

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS
COMMISSION ON SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 482.367004

Following is a summary of the applications recommended by the Commission on Special License Plates to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for approval of the design, preparation, and issuance of special license plates at its October 28, 2015, meeting.

SUMMARY OF SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE APPLICATIONS
APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION

First Tier

Nevada Bighorns Unlimited

1. Nevada Bighorns Unlimited (NBU) is dedicated to the preservation and expansion of wildlife populations and their habitat in the State of Nevada. Funds generated from the sale of a special license plate would be used to further this mission. During its 30-year history, the NBU has provided funding for wildlife research, disease outbreak investigation, postwildfire reseeding efforts, water improvement projects, public education, and trap and transplant operations to restore and augment wildlife populations ranges throughout the State.

Indian Health Board of Nevada

2. The Indian Health Board of Nevada did not maintain a surety bond in the amount of \$5,000, which is required by each organization with a pending application. Therefore, the Commission did not take action on this application.

The Great Reno Balloon Race

3. The Great Reno Balloon Race is the largest, free hot air balloon event in the world. Established in 1982, the Race began with 20 balloons. Since then, the Race has taken flight with up to 100 balloons each year and has received national recognition by travel and tourism organizations. The organization also partners with the Washoe County School District's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Education Program to provide free tissue paper hot air balloons and The Children's Cabinet to provide hot air balloon rides. The organizers of the event plan on using the proceeds from the sale of the special license plate to fund the Race and continue its local partnerships. The proposed plate design will include an image of a hot air balloon.

Sparks Heritage Foundation and Museum

4. The Sparks Heritage Foundation and Museum, Incorporated, was established on April 1, 1985, as an independent nonprofit organization. Its mission is to preserve the historical and cultural heritage of Sparks and the Truckee Meadows for the education and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Museum is comprised of three buildings: (1) a storefront on Victorian Avenue in Sparks, Nevada; (2) the former Sparks Justice of the Peace Building; and (3) the nationally registered historic Glendale Schoolhouse. The Museum also has an outdoor train exhibit. The Foundation is currently in the midst of a revitalization project designed to generate a broader base of visitors and increased usage of the museum facility both at the local and tourism level. Proceeds from the sale of a special license plate will be used to pay the salary of the Foundation's part-time Executive Director. The proposed plate design would include the "Heritage of Sparks" Arch.

Desert Conservation Program

5. The Clark County Desert Conservation Program manages the compliance of the federal Endangered Species Act on behalf of Clark County, the cities of Boulder City, Henderson, Las Vegas, Mesquite, and North Las Vegas, and Nevada's Department of Transportation through implementation of the Clark County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) and the associated incidental take permit. An incidental take permit exempts a permittee from the take prohibition of Section 9 of the Act. The permit authorizes the take of protected species that may be incidental to, but not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities. A habitat conservation plan is a planning document that is a mandatory component of an incidental take permit application. Seventy-eight species are covered by the MSHCP, which is effective until February 2031, for a maximum of 145,000 acres disturbed. Of these, two are listed under the federal Endangered Species Act: (1) the threatened desert tortoise; and (2) the endangered Southwestern Willow Flycatcher. The plan directs measures that proactively conserve species through an ecosystems approach. The proceeds from the sale of a special license plate would be used exclusively for desert tortoise conservation projects, such as conservation easements, public education, riparian property management, tortoise fencing, The Wild Desert Tortoise Assistance Line, and general administration.

Second Tier

Keep Memory Alive/Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health

1. In July 2009, the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health began providing treatment for patients with cognitive disorders. The Center is known for the many supportive services it provides for the family members of those who suffer from these disorders. The proceeds from the sale of a special license plate would be used for patient family care, therapy services, and other necessary programs. The proposed plate design would include an image of the Las Vegas Center and the words, "Keep Memory Alive."

Women's Resource Medical Centers of Southern Nevada

2. The Women's Resource Medical Centers of Southern Nevada (WRMCSN) is a nonprofit organization that provides prenatal care education, pregnancy testing, certified counseling, and material resources. The revenue received from the sale and renewal of a special license plate would be used to support and enhance the programs offered by the WRMCSN.

Hidden Valley Wild Horse Protection Fund

3. The Hidden Valley Wild Horse Protection Fund was established in 2008 as an all-volunteer, nonprofit corporation. The organization protects and preserves the wild horses that settle during the winter months in the foothills surrounding Hidden Valley. Volunteers monitor herd health and grazing availability, provide attention to sick and injured horses and foals, aid in the State-run adoption processes, and install and mend fencing and cattle guards. The proceeds from the sale of a special license plate would help feed, house, and provide veterinary services and transportation for the horses, as well as proving public welfare and education.

Following is a summary of the recommendation adopted by the Commission on Special License Plates at its meeting on October 28, 2015, for transmittal to the 79th Session of the Nevada Legislature.

RECOMMENDATION TO DRAFT LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

1. Draft a bill to amend NRS 482.367002 to require an organization, which is requesting a redesign of its specialty license plate, to submit a request to the Commission on Special License Plates. The Commission will consider each request and make a recommendation to the DMV on each redesign. The organization must have a specialty license plate currently being produced and circulated by the DMV. In addition, the DMV may charge a replacement fee to a customer requesting a redesigned plate. **(BDR XX-XXX)**