



## 2024 South Dakota Legislature

# Senate Bill 194

Introduced by: **Senator Otten** (Herman)

1 **An Act to create a license plate for certain retired firefighters and clarify provisions**  
 2 **regarding special firefighter license plates.**

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 **Section 1. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 32-5:**

5 Any owner of a motor vehicle, who is a resident of this state, who served as a  
 6 firefighter for more than ten years, and who has complied with all the laws of this state in  
 7 relation to the registration of a motor vehicle, may receive plates bearing a special number  
 8 and design or a license plate decal designating the person as a retired firefighter. The  
 9 plate or decal must be designed by the fire marshal and subject to the approval of the  
 10 department. The special plates must be displayed as set forth in § 32-5-98 and follow the  
 11 same requirements set out in §§ 32-5-115, 32-5-119 and 32-5-221.

12 **Section 2. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 32-5:**

13 Any person applying for a retired firefighter plate shall submit an application, on a  
 14 form prescribed by the secretary, and signed by the local fire chief, to the county treasurer  
 15 of the applicant's county of residence. Any applicant who submits a falsified application is  
 16 guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The secretary may, at any time, require the applicant to  
 17 provide additional information to determine if the applicant meets the retired firefighter  
 18 plate requirements.

19 **Section 3. That § 32-5-114 be AMENDED:**

20 **32-5-114.** In addition to the noncommercial license ~~plates~~ plate fees, a firefighter  
 21 receiving ~~the~~ special license plates provided in § 32-5-113 or retired firefighter plates  
 22 provided in sections 1 and 2 of this Act, shall pay ~~an additional~~ a fee of ten dollars for the  
 23 initial issuance of the special license plates. The special license plate fee collected under

1        this section ~~shall~~ must be placed in the license plate special revenue fund, as provided  
2        under § 32-5-67.

3        **Section 4. That § 32-5-120 be AMENDED:**

4                **32-5-120.** If ~~any~~ a firefighter is discharged, ~~separated~~, or retires with less than  
5        ten years of service, the firefighter ~~shall~~ must surrender the special number plates  
6        identifying ~~him or her~~ the person as a firefighter. The special plates ~~shall~~ must be  
7        surrendered to the secretary ~~of revenue~~, who shall make the necessary changes in the  
8        registration file. A firefighter may retain the special number plates if the plates are  
9        removed from the vehicle and the secretary is made aware that the firefighter is replacing  
10       the plates. The firefighter shall obtain regular number plates.

11       **Section 5.** This Act is effective beginning March 1, 2025.