HB587
139426-1

By Representative Barton
RFD: Ways and Means General Fund
First Read: 20-MAR-12
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SYNOPSIS: Existing law prohibits the approval of distinctive license plates for out-of-state colleges or universities.

This bill would allow the legislative oversight committee to consider and approve an application for distinctive license plates for out-of-state colleges or universities and would provide for a portion of the money from these license plates to be distributed to the State General Fund.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Sections $32-6-67$ and $32-6-68$, Code of Alabama 1975, relating to the approval of distinctive license plates; to allow the legislative oversight committee to consider and approve an application for distinctive license plates for out-of-state colleges or universities; and to
provide for a distribution from the license plates to the State General Fund.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
Section 1. Sections 32-6-67 and 32-6-68, Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:
"§32-6-67.
"(a) There is created a legislative committee to oversee the implementation and administration of this Article 2, except Subdivision 1 of Division 1 . The committee shall be composed of three members of the House of Representatives and a county license plate issuing official, who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Speaker of the House, and three members of the Senate and a county license plate issuing official, who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Lieutenant Governor, the Director of the Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center, the Director of Public Safety, and the President of the Probate Judges Association. The Department of Revenue shall designate a representative and the Department of Corrections shall designate a representative of Alabama Correctional Industries as nonvoting and advisory members to the committee. The chair, who shall be picked by the members of the committee from the legislative members on the committee, shall have the authority to call meetings of the committee when he or she deems it necessary or as otherwise provided in this section.
"(b) The committee shall:
"(1) Meet not less than once every six months.
"(2) Require that a simple majority of committee voting members be in attendance for conducting whatever business requires committee action.
"(3) Establish guidelines for the qualification of organizations which may sponsor a new or continued issuance of a license plate category, or may benefit from that issuance.
"(4) Approve, disapprove, or indefinitely postpone, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at a committee meeting, a request for a new license plate category.
"(c) Decisions of the committee concerning approval, disapproval, or indefinite postponement of further action on a proposed distinctive license plate shall be interpreted to be the intent of the entire body of the Legislature, and separate, specific action by the Legislature concerning a distinctive license plate proposal shall not be considered.
"(d) The committee shall not consider for approval applications from the following types of organizations:
"(1) Out-of-state colleges and universities except as provided in subsection (e).
"(2) Private businesses, business organizations, or commercial entities of any type.
"(3) Public schools $\mathrm{K}-12$, junior colleges, and technical schools, exclusive of the Helping Schools Tag as established in Sections 32-6-300 and 32-6-301.
"(4) Groups within high schools, junior colleges, universities, and technical schools, such as band boosters, athletic boosters, and the like.
"(5) Unions.
"(6) Political organizations.
"(7) Religious organizations.
"(8) Groups that promote racial or social
disharmony.
"(9) Public officials.
"(e) The committee may consider and approve an application for a distinctive license plate for quantity Class 2 for an out-of-state college or university, upon submission of an application pursuant to Section 32-6-64.
"f(f) Upon the request of the chair, the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House shall provide clerical assistance necessary for the work of the committee.
"(f)(g) The committee members who are members of the Legislature shall be entitled to, and shall receive, the same daily legislative compensation, expense allowances, per diem, and other compensation which they receive while in legislative session for each weekday, Monday through Friday, during any week in which the committee actually meets. The non-legislative members of the committee shall be entitled to, and shall receive, the same per diem and expenses that are paid to state employees."
"§32-6-68.
(a) Effective January 1, 1997, each new distinctive license plate issued shall require, in addition to the standard registration fee, an additional annual fee of fifty dollars (\$50).
(b) The additional license plate fee as provided for in subsection (a) shall be distributed in the following manner:
(1) Two and one-half percent commission, provided by Section 40-12-269(a)(1).
(2) Manufacturing costs of one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) to the Department of Corrections.
(3) Administrative costs of one dollar (\$1) to the Department of Revenue.
(4) State shares of five dollars (\$5) shall be transmitted to the state Comptroller for deposit into the Penny Trust Fund as established by Amendment 512 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.
(5) The remainder of the additional fee shall be distributed to the sponsoring organization or as otherwise provided under the terms of the application approved by the legislative oversight committee; except that the remainder of the additional fee after the distributions provided in subdivisions (1) through (3) shall be distributed to the State General Fund when a distinctive license plate is for an out-of-state college or university as provided in Section 36-6-67(e).
(c) The distribution of fees for tags which were authorized by legislative act before January 1, 1998, shall continue in effect, any other provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Section 2. This act shall become effective on the first day of the third month following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

