Rep. Shaw - S.309 EV plate language for HTC consideration

1	* * * License Plates for Plug-In Electric Vehicles * * *
2	Sec. A. LICENSE PLATES FOR PLUG-IN ELECTRIC VEHICLES; FINDINGS
3	The General Assembly finds that:
4	(1) Plug-in electric vehicles (PEVs), which include plug-in hybrid electric vehicles
5	and battery electric vehicles, provide new and unique challenges for first responders and
6	firefighters when responding to the scene of a crash that may involve a PEV.
7	(2) PEVs are powered by high-voltage batteries, which means that if a PEV is
8	involved in a crash resulting in a fire or in the need for extrication or rescue, or a
9	combination of these, then fire and rescue personnel must invoke special operations to
10	suppress the fire or initiate the extrication or rescue operation.
11	(3) Other states and countries have begun noting whether or not a motor vehicle is
12	a PEV with a designation on the vehicle's license plate.
13	(4) First responders and firefighters in Vermont will be in a better position to
14	safely respond to a fire, extrication, or rescue involving a motor vehicle crash if they
15	know whether one or more vehicles involved are a PEV, which can be done, in most
16	instances, with a license plate designation.
17	Sec. B. 23 V.S.A. § 304 is amended to read:
18	§ 304. REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES; NUMBER PLATES; VANITY AND
19	OTHER SPECIAL PLATES
20	* * *
21	(k) Not later than July 1, 2026, the Commissioner shall begin issuing number and
22	vanity plates for plug-in electric vehicles, as defined in subdivision 4(85) of this title,

22

23

receipt.

1	indicating that the vehicle is a plug-in electric vehicle. Not later than July 1, 2028, all
2	plug-in electric vehicles registered in this State shall display plates indicating that the
3	vehicle is a plug-in electric vehicle.
4	Sec. C. LICENSE PLATES FOR PLUG-IN ELECTRIC VEHICLES;
5	IMPLEMENTATION PROVISIONS; REPORT
6	(a) In accordance with 23 V.S.A. § 304(k), not later than July 1, 2026, the
7	Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall begin issuing number and vanity plates for plug-in
8	electric vehicles (PEV) indicating that the vehicle is a PEV.
9	(b)(1) Upon the purchase of a PEV, the purchaser shall not transfer a non-PEV plate
10	to the newly purchased PEV unless the plate is a vanity or special number plate.
11	(2) For the purchaser of a PEV whose previous plate was not a vanity or special
12	number plate, the Commissioner shall issue a new PEV plate, which the purchaser shall
13	install upon receipt.
14	(3) For the purchaser of a PEV whose previous plate was a vanity or special
15	number plate and who wishes to retain that plate for the newly purchased PEV, the
16	purchaser may transfer and display the existing plate until the Commissioner issues the
17	purchaser a new vanity or special number plate indicating that the vehicle is a PEV,
18	except as set forth in subsection (d) of this section. The purchaser shall install the new
19	PEV plate upon receipt.
20	(c) An individual who owns a PEV on the effective date of this act may continue to
21	display the individual's existing plate until the individual receives a new PEV plate from

the Department of Motor Vehicles. The owner shall install the new PEV plate upon

- 1 (d) The Commissioner is authorized to reject existing plates for transfer or renewal
- 2 due to space limitations on the new PEV plates.
- 3 (e) On or before March 15, 2025, the Department of Motor Vehicles shall provide
- 4 testimony to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation regarding the status of
- 5 its efforts to implement license plates for PEVs as set forth in this section and in
- 6 23 V.S.A. § 304(k).