

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO  
CORRECTED INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 23-0448.01 Jery Payne x2157

**SENATE BILL 23-025**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Baisley, Rich**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Bird and Soper, Armagost, Bradfield, Evans, Frizell, Marshall, Weinberg, Wilson, Winter T.**

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**Senate Committees**  
Transportation & Energy

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING THE CREATION OF THE "IN GOD WE TRUST" LICENSE**  
102      **PLATE.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

The bill creates the "In God We Trust" license plate for motor vehicles. In addition to the normal fees for a license plate, a person must pay 2 additional one-time fees of \$25 for the issuance of the plate. One of these fees is credited to the highway users tax fund and the other fee is credited to the Colorado DRIVES vehicle services account.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.  
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.*

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 42-3-267 as  
3 follows:

4           **42-3-267. Special plates - "In God We Trust".** (1) BEGINNING  
5 ON JANUARY 1, 2024, OR WHEN THE DEPARTMENT IS ABLE TO ISSUE THE  
6 PLATES, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES TO  
7 QUALIFIED APPLICANTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION FOR  
8 MOTORCYCLES, PASSENGER CARS, TRUCKS, OR NONCOMMERCIAL OR  
9 RECREATIONAL MOTOR VEHICLES THAT DO NOT EXCEED SIXTEEN  
10 THOUSAND POUNDS EMPTY WEIGHT.

11           (2) (a) THERE IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED THE "IN GOD WE TRUST"  
12 LICENSE PLATE.

13           (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DESIGN THE PLATE IN COOPERATION  
14 AND CONSULTATION WITH INTERESTED PERSONS TO FEATURE THE  
15 STATEMENT "IN GOD WE TRUST".

16           (3) THE AMOUNT OF THE TAXES AND FEES FOR SPECIAL LICENSE  
17 PLATES UNDER THIS SECTION IS THE SAME AS THE AMOUNT OF THE TAXES  
18 AND FEES FOR REGULAR MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE PLATES; EXCEPT THAT  
19 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COLLECT AN ADDITIONAL ONE-TIME FEE OF  
20 TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS FOR ISSUANCE OR REPLACEMENT OF THE SPECIAL  
21 LICENSE PLATE. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL TRANSMIT THE ADDITIONAL  
22 ONE-TIME FEE TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE FEE TO  
23 THE HIGHWAY USERS TAX FUND CREATED IN SECTION 43-4-201.

24           (4) AN APPLICANT MAY APPLY TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR  
25 PERSONALIZED "IN GOD WE TRUST" LICENSE PLATES. UPON PAYMENT OF  
26 THE ADDITIONAL FEE REQUIRED BY SECTION 42-3-211 (6)(a) FOR

1 PERSONALIZED LICENSE PLATES, THE DEPARTMENT MAY ISSUE THE PLATES  
2 IF THE APPLICANT COMPLIES WITH SECTION 42-3-211. IF AN APPLICANT  
3 HAS EXISTING PERSONALIZED LICENSE PLATES FOR A MOTOR VEHICLE, THE  
4 APPLICANT MAY TRANSFER THE COMBINATION OF LETTERS OR NUMBERS  
5 TO A NEW SET OF "IN GOD WE TRUST" LICENSE PLATES FOR THE VEHICLE  
6 UPON PAYING THE FEE REQUIRED BY SECTION 42-3-211 (6)(a) AND UPON  
7 TURNING IN THE EXISTING PLATES TO THE DEPARTMENT. A PERSON WHO  
8 HAS OBTAINED PERSONALIZED LICENSE PLATES UNDER THIS SUBSECTION  
9 (4) MUST PAY THE ANNUAL FEE IMPOSED BY SECTION 42-3-211 (6)(b) TO  
10 RENEW THE PERSONALIZED PLATES. THE FEES UNDER THIS SUBSECTION (4)  
11 ARE IN ADDITION TO ALL OTHER APPLICABLE TAXES AND FEES.

12 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 42-3-312 as  
13 follows:

14 **42-3-312. Special license plate surcharge.** In addition to any  
15 other fee imposed by this article 3, an applicant for a special license plate  
16 created by rule in accordance with section 42-3-207, as the section existed  
17 when the plate was created, PERSONALIZED PLATES ISSUED UNDER  
18 SECTION 42-3-211, or special license plates issued ~~pursuant to~~ UNDER  
19 sections ~~42-3-211~~ **42-3-212** to 42-3-214, sections 42-3-217 to 42-3-218,  
20 sections 42-3-221 to 42-3-234, sections 42-3-237 to 42-3-258, ~~and~~  
21 sections 42-3-260 to 42-3-265, AND SECTION 42-3-267 shall pay an  
22 issuance fee of twenty-five dollars; except that the fee is not imposed on  
23 special license plates exempted from additional fees for the issuance of  
24 a military special license plate by section 42-3-213 (1)(b)(II). The  
25 department shall transfer the fee to the state treasurer, who shall credit it  
26 to the Colorado DRIVES vehicle services account created in section  
27 42-1-211 (2).

1           **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
2 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
3 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
4 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
5 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
6 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
7 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
8 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
9 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.