

S.234

Introduced by Senators Westman and Baruth

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Motor vehicles; registration; license plates; Vermont Green FC  
license plates

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to permit the  
Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to issue Vermont Green FC license plates  
and to create the Vermont Green FC Special Fund in the Office of the  
Treasurer to provide grants to support environmental justice and Vermont's  
outdoor recreation economy.

An act relating to the Vermont Green FC license plate

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 23 V.S.A. § 304d is added to read:

§ 304d. MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION PLATES; VERMONT  
GREEN FC

(a) The Commissioner shall, upon application, issue "Vermont Green FC"  
registration plates for use only on vehicles registered at the pleasure car rate,  
on trucks registered for less than 26,001 pounds, on vehicles registered to State  
agencies under section 376 of this title, and excluding vehicles registered under

1 the International Registration Plan. Plates so acquired shall be mounted on the  
2 front and rear of the vehicle. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall  
3 utilize the graphic design recommended by the Office of the Treasurer for the  
4 special plates to enhance the public awareness of the State's interest in  
5 supporting environmental justice and the outdoor recreation economy.  
6 Applicants shall apply on forms prescribed by the Commissioner of Motor  
7 Vehicles and shall pay an initial fee of \$45.00 in addition to the annual fee for  
8 registration. In following years, in addition to the annual registration fee, the  
9 holder of a plate shall pay a renewal fee of \$45.00. The Commissioner of  
10 Motor Vehicles shall adopt rules under 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to implement the  
11 provisions of this subsection.

12 (b) Initial registration fees collected under subsection (a) of this section  
13 shall be deposited as follows:

- 14 (1) 23 percent in the Transportation Fund; and  
15 (2) 77 percent in the Vermont Green FC Special Fund created pursuant  
16 to 32 V.S.A. § 112.

17 (c) Renewal fees collected under subsection (a) of this section shall be  
18 deposited as follows:

- 19 (1) 16 percent in the Transportation Fund; and  
20 (2) 84 percent in the Vermont Green FC Special Fund created in 32  
21 V.S.A. § 112.

1        (d) The Department of Motor Vehicles shall be charged by the Department  
2        of Corrections for the production of the Vermont Green FC registration plates.

3        Sec. 2. 32 V.S.A. § 112 is added to read:

4        § 112. VERMONT GREEN FC SPECIAL FUND

5        (a) There is established the Vermont Green FC Special Fund, which shall  
6        be managed in accordance with chapter 7, subchapter 5 of this title. The  
7        purpose of the Fund is to provide support for environmental justice and the  
8        outdoor recreation economy.

9        (b) The Fund shall consist of:

10        (1) receipts from the sale of Vermont Green FC motor vehicle  
11        registration plates pursuant to 23 V.S.A. § 304d;

12        (2) any gifts, grants, or contributions made to the Fund; and

13        (3) any amounts appropriated by the General Assembly.

14        (c)(1) All interest earned on Fund balances shall be credited to the Fund.

15        (2) The Treasurer and the board created pursuant to subsection (d) of  
16        this section may seek and accept gifts, donations, and grants from any source,  
17        public or private, to be dedicated for deposit into the Fund.

18        (3) Monies in the Fund shall be used solely to provide support for  
19        environmental justice and the outdoor recreation economy and for any  
20        administrative costs incurred in administering the Fund.

1       (d)(1) The Fund shall be overseen by a board composed of:  
2               (A) the Treasurer or designee;  
3               (B) the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or designee;  
4               (C) the Director of the Climate Action Office or designee;  
5               (D) a representative of the Vermont Green Football Club; and  
6               (E) the Executive Director of the Vermont Outdoor Business  
7       Alliance or designee.

8       (2) The board shall oversee the Fund and may make expenditures from  
9       the Fund in the form of grants to local and regional governments or  
10       governmental agencies, or nonprofit or citizen groups for the following  
11       reasons:

12               (A) to advance environmental justice; and  
13               (B) to support the growth of Vermont's outdoor recreation economy.

14       (3) The board shall have the administrative and legal support of the  
15       Office of the Treasurer.

16       Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

17       This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.