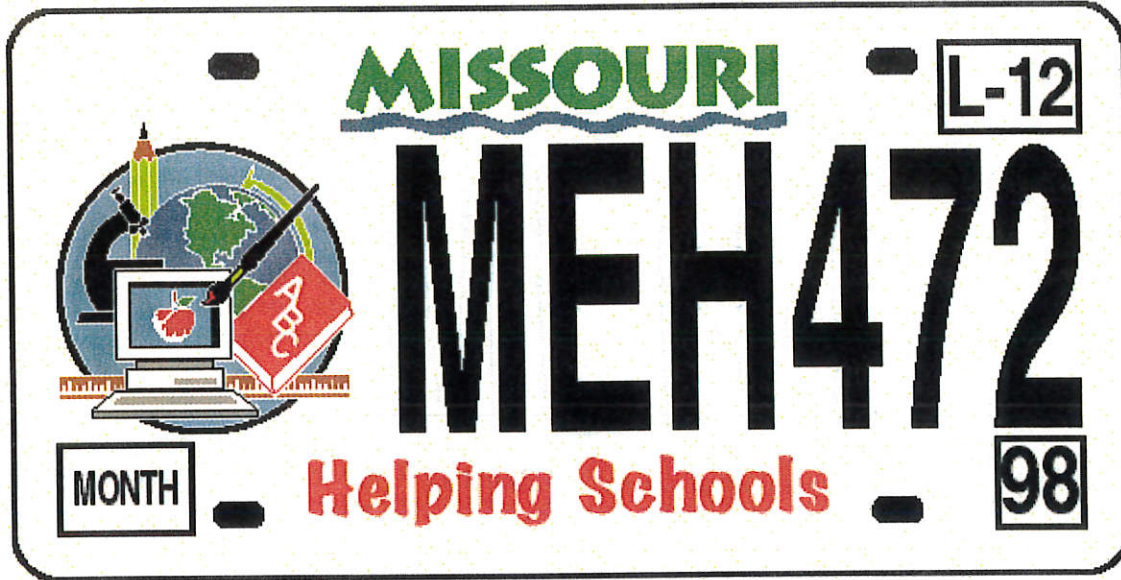
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Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

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Show Your Support for Education with a Personalized "Helping Schools" License Plate

The Missouri Legislature authorized the "Helping Schools" personalized license plate as a way to benefit elementary and secondary schools in Missouri. According to the law (Section 301.454), any school (public or private) or nonprofit organization connected with a school may participate in the program. Proceeds from the Helping Schools license plate may be used for "any academically related purpose."

Participating schools and organizations receive \$15 per year from the applicant for each personalized plate. Applicants also pay \$15 per year to the Missouri Department of Revenue when requesting and renewing their Helping Schools license plates.

Effective July 1, 2000, if applying for a biennial (two-year) registration, the minimum contribution is \$30. If you own a vehicle manufactured in an even numbered year, you may only choose a biennial registration in an even calendar year. If your vehicle was manufactured in an odd numbered year, you may only choose a biennial registration in odd calendar years.

**Note:** The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education does not manage or regulate the Helping Schools license plate program. The Department receives no funds through the program. It is up to local schools to decide if they wish to participate and to develop their own procedures for receiving and using contributions.

How to Obtain a Helping Schools License Plate

1. Contact your local school or school district. Find out if the school is participating and who the contact person is for the Helping Schools license plate.
2. Make a contribution of \$15 per year to the sponsoring school or education-related organization. When this contribution is paid, the sponsoring organization will issue an

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"emblem-use authorization form." This form must be signed by a representative of the sponsoring organization. This form is your receipt and you must have one to obtain the license plate. You may need to ask for this form.

3. Complete the "Application for Missouri Personalized and Special License Plates," Form 1716. (This form can be obtained from the Department of Revenue or your local license office.) Submit the completed form, the emblem-use form and the state fee of \$15 per year to the Department of Revenue.
4. You will be notified by mail when your plates are available at your local license office.

### Tips for Participating Schools & Organizations

Any school or school district (public or private), or nonprofit school-related organizations, may participate in the Helping Schools license plate program. **It is not necessary** to "register" with anyone to take part in the program.

**If your school or organization chooses to participate, we recommend the following:**

- Notify officials at your local driver's license office about your plans. See if they have suggestions to help you manage the program smoothly. Let them know who the contact persons are in your school or organization.
- Establish clear procedures on how contributions will be collected and allocated. Make sure school personnel and community members know where and how to make their contributions. Funds collected through this program may be used at the school district level, at the building level, or by a designated organization (such as a PTA, a scholarship committee or foundation, etc.). It is important that you let patrons, school personnel and parents know how the proceeds from their contributions will be used.
- Keep accurate records. The fees required for the Helping Schools personalized plate are due annually.



Thank you for supporting quality education in Missouri.

Buckle up and drive safely!

[Emblem-Use Authorization Form](#)

[Instructions for the Sample Form](#)

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Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
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 Revised: December 05, 2002

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