

1                    **[NEW PROPOSAL – ELECTRIC VEHICLE LICENSE PLATES]**

2                    \* \* \* License Plates for Plug-In Electric Vehicles \* \* \*

3                    Sec. \_\_. LICENSE PLATES FOR PLUG-IN ELECTRIC VEHICLES;  
4                    REPORT

5                    (a) Findings. The General Assembly finds:

6                    (1) Plug-in electric vehicles (PEVs), which include plug-in hybrid  
7                    electric vehicles and battery electric vehicles, provide new and unique  
8                    challenges for first responders and firefighters when responding to the scene of  
9                    a crash that may involve a PEV.

10                    (2) Because PEVs are powered by high-voltage batteries, if a PEV is  
11                    involved in a crash resulting in a fire or in the need for extrication / rescue, or  
12                    both, then fire and rescue personnel must invoke special operations to suppress  
13                    the fire or initiate the extrication / rescue operation.

14                    (3) Other states and countries have begun noting whether or not a motor  
15                    vehicle is a PEV with a designation on the vehicle’s license plate.

16                    (4) First responders and firefighters in Vermont will be in a better  
17                    position to safely respond to a fire or extrication / rescue involving a motor  
18                    vehicle crash if they know whether one or more vehicles involved are a PEV,  
19                    which can be done, in most instances, with a license plate designation.

20                    (b) Implementation. The Department of Motor Vehicles shall:

1           (1) start to offer license plates that indicate if a registered motor vehicle  
2           is a PEV not later than July 1, 2026; and

3           (2) ensure that all PEVs registered in the State have one or more license  
4           plates, as the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles requires, that indicate if the  
5           motor vehicle is a PEV not later than July 1, 2028.

6           (c) Oral update. The Department of Motor Vehicles shall provide an oral  
7           update to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation regarding the  
8           process to meet the implementation requirements in subsection (b) of this  
9           section not later than March 15, 2025.

10          (d) Definitions. As used in this section, plug-in electric vehicle, plug-in  
11          hybrid electric vehicle, and battery electric vehicle have the same meanings as  
12          in as in 23 V.S.A. § 4(85).