

SENATE BILL NO. 169

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATOR STEVENS

Introduced: 1/29/20

Referred: Education, State Affairs, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to special request registration plates celebrating the arts; and relating**
2 **to the Alaska State Council on the Arts."**

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 * **Section 1.** AS 28.10.421(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) Unless otherwise provided by law,

6 (1) the fees prescribed in this section shall be paid to the department at
7 the times provided under AS 28.10.108 and 28.10.111; [AND]

8 (2) an additional fee of \$10 shall be added to the registration fee set out
9 in this section for registration not conducted by mail, on the department's Internet
10 website, or at an emissions inspection station or contract office offering vehicle
11 registration services; the department may waive this additional fee for a good cause
12 based on criteria established in regulations adopted by the department; **and**

13 **(3) an additional fee in an amount not to exceed \$50 shall be added**
14 **to the registration fee set out in this section for a vehicle registration plate**

celebrating the arts under AS 28.10.161(b)(1)(C); the Alaska State Council on the Arts shall determine the fee required under this paragraph in regulation; the fee shall be collected only on the first issuance and the replacement of the special request plates; the commissioner of administration shall separately account for the fees received under this paragraph that the department deposits in the general fund; notwithstanding (g) of this section, the annual estimated balance in the account that is in excess of the cost of issuing the vehicle registration plate celebrating the arts may be appropriated by the legislature to the Alaska State Council on the Arts.

* **Sec. 2.** AS 44.27 is amended by adding a new section to read:

Sec. 44.27.053. Legal counsel. The attorney general is the legal counsel for the council. The attorney general shall advise the council in legal matters arising in the discharge of the council's duties and represent the council in suits to which the council is a party. However, the council may retain additional legal counsel as appropriate at the discretion of the board of trustees.

* **Sec. 3.** AS 44.27.055(d) is amended to read:

(d) The operating budget of the council is subject to AS 37.07 (Executive Budget Act), except that AS 37.07 does not apply to funds received from private nonprofit organizations. In this subsection, "nonprofit" means an organization that is exempt under 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3).

* **Sec. 4.** AS 44.27.080(a) is amended to read:

(a) The council may [SHALL] hold a competition every four years to select a design for the vehicle registration plate celebrating the arts under AS 28.10.161(b)(1)(C). If the council holds a competition, the [THE] council shall select a panel of judges to judge the submissions for the contest and shall include the previous design winner on the panel. The panel shall select the top submissions, and the council shall conduct a public vote to determine the winner of the competition. The council shall use the winning design when consulting with the commissioner of administration under AS 28.10.161(b)(1)(C).

* **Sec. 5.** AS 44.27.080 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(c) The council may, in consultation with the Department of Administration,

- 1 recommend an amount to be appropriated from the annual estimated balance in the
- 2 account under AS 28.10.421(d)(26) to pay an artist for a winning design.