

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 891

BY REPRESENTATIVE JACOB LANDRY

MTR VEHICLE/LICEN PLATES: Provides for wildlife special prestige license plates

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 47:463.46(B) and (C), 463.53(C) and (D), and R.S. 56:10(B)(8)
3 through (20) and to enact R.S. 47:463.243, relative to reallocation of fees and
4 creation of special prestige license plates associated with wildlife; to provide for the
5 reallocation of fees to the Louisiana Quail Forever organization; to provide for the
6 reallocation of funds to the Louisiana Ducks Unlimited organization; to establish the
7 "Conserve Louisiana" special license plate; to provide for the creation, issuance,
8 design, implementation, fees, distribution, and rule promulgation applicable to the
9 license plate; and to provide for related matters.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 47:463.46(B) and (C) and 463.53(C) and (D) are hereby amended
12 and reenacted and R.S. 47:463.243 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

13 §463.46. Special prestige license plates; Louisiana Quail Forever plate

14 * * *

15 B. ~~The charge for this special license plate shall be twenty-six dollars, which~~
16 ~~shall be assessed every two years in addition to the regular fee charged under the~~
17 ~~provisions of R.S. 47:463.~~ The department shall collect an annual royalty fee of fifty
18 dollars for this special prestige license plate that shall be disbursed in accordance
19 with Subsection C of this Section. This fee shall be in addition to the standard motor
20 vehicle license tax imposed by Article VII, Section 5 of the Constitution of

1 D. ~~The revenues realized from the additional fifty-dollar fee imposed by~~
2 ~~Subsection C of this Section shall be remitted to the state as provided by law. The~~
3 ~~state treasurer shall place an amount equal to those revenues in the Conservation~~
4 ~~Fund, after complying with the requirements of R.S. 56:10(B), and shall credit that~~
5 ~~amount to the "waterfowl account" which is created within the Conservation Fund~~
6 ~~through the provisions of R.S. 56:10(B)(8). The funds raised from the license plates~~
7 ~~shall be used solely for the purpose of conserving, restoring, and enhancing~~
8 ~~migratory waterfowl habitat in Louisiana. The annual royalty fee shall be collected~~
9 ~~by the department and forwarded to the Louisiana Ducks Unlimited organization, to~~
10 ~~be used solely for the conservation of ducks and their habitats in Louisiana. The~~
11 ~~monies received from the royalty fees shall be used solely to support the activities~~
12 ~~of the Louisiana Ducks Unlimited organization. The purchaser of the plate shall be~~
13 ~~classified as a member of the Louisiana Ducks Unlimited and will receive an annual~~
14 ~~membership.~~

* * *

16 §463.243. Special prestige license plate; Conserve Louisiana

17 A. The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall
18 establish a special prestige motor vehicle license plate to be known as the "Conserve
19 Louisiana" plate, provided there is a minimum of one thousand applicants for such
20 plates. The license plates shall be restricted to use on passenger cars, pick up trucks,
21 recreational vehicles, and vans.

22 B. The secretary shall work in conjunction with the Department of Wildlife
23 and Fisheries to select the color and design of the plate, provided it is in compliance
24 with R.S. 47:463(A)(3). The design shall include the words "Conserve Louisiana".

25 C. The special prestige license plate shall be issued, upon application to any
26 citizen of Louisiana in the same manner as any other motor vehicle license plate.

27 D. The fee for the plate shall be fifty dollars in addition to the standard motor
28 vehicle registration license fee, and a handling fee of three dollars and fifty cents for
29 each plate to be retained by the department to offset a portion of administrative costs.

1 E. The revenues realized from the fifty dollar fee imposed by Subsection D
 2 of this Section shall be deposited immediately upon receipt in the state treasury.
 3 After compliance with the requirements of Article VII, Section 9(B) of the
 4 Constitution of Louisiana relative to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund, and
 5 prior to money being placed in the state general fund, the state treasurer shall place
 6 an amount equal to those revenues in the Conservation Fund, after complying with
 7 the requirements of R.S. 56:10(B).

8 F. The secretary shall adopt rules and regulations as are necessary to
 9 implement the provisions of this Section.

10 Section 2. R.S. 56:10(B)(8) through (20) are hereby amended and reenacted to read
 11 as follows:

12 §10. Annual report to governor; estimate of proposed expenditures; particular funds;
 13 limitations on purposes for use of monies in particular funds and accounts;
 14 warrants; vouchers; surplus funds

15 * * *

16 B.

17 * * *

18 ~~(8) There is hereby created within the Conservation Fund a special account~~
 19 ~~known as the "waterfowl account" which shall consist of those revenues collected~~
 20 ~~from the sale of the Ducks Unlimited license plates provided for in R.S. 47:463.53.~~
 21 ~~The revenues shall be subject to the same requirements as provided for other~~
 22 ~~revenues placed in the Conservation Fund in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection. The~~
 23 ~~funds in this account shall be used solely for the purpose of conserving, restoring,~~
 24 ~~and enhancing migratory waterfowl habitat in Louisiana. Specific expenditures of~~
 25 ~~the proceeds shall be made in consultation with Louisiana Ducks Unlimited,~~
 26 ~~provided that Louisiana Ducks Unlimited contributes an amount each fiscal year~~
 27 ~~equal to the amount of funds collected from the sale of the license plates placed into~~
 28 ~~the "waterfowl account".~~

1 ~~(9)~~ (8) There is hereby created within the Conservation Fund a special
2 account known as the "black bear account". The revenues shall be subject to the
3 same requirements as provided for other revenues placed in the Conservation Fund
4 in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection. The funds in this account shall be used solely
5 for the purpose of managing, conserving, restoring, and enhancing black bear in
6 Louisiana.

7 ~~(10)~~ There is hereby created within the Conservation Fund a special account
8 known as the "quail account". The revenues shall be subject to the same
9 requirements as provided for other revenues placed in the Conservation Fund in
10 Paragraph (1) of this Subsection. The funds in this account shall be used solely for
11 the purpose of conserving, restoring, and enhancing quail habitat in Louisiana.

12 ~~(11)~~ (9) There is hereby created within the Conservation Fund a special
13 account known as the "white tail deer account" which shall consist of those revenues
14 collected from the sale of the white tail deer license plates provided for in R.S.
15 47:463.86. The revenues shall be subject to the same requirements as provided for
16 other revenues placed in the Conservation Fund in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection.
17 The funds in this account shall be used solely for programs pertaining to the white
18 tail deer in Louisiana.

19 ~~(12)~~ (10) There is hereby created within the Conservation Fund a special
20 account known as the "enforcement emergency situation response account", which
21 shall consist of funds received from federal grant reimbursements, contracts or
22 cooperative agreements, interagency transfers, other grants or other resources to
23 recoup monies for services which are designated for deposit into this account, and
24 those revenues as provided in R.S. 56:40.9(A). All revenues to this account shall be
25 subject to the same requirements as provided for other revenues placed in the
26 Conservation Fund pursuant to Paragraph (1) of this Subsection. The funds in this
27 account shall be used solely by the enforcement division of the Department of
28 Wildlife and Fisheries for emergency situation preparedness, operations in

1 emergency situations, responses to emergency situations, and emergency search and
2 rescue operations, as appropriated annually by the legislature.

3 ~~(14)~~ (11) There is hereby created within the Conservation Fund a special
4 account known as the "Rare and Endangered Species Account", which shall consist
5 of revenues collected from the sale of the "Rare and Endangered Species" special
6 prestige license plate provided for in R.S. 47:463.150, donations, and any other
7 source which may specify deposit to this account. The revenues in the account shall
8 be subject to the same requirements as other revenues in the Conservation Fund. All
9 expenditures and allocations of funds from this account shall be used solely for
10 purposes of conserving, restoring, and enhancing rare and endangered species
11 habitats in Louisiana.

12 ~~(15)~~ (12)(a) There is hereby created within the Conservation Fund a special
13 account known as the "litter abatement account" which shall consist of revenue
14 received by the Conservation Fund from the Department of Public Safety and
15 Corrections, office of motor vehicles as provided in R.S. 32:412; revenue received
16 by the Conservation Fund from fines for violations of the provisions of Part I of
17 Chapter 21 of Subtitle II of Title 30 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 as
18 provided in R.S. 30:2531 and 2532; funds from public or private donations and any
19 other source which may specify deposit to this account; and any remaining balance
20 in the litter abatement and education account as of August 1, 2022. The revenues
21 shall be subject to the same requirements as provided for other revenues placed in
22 the Conservation Fund in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection.

23 (b) The funds in this account shall be used solely for the following:

24 (i) To provide for litter abatement grant programs in the state.

25 (ii) To provide for litter abatement and enforcement.

26 (iii) To support community-based litter abatement programs.

27 ~~(16)~~ (13)(a) The monies in the Saltwater Fish Research and Conservation
28 Fund shall be used solely for the administration and conducting of the Louisiana

1 Recreational Creel Survey (LACREEL), the Recreational Offshore Landing Permit
2 program (ROLP), and the saltwater fish stock estimate.

3 (b) The monies allocated to the programs described in Subparagraph (a) of
4 this Paragraph shall not be used on or for any of the following purposes:

5 (i) To create any exempted fishing permit program or pilot program as
6 recognized and granted by the United States Department of Commerce through the
7 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - National Marine Fisheries
8 Service, that establishes a limited access or entry program for licensed fishermen,
9 either voluntarily or required, fishing in territorial waters, including the boundary
10 from the shoreline to a distance nine miles into the Gulf of Mexico, as established
11 by federal law.

12 (ii) To create limited entry programs, including but not limited to lotteries,
13 established for any of the following:

14 (aa) The issuance of fish harvest tags.

15 (bb) The issuance of fish harvest tags on a "first-come, first-served basis" for
16 more than eighty percent of the total allowable catch of an individual species of fish.

17 (cc) The limitation of the days at sea that further restrict access to a number
18 of days that differs from seasons established for all licensed fishermen by the
19 department or the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council.

20 (dd) The creation of fisheries unit efforts or effort units or any other program
21 that limits access for licensed fishermen to fish other than the beginning and end
22 dates of established seasons as determined by the secretary in consultation with the
23 commission or seasons set by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council.

24 (ee) The creation or enforcement of any individual fishing quota or
25 individual transferrable quota systems for licensed fishermen, licensed charter boat
26 fishing guides, and federally permitted licensed charter boat operations in which
27 vessels used in that operation are registered in the state.

1 (ff) The establishment of any mandatory reporting programs by licensed
2 fishermen, including required advanced notification of any department personnel
3 prior to commencement of a fishing trip by licensed fishermen.

4 (gg) The creation of any mandatory reporting program in which licensed
5 fishermen are required to report their catch immediately upon returning to port after
6 fishing unless during a dockside intercept conducted by department personnel
7 conducting dockside intercept surveys on behalf of LACREEL or ROLP.

8 (c) If the department violates Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, the
9 treasurer shall not release any more monies credited to the Saltwater Fish Research
10 and Conservation Fund to the department, until such time as the department ceases
11 its violation.

12 (d) The department shall make an annual report to the Senate Committee on
13 Natural Resources and the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment
14 on the progress and effectiveness of LACREEL and the saltwater fish stock estimate.

15 ~~(17)~~ (14) There is hereby created within the Conservation Fund a special
16 account known as the "Louisiana Outdoors Forever Fund". The funds in this account
17 shall be used solely for and in accordance with the Louisiana Outdoors Forever
18 Program, provided for in R.S. 56:1931 et seq. Any appropriations, public or private
19 grants, gifts, or donations received by the state or the Department of Wildlife and
20 Fisheries for the purposes of this program shall be credited to the fund. The monies
21 in the fund shall be subject to the same requirements as provided for in Paragraph (1)
22 of this Subsection. The monies in the fund shall be invested by the treasurer in the
23 same manner as the monies in the state general fund and all interest earned shall be
24 deposited and credited to the fund after compliance with the requirements of Article
25 VII, Section 9(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana. All unexpended or
26 unencumbered monies remaining in the fund at the end of the fiscal year shall remain
27 to the credit of the fund.

28 ~~(18)~~ (15)(a) There is hereby created within the Conservation Fund a special
29 account known as the "environmental education account" which shall consist of

1 donations collected from the sale of the environmental education license plate
2 provided for in R.S. 47:463.43 and funds from public or private donations and any
3 other source which may specify deposit to this account. The revenues shall be
4 subject to the same requirements as provided for other revenues placed in the
5 Conservation Fund in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection.

6 (b) The funds in this account shall be used solely for the following:

7 (i) To develop, review, approve, and implement a plan for statewide
8 environmental education.

9 (ii) To provide for environmental education grant programs in the state.

10 (iii) To develop an environmental education curriculum framework.

11 (iv) To develop guidelines for incorporating environmental education into
12 teacher education requirements.

13 (v) To develop environmental education teacher professional development.

14 (vi) To provide for formal environmental education.

15 (vii) To develop, disseminate, and assess litter education and awareness
16 programs and materials.

17 ~~(19)~~ (16) There is hereby created within the Conservation Fund a "Marine
18 Finfish Stock Enhancement Fund". The monies in the fund shall be used solely for
19 the purpose of conserving, restoring, and enhancing the red drum population,
20 including but not limited to the purchase, transportation, tagging, release, and
21 monitoring of red drum, genetic testing, hatchery based production and stocking
22 efforts, and academic research. Any appropriations, public or private grants, gifts,
23 or donations received by the state or the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries for
24 these purposes shall be credited to the fund. The monies in the fund shall be subject
25 to the same requirements as provided for in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection. The
26 monies in the fund shall be invested by the treasurer in the same manner as the
27 monies in the state general fund, and all interest earned shall be deposited and
28 credited to the fund after compliance with the requirements of Article VII, Section
29 9(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana. All unexpended or unencumbered monies

1 remaining in the fund at the end of the fiscal year shall remain to the credit of the
2 fund.

3 ~~(20)~~ (17) There is hereby established within the Conservation Fund a special
4 account known as the "Conservation Incentive Program Account" for the purpose of
5 assisting private landowners in enhancing wildlife habitat and managing native
6 species on private lands. The funds in this account shall be used solely for and in
7 accordance with the Conservation Incentive Program provided for in R.S. 56:1938.1
8 et seq. Any transfers or appropriations to the account and any public or private gifts,
9 grants, or donations received by the state or the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
10 for the purposes of this program shall be deposited into the account. Monies in the
11 account shall be subject to the same requirements as provided for other revenues
12 placed in the Conservation Fund in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection. The monies in
13 the account shall be invested in the same manner as the monies in the state general
14 fund and all interests earned shall be deposited and credited to the account after
15 compliance with the requirements of Article VII, Section 9(B) of the Constitution of
16 Louisiana. All unexpended or unencumbered monies remaining in the account at the
17 end of the fiscal year shall remain to the credit of the account.

18 Section 3. The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor
19 vehicles, is hereby directed to create the "Conserve Louisiana" special prestige license plate
20 when the applicable statutory provisions are met and its system is update to accommodate
21 the creation of the new plate.

22 Section 4. The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor
23 vehicles, is hereby directed to credit the existing amount of revenue generated from the
24 collection of fees pursuant to R.S. 47:463.46 and R.S. 47:463.53 and route it to the
25 appropriate organization as required by law prior to August 1, 2026.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 891 Original

2026 Regular Session

Jacob Landry

Abstract: Reallocates revenue generated by certain special prestige license plates and creates the "Conserve Louisiana" special prestige license plate and provides for the issuance, design, implementation, fees, distributions, and promulgation of rules applicable to these plates.

Present law requires the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections (DPS&C), office of motor vehicles (OMV), to establish the La. Quail Forever special prestige license plate for La. citizens, bearing a picture of a quail on the logo. Further requires a charge of \$26, which must be assessed every two years in addition to the regular fee charged under present law. Additionally specifies that revenues from the additional \$26 fee must be deposited immediately upon receipt in the state treasury. Further requires the state treasurer place an amount equal to those revenues in the Conservation Fund, after complying with the requirements of present law, and must credit that amount to the "quail account" which is created within the Conservation Fund.

Present law requires 5% of the net proceeds from the \$26 be used to promote the existence of the La. Quail Forever prestige license plate and its availability for use on passenger vehicles.

Proposed law requires the dept. collect an annual royalty fee of \$50 for this special prestige license plate and be disbursed in accordance present law. Further requires this fee be in addition to the standard motor vehicle license tax imposed by present law, and a handling fee of \$3.50 for each plate to be retained by the dept. to offset a portion of administrative costs.

Proposed law requires the dept. collected \$50 annual royalty fee be forwarded to La. Quail Forever and used solely to support the activities of the La. Quail Forever. Further requires the purchaser of the plate be classified as a member of the La. Quail Forever and will receive an annual membership.

Present law requires the DPS&C, OMV, to establish the Ducks Unlimited special prestige license plate for La. citizens, with the color and design selected by the organization requesting the plate, pursuant to present law. Further requires the charge for the plates be \$50 imposed by present law. Additionally requires the state treasurer place an amount equal to those revenues in the Conservation Fund, after complying with the requirements of present law, and must credit that amount to the "waterfowl account" which is created within the Conservation Fund. Further requires the funds be used solely for the purpose of conserving, restoring, and enhancing migratory waterfowl habitat in La.

Proposed law requires the dept. collect an annual royalty fee of \$50 for this special prestige license plate and be disbursed in accordance present law. Further requires this fee be in addition to the standard motor vehicle license tax imposed by present law, and a handling fee of \$3.50 for each plate to be retained by the dept. to offset a portion of administrative costs.

Proposed law requires the dept. collected \$50 annual royalty fee be forwarded to La. Ducks Unlimited and used solely to support the activities of the La. Ducks Unlimited. Further requires the purchaser of the plate be classified as a member of the La. Ducks Unlimited and will receive an annual membership.

Proposed law requires the DPS&C, OMV, to establish a special prestige motor vehicle license plate to be known as the "Conserve Louisiana" plate, provided there is a minimum of 1,000 applicants for such plates. Further requires that the license plates be restricted to use on passenger cars, pick up trucks, recreational vehicles, and vans.

Proposed law requires the secretary work in conjunction with the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to select the color and design of the plate, provided it is in compliance with present law. The design shall include the words "Conserve Louisiana".

Proposed law requires the special prestige license plate be issued, upon application to any citizen of La. in the same manner as any other motor vehicle license plate.

Proposed law requires the fee for the plate be \$50 in addition to the standard motor vehicle registration license fee, and a handling fee of \$3.50 for each plate to be retained by the department to offset a portion of administrative costs.

Proposed law requires the revenues realized from the \$50 fee imposed by proposed law be deposited immediately upon receipt in the state treasury. After compliance with the requirements of proposed law relative to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund, and prior to money being placed in the state general fund, the state treasurer must place an amount equal to those revenues in the Conservation Fund, after complying with the requirements of present law.

Proposed law requires the secretary promulgate and adopt rules and regulations as are necessary to implement the provisions of proposed law.

Present law created within the Conservation Fund a special account known as the "waterfowl account" which consists of those revenues collected from the sale of the Ducks Unlimited license plates. Further requires the funds be used solely for the purpose of conserving, restoring, and enhancing migratory waterfowl habitat in La. Additionally requires that the specific expenditures of the proceeds be made in consultation with La. Ducks Unlimited, provided that La. Ducks Unlimited contributes an amount each fiscal year equal to the amount of funds collected from the sale of the license plate placed into the "waterfowl account".

Proposed law removes present law.

Present law created within the Conservation Fund a special account known as the "quail account" which consists of those revenues collected from the sale of the La. Quail Forever license plates. Further requires the revenues be subject to the same requirements as provided for other revenues placed in the Conservation Fund in present law. Additionally requires the funds be used solely for the purpose of conserving, restoring, and enhancing quail habitat in La.

Proposed law removes present law.

Proposed law directs the DPS&C, OMV, to create the "Conserve Louisiana" special prestige license plate when the applicable statutory provisions are met and its system is updated to accommodate the creation of the new plate.

Proposed law directs the DPS&C, OMV, to credit the existing amount of revenue generated from the La. Quail Forever and Ducks Unlimited special prestige plates to the appropriate organizations as provided in proposed law.

(Amends R.S. 47:463.46(B) and (C), 463.53(C) and (D), and R.S. 56:10(B)(8)-(20); Adds R.S. 47:463.243)