

2025 SENATE TRANSPORTATION

SB 2133

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Transportation Committee Fort Totten Room, State Capitol

SB 2133
1/16/2025

Relating to blackout number plates.

9:45 a.m. Chairman Clemens opened the hearing.

Members present: Chairman Clemens, Vice Chairwoman Cory, Senator Hogan, Senator Klein, Senator Paulson, Senator Rummel

Discussion Topics:

- Fees and cost for number plate
- Delegating future authority to DOT to act on new number plates
- Legibility of number plates to law enforcement

9:45 a.m. Senator Roers, District 27, introduced SB 2133 and testified in favor.

9:49 a.m. Brad Schaffer, Director of Driver and Vehicle Services, NDDOT, testified in favor and submitted testimony #29354.

9:57 a.m. Representative Christy, District 27, testified in favor.

9:59 a.m. Dave Draovitch, Chief, Bismarck PD, testified neutral.

10:08 a.m. Chairman Clemens closed the hearing.

Additional written testimony:

Andrew Bornemann, submitted testimony in favor #29368.

Chance Anderson, Committee Clerk



Transportation

Senate Bill No. 2133**Senate Transportation Committee**

Fort Totten Room | January 16, 2025, 9:45 a.m.

Brad Schaffer, Motor Vehicle

Good morning, Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee. I'm Brad Schaffer, director of Driver and Vehicle Services for the North Dakota Department of Transportation. I'm here in support of Senate Bill 2133.

Senate Bill 2133 proposes a new blackout license plate as an option for owners of passenger motor vehicles, trucks not exceeding 20,000 pounds, and motorcycles. Blackout license plates have a solid black background with white lettering.

Other states have successfully created blackout license plates, and they have been incredibly popular with vehicle owners. For example, Iowa introduced a similar plate and in the first three years, they issued nearly 500,000 blackout license plates, making it the most popular special plate in the state. Minnesota also experienced remarkable success issuing over 250,000 blackout plates in the first year, exceeding their projections by more than 56%. These plates provide vehicle owners with a sleek, bold, and modern look, which many find appealing.

In North Dakota, we estimate that there are 760,967 qualifying vehicles, in addition to 42,298 motorcycles, whose owners could potentially benefit from this new plate option.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my testimony. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

SB 2133
Testimony in favor.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Transportation Committee.

I am writing to you to respectfully request a Do Pass recommendation from this committee on Senate Bill 2133.

As the proud owner of a beautiful black Dodge Challenger, I would love the option of having black plates which match the general theme of a sleek muscle car. I have considered getting customized plates, but as yet have not justified the added expense. Should this bill pass, I would gladly get a personalized blackout plate, as the added value would make it worth it to me, as I am sure it would also for many other auto enthusiasts. According to edmunds.com, vehicles that are black account for 21% of vehicles on the road in North Dakota, I am sure many of those owners would also like the opportunity to have a matching plate on their vehicle.

Sincerely,

Andrew Bornemann
Kintyre, ND

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Transportation Committee Fort Totten Room, State Capitol

SB 2133
1/23/2025

Relating to blackout number plates.

10:46 a.m. Chairman Clemens opened the hearing.

Members present: Chairman Clemens, Vice Chairwoman Cory, Senator Hogan, Senator Klein, Senator Paulson, Senator Rummel

Discussion Topics:

- Amendment regarding cost structure of number plates
- Readability and duplication of blackout number plates

10:47 a.m. Chairman Clemens opened discussion on possible amendments and to get clarification from the NDDOT.

10:54 a.m. Chairman Clemens adjourned the meeting.

Chance Anderson, Committee Clerk

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Transportation Committee Fort Totten Room, State Capitol

SB 2133
1/30/2025

Relating to blackout number plates.

9:30 a.m. Chairman Clemens opened the hearing.

Members present: Chairman Clemens, Vice Chairwoman Cory, Senator Hogan, Senator Klein, Senator Paulson, Senator Rummel

Discussion Topics:

- Amendment clarifying fees

9:29 a.m. Senator Rummel moved a Do Pass on Amendment LC#25.0580.01001.

9:29 a.m. Senator Paulson seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator David A. Clemens	Y
Senator Claire Cory	Y
Senator Kathy Hogan	Y
Senator Jerry Klein	Y
Senator Bob Paulson	Y
Senator Dean Rummel	Y

Motion passed 6-0-0.

9:30 a.m. Senator Rummel moved a Do Pass as amended.

9:30 a.m. Senator Hogan seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator David A. Clemens	Y
Senator Claire Cory	Y
Senator Kathy Hogan	Y
Senator Jerry Klein	N
Senator Bob Paulson	Y
Senator Dean Rummel	Y

Motion passed 5-1-0.

Senator Cory will carry the bill.

9:35 a.m. Chairman Clemens closed the hearing.

Senate Transportation Committee

SB 2133

January 30, 2025

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Chance Anderson, Committee Clerk

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

SENATE BILL NO. 2133

Introduced by

Senators Roers, Cory, Rummel

Representatives Christy, Stemen, Vigesaa

- 1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 39-04 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to blackout number plates.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

- 4 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 39-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
5 and enacted as follows:

6 **Blackout number plates.**

- 7 1. The director shall issue blackout number plates under this section upon receiving
8 payment of:
9 a. ~~Payment of all~~All other fees required under this chapter for registration of a motor
10 vehicle;
11 b. ~~Payment of an~~An initial fee of fifteen dollars; and
12 c. ~~Annual payment of the twenty-five dollar personalized plate fee under section~~
13 ~~39-04-10.3~~An additional fee of twenty-five dollars per registration period.
14 2. Blackout number plates issued under this section must have:
15 a. A solid black background; and
16 b. White numbers and letters.
17 3. The director may issue blackout number plates under this section only to the owner of
18 a passenger motor vehicle, a truck the registered gross weight of which does not
19 exceed twenty thousand pounds [9071.85 kilograms], or a motorcycle.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
SB 2133**

Transportation Committee (Sen. Clemens, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS** ([25.0580.01001](#)) and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (5 YEAS, 1 NAY, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2133 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

2025 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS

SB 2133

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations - Government Operations Division Red River Room, State Capitol

SB 2133
2/11/2025

A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 39-04 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to blackout number plates

10:59 a.m. Chairman Wanzek opened the meeting.

Members present: Chairman Wanzek, Vice-Chair Dwyer, Senator Burckhard, Senator Erbele, and Senator Sickler.

Discussion Topics:

- Styles of license plates
- Fee for blackout plate
- Separate fee for personalized plate
- Ink cost
- Law enforcement preference
- Specialty license plates and fees
- Revenue distribution

11:00 a.m. Senator Roers, District 27, testified in favor.

11:06 a.m. Robin Rehborg, Deputy Director for Driver Safety for ND Department of Transportation, testified in favor.

11:14 a.m. Senator Burckhard moved a Do Pass.

11:14 a.m. Senator Sickler seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Terry M. Wanzek	Y
Senator Randy A. Burckhard	Y
Senator Michael Dwyer	Y
Senator Robert Erbele	Y
Senator Jonathan Sickler	Y

Motion passed 5-0-0

Senator Burckhard will carry the motion.

Chairman Wanzek closed the meeting.

Carol Thompson, Committee Clerk

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee Harvest Room, State Capitol

SB 2133
2/13/2025

A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 39-04 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to blackout number plates.

9:09 a.m. Chairman Bekkedahl opened the hearing.

Members Present: Chairman Bekkedahl, Vice-Chairman Erbele, and Senators Burckhard, Cleary, Conley, Davison, Dever, Magrum, Mathern, Meyer, Schaible, Sickler, Sorvaag, Thomas, Wanzek.

Members Absent: Senator Dwyer.

Discussion Topics:

- Fee to Purchase Plates
- Committee Action

9:09 a.m. Senator Burckhard introduced the bill.

9:10 a.m. Senator Burckhard moved a Do Pass.

9:10 a.m. Senator Conley seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Brad Bekkedahl	Y
Senator Robert Erbele	Y
Senator Randy A. Burckhard	Y
Senator Sean Cleary	Y
Senator Cole Conley	Y
Senator Kyle Davison	Y
Senator Dick Dever	Y
Senator Michael Dwyer	A
Senator Jeffery J. Magrum	N
Senator Tim Mathern	Y
Senator Scott Meyer	Y
Senator Donald Schaible	Y
Senator Jonathan Sickler	Y
Senator Ronald Sorvaag	Y
Senator Paul J. Thomas	Y
Senator Terry M. Wanzek	Y

Motion Passed 14-1-1.

Senator Cory will carry the bill.

Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 2133

02/13/2025

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9:12 a.m. Chairman Bekkedahl closed the hearing.

Elizabeth Reiten, Committee Clerk

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
ENGROSSED SB 2133 ([25.0580.02000](#))**

Appropriations Committee (Sen. Bekkedahl, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (14 YEAS, 1 NAY, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2133 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

2025 HOUSE TRANSPORTATION

SB 2133

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Transportation Committee
Room JW327E, State Capitol

SB 2133
3/6/2025

Relating to blackout number plates.

3:40 p.m. Chairman D. Ruby opened the hearing.

Members Present: Chairman D. Ruby, Vice Chairman Grueneich, Representatives Christianson, Dressler, Finley-DeVille, Frelich, Johnston, Koppelman, Hendrix, Maki, Morton, Osowski, Schatz

Members Absent: Representative Kasper

Discussion Topics:

- Aesthetics
- Minnesota blackout plate

3:40 p.m. Senator Kristin Roers, District 27, introduced the bill.

3:47 p.m. Brad Schaffer, Driver and Vehicle Services Director, ND DOT, testified in favor and submitted testimony #39047.

3:52 p.m. Chairman D. Ruby closed the hearing.

3:53 p.m. Brad Schaffer, stood for questions.

3:58 p.m. Chairman D. Ruby adjourned the meeting.

Janae Pinks, Committee Clerk

**Senate Bill No. 2133****House Transportation Committee**

Room 327E | March 6, 2025, 2:45 p.m.

Brad Schaffer, Motor Vehicle

Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee. I'm Brad Schaffer, director of Driver and Vehicle Services for the North Dakota Department of Transportation. I'm here in support of Senate Bill 2133.

Senate Bill 2133 proposes a new blackout license plate as an option for owners of passenger motor vehicles, trucks not exceeding 20,000 pounds, and motorcycles. Blackout license plates have a solid black background with white lettering.

Other states have successfully created blackout license plates, and they have been incredibly popular with vehicle owners. For example, Iowa introduced a similar plate and in the first three years, they issued nearly 500,000 blackout license plates, making it the most popular special plate in the state. Minnesota also experienced remarkable success issuing over 250,000 blackout plates in the first year, exceeding their projections by more than 56%. These plates provide vehicle owners with a sleek, bold, and modern look, which many find appealing.

In North Dakota, we estimate that there are 760,967 qualifying vehicles, in addition to 42,298 motorcycles, whose owners could potentially benefit from this new plate option. Due to the uncertainty of how many applications there will be for the new plate, for the fiscal note it was estimated that 10% of the eligible vehicles for 2025-27 biennium and 5% for the 2027-29 biennium would purchase the new plate. The revenue received for the additional cost of the plate would be deposited into the Highway Tax Distribution Fund. The expenditures for the plate will be \$7.00 for production and \$6.20 for shipping for the full-size plate. The motorcycle plate cost will be \$5.95 for production and \$1.43 for shipping.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my testimony. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Transportation Committee Room JW327E, State Capitol

SB 2133
3/7/2025

Relating to blackout number plates.

11:02 a.m. Chairman D. Ruby opened the meeting.

Members Present: Chairman D. Ruby, Vice Chairman Grueneich, Representatives Christianson, Dressler, Finley-DeVill, Frelich, Johnston, Hendrix, Kasper, Koppelman, Maki, Morton, Osowski, Schatz

Discussion Topics:

- Associated costs
- Highway Distribution Fund

11:02 a.m. Representative Koppelman proposed an amendment to strike line ten and lower the fee on line twenty-five to ten dollars.

11:04 a.m. Representative Koppelman moved to adopt amendment LC#25.0580.02001.

11:04 a.m. Representative Morton seconded the motion.

Representatives	Vote
Representative Dan Ruby	Y
Representative Jim Grueneich	Y
Representative Nels Christianson	N
Representative Ty Dressler	Y
Representative Lisa Finley-DeVill	Y
Representative Kathy Frelich	N
Representative Jared Hendrix	Y
Representative Daniel Johnston	Y
Representative Jim Kasper	N
Representative Ben Koppelman	Y
Representative Roger A. Maki	Y
Representative Desiree Morton	Y
Representative Doug Osowski	Y
Representative Mike Schatz	N

11:09 a.m. Motion passed 10-4-0

11:10 a.m. Representative Dressler moved a Do Pass as Amended.

11:10 a.m. Representative Koppelman seconded the motion.

Representatives	Vote
Representative Dan Ruby	Y
Representative Jim Grueneich	Y
Representative Nels Christianson	Y
Representative Ty Dressler	Y
Representative Lisa Finley-DeVille	Y
Representative Kathy Frelich	N
Representative Jared Hendrix	Y
Representative Daniel Johnston	Y
Representative Jim Kasper	N
Representative Ben Koppelman	Y
Representative Roger A. Maki	Y
Representative Desiree Morton	Y
Representative Doug Osowski	Y
Representative Mike Schatz	N

11:13 a.m. Motion passed 11-3-0.

11:13 a.m. Representative Johnston will carry the bill.

11:14 a.m. Chairman D. Ruby adjourned the meeting.

Janae Pinks, Committee Clerk

March 7, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
FIRST ENGROSSMENT**

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2133

Introduced by

Senators Roers, Cory, Rummel

Representatives Christy, Stemen, Vigesaa

MB
3/7/25
1 of 1

- 1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 39-04 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to blackout number plates.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

- 4 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 39-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
5 and enacted as follows:

6 **Blackout number plates.**

- 7 1. The director shall issue blackout number plates under this section upon receiving
8 payment of:

- 9 a. All other fees required under this chapter for registration of a motor vehicle; and
10 b. ~~An initial fee of fifteen dollars; and~~
11 ~~c. An additional fee of twenty-five~~ten dollars per registration period.

- 12 2. Blackout number plates issued under this section must have:

- 13 a. A solid black background; and
14 b. White numbers and letters.

- 15 3. The director may issue blackout number plates under this section only to the owner of
16 a passenger motor vehicle, a truck the registered gross weight of which does not
17 exceed twenty thousand pounds [9071.85 kilograms], or a motorcycle.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
ENGROSSED SB 2133**

Transportation Committee (Rep. D. Ruby, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS** ([25.0580.02001](#)) and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (11 YEAS, 3 NAYS, 0 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). SB 2133 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

2025 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS

SB 2133

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee Roughrider Room, State Capitol

SB 2133
3/17/2025

A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 39-04 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to blackout number plates.

9:49 a.m. Chairman Vigesaa opened the meeting.

Members present: Chairman Vigesaa, Representatives Anderson, Berg, Bosch, Brandenburg, Fisher, Hanson, Louser, Martinson, Meier, Mitskog, Monson, Murphy, Nathe, Nelson, O'Brien, Pyle, Richter, Sanford, Stemen, Swiontek, Wagner

Member absent: Vice Chairman Kempenich

Discussion Topics:

- ND License Plates
- Vanity license plates
- Committee Work

9:49 a.m. Representative Dan Ruby, Chairman, Transportation Committee, introduced the bill and answered questions.

9:58 a.m. Chairman Vigesaa closed the meeting.

Krystal Eberle, Appropriations Committee Clerk

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee Roughrider Room, State Capitol

SB 2133
3/17/2025

A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 39-04 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to blackout number plates.

10:09 a.m. Chairman Vigesaa opened the meeting.

Members present: Chairman Vigesaa, Representatives Anderson, Berg, Bosch, Brandenburg, Fisher, Hanson, Louser, Martinson, Meier, Mitskog, Monson, Murphy, Nathe, Nelson, O'Brien, Pyle, Richter, Sanford, Stemen, Swiontek, Wagner

Member absent: Vice Chairman Kempenich

Discussion Topics:

- Committee Action

10:09 a.m. Representative Stemen moved a Do Pass.

10:10 a.m. Representative O'Brien seconded the motion.

10:10 a.m. Roll Call Vote

Representatives	Vote
Representative Don Vigesaa	Y
Representative Keith Kempenich	AB
Representative Bert Anderson	Y
Representative Mike Berg	Y
Representative Glenn Bosch	N
Representative Mike Brandenburg	Y
Representative Jay Fisher	AB
Representative Karla Rose Hanson	Y
Representative Scott Louser	Y
Representative Bob Martinson	Y
Representative Lisa Meier	AB
Representative Alisa Mitskog	Y
Representative David Monson	N
Representative Eric J. Murphy	Y
Representative Mike Nathe	Y
Representative Jon O. Nelson	Y
Representative Emily O'Brien	Y
Representative Brandy L. Pyle	Y
Representative David Richter	Y
Representative Mark Sanford	AB
Representative Gregory Stemen	Y

Representative Steve Swiontek	Y
Representative Scott Wagner	Y

10:10 a.m. Motion passed 17-2-4.

10:10 a.m. Representative Johnston will carry.

10:11 a.m. Chairman Vigesaa closed the meeting.

Krystal Eberle, Appropriations Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
ENGROSSED AND AMENDED SB 2133 ([25.0580.03000](#))

Appropriations Committee (Rep. Vigesaa, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (17 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 4 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). SB 2133 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

2025 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

SB 2133

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Transportation Committee Fort Totten Room, State Capitol

SB 2133
4/3/2025
Conference Committee

A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 39-04 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to blackout number plates.

5:30 p.m. Chairwoman Cory called the meeting to order.

Members present: Chairwoman Cory, Senator Paulson, Senator Klein, Representative D. Johnston, Representative Kasper, Representative Hendrix

Discussion Topics:

- Fee structure for plates

5:30 p.m. Chairwoman Cory presented a proposed amendment regarding special plate fees and submitted testimony in favor #44663.

5:41 p.m. Robin Rehborg, Deputy Director for Driver Safety, NDDOT, testified in neutral.

5:47 p.m. Chairwoman Cory adjourned the meeting.

Chance Anderson, Committee Clerk

25.0580.02002
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council
staff for Senator Cory
April 3, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FIRST ENGROSSMENT

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2133

Introduced by

Senators Roers, Cory, Rummel

Representatives Christy, Stemen, Vigesaa

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 39-04 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to blackout number plates; and to amend and reenact sections
3 39-04-10.4 and 39-04-10.6 of the North Dakota Century Code, related to collector and antique
4 motor vehicle plates.

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

6 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 39-04-10.4 of the North Dakota Century Code is
7 amended and reenacted as follows:

8 **39-04-10.4. Antique motor vehicles - License and fee - Use.**

9 1. Any motor vehicle which is at least forty years old may be permanently licensed by the
10 department upon the payment of a registration fee of ten dollars. The department shall
11 design and issue a distinctive number plate for this purpose. The department shall
12 further design a distinctive blackout plate consistent with subsection 2 of section 3 of
13 this Act. In lieu of ~~the~~ distinctive number plate, the owner of the motor vehicle may, at
14 the discretion of the director, display on the motor vehicle a number plate from the
15 year in which the motor vehicle was manufactured or in the case of military vehicles,
16 military identification numbers. The number plate from the year of manufacture or
17 military identification numbers may not be used in lieu of a distinctive number plate
18 when it would create a duplication of a number in the recordkeeping system of the
19 department. A number plate from the year of manufacture or military identification
20 numbers must be legible and must be restored to the satisfaction of the department.

Notwithstanding section 39-04-11, only one number plate needs to be displayed on a motor vehicle licensed under this subsection. Motor vehicles registered under the provisions of this section may not be used in the routine functions of a business or farming operation.

2. Any motor vehicle which is at least forty years old may, if not licensed under subsection 1, be permanently licensed using a personalized plate issued under section 39-04-10.3, in which case a one-time fee of one hundred dollars is due.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Section 39-04-10.6 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

39-04-10.6. Registration of motor vehicles owned by collectors.

A person who owns a motor vehicle that is at least twenty-five years old but that is not eligible for registration under section 39-04-10.4 may register that motor vehicle as a collector's motor vehicle. The motor vehicle is eligible for collector's registration if it is owned and operated solely as a collector's item and if the owner owns another motor vehicle the owner uses for general transportation. A motor vehicle qualifies as a collector's item under this section only if it is operated on public streets and highways for the purpose of driving the vehicle to and from active entry and participation in parades, car shows, car rallies, other public gatherings held for the purpose of displaying or selling the vehicle, and to and from service or storage facilities. An applicant for registration of a vehicle as a collector's motor vehicle shall file an affidavit with the director that states the owner's name and address, the make, year, and the manufacturer's identification number of the motor vehicle, and a statement that the motor vehicle is owned and operated solely as a collector's item and not for general transportation purposes. If the director is satisfied that the affidavit is true and correct, the director shall register the motor vehicle as a collector's motor vehicle on the payment of a registration fee of sixty dollars. The registration is valid as long as the collector's motor vehicle is owned by the person who applied for the registration under this section. The director shall design and issue distinctive number plates for collector's motor vehicles registered under this section. The director shall further design a distinctive blackout plate consistent with subsection 2 of section 3 of this Act. In lieu of the distinctive number plates, the owner of the motor vehicle, at the discretion of the director, may display on the motor vehicle number plates from the year in which the motor vehicle was manufactured. The number plates from the year of manufacture may not be used in lieu of

1 distinctive number plates when it would create a duplication of a number in the recordkeeping
2 system of the department. Number plates from the year of manufacture must be legible and
3 must be restored to the satisfaction of the department. A person violating this section or a
4 department rule regarding this section forfeits the right to the registration provided in this section
5 and any registration fees that have been paid.

6 **SECTION 3.** A new section to chapter 39-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
7 and enacted as follows:

8 **Blackout number plates.**

9 1. The director shall issue blackout number plates under this section upon receiving
10 payment of:

11 a. All other fees required under this chapter for registration of a motor vehicle; and

12 b. ~~An initial fee of fifteen dollars; and~~

13 ~~c. An additional fee of ~~twenty-five~~ten dollars per registration period.~~

14 2. Blackout number plates issued under this section must have:

15 a. A solid black background; and

16 b. White numbers and letters.

17 3. The director may issue blackout number plates under this section only to the owner of
18 a passenger motor vehicle, a truck the registered gross weight of which does not
19 exceed twenty thousand pounds [9071.85 kilograms], or a motorcycle.

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Transportation Committee Fort Totten Room, State Capitol

SB 2133
4/10/2025
Conference Committee

A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 39-04 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to blackout number plates.

4:30 p.m. Chairwoman Cory called the meeting to order.

Members present: Chairwoman Cory, Senator Paulson, Senator Klein, Representative D. Johnston, Representative Kasper, Representative Hendrix

Discussion Topics:

- Fee structure for plates

4:30 p.m. Representative D. Johnston presented proposed amendment regarding special plate fees and submitted testimony in favor #44922.

4:30 p.m. Chairwoman Cory presented proposed amendment regarding special plate fees and submitted testimony in favor # 44927.

4:35 p.m. Senator Klein moved Amendment LC#25.0580.02004 in Place of #25.0580.02001.

4:36 p.m. Representative Kasper seconded the motion.

Motion failed 4-2-0.

4:37 p.m. Chairwoman Cory adjourned the meeting.

Chance Anderson, Committee Clerk

SB 2133 041025 1636 PM Roll Call Vote

Final Recommendation

SB 2133

Date Submitted: April 10, 2025, 4:36 p.m.

Recommendation: In Place Of

Amendment LC #: 25.0580.02004

Engrossed LC #: N/A

Description:

Motioned By: Klein, Jerry

Seconded By: Kasper, Jim

House Carrier: N/A

Senate Carrier: N/A

Emergency Clause: None

Vote Results: 4 - 2 - 0

Sen. Cory, Claire	Yea
Sen. Paulson, Bob	Yea
Sen. Klein, Jerry	Yea
Rep. Johnston, Daniel	Nay
Rep. Kasper, Jim	Yea
Rep. Hendrix, Jared	Nay

25.0580.02003
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council
staff for Representative D. Johnston
April 7, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FIRST ENGROSSMENT

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2133

Introduced by

Senators Roers, Cory, Rummel

Representatives Christy, Stemen, Vigesaa

In place of amendment (25.0580.02001) adopted by the House, Engrossed Senate Bill No. 2133 is amended by amendment (25.0580.02003) as follows:

- 1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 39-04 of the North Dakota
- 2 Century Code, relating to blackout number plates.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

- 4 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 39-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
- 5 and enacted as follows:

6 **Blackout number plates.**

- 7 1. The director shall issue blackout number plates under this section upon receiving
- 8 payment of:
- 9 a. All other fees required under this chapter for registration of a motor vehicle; and
- 10 b. An initial fee of fifteen dollars; and
- 11 c. An additional fee of twenty-fivefifteen dollars per registration period.
- 12 2. Blackout number plates issued under this section must have:
- 13 a. A solid black background; and
- 14 b. White numbers and letters.
- 15 3. The director may issue blackout number plates under this section only to the owner of
- 16 a passenger motor vehicle, a truck the registered gross weight of which does not
- 17 exceed twenty thousand pounds [9071.85 kilograms], or a motorcycle.

25.0580.02004
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council
staff for Senator Cory
April 9, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FIRST ENGROSSMENT

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2133

Introduced by

Senators Roers, Cory, Rummel

Representatives Christy, Stemen, Vigesaa

In place of amendment (25.0580.02001) adopted by the House, Engrossed Senate Bill No. 2133 is amended by amendment (25.0580.02004) as follows:

- 1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 39-04 of the North Dakota
- 2 Century Code, relating to blackout number plates.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

- 4 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 39-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
- 5 and enacted as follows:

6 **Blackout number plates.**

- 7 1. The director shall issue blackout number plates under this section upon receiving
- 8 payment of:
- 9 a. All other fees required under this chapter for registration of a motor vehicle; and
- 10 b. ~~An initial fee of fifteen dollars; and~~
- 11 ~~c. An additional fee of twenty-five dollars per registration period.~~
- 12 2. Blackout number plates issued under this section must have:
- 13 a. A solid black background; and
- 14 b. White numbers and letters.
- 15 3. The director may issue blackout number plates under this section only to the owner of
- 16 a passenger motor vehicle, a truck the registered gross weight of which does not
- 17 exceed twenty thousand pounds [9071.85 kilograms], or a motorcycle.

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Transportation Committee Fort Totten Room, State Capitol

SB 2133
4/15/2025
Conference Committee

A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 39-04 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to blackout number plates.

4:03 p.m. Chairwoman Cory called the meeting to order.

Members present: Chairwoman Cory, Senator Paulson, Senator Klein, Representative D. Johnston, Representative Kasper, Representative Hendrix

Discussion Topics:

- Fee structure for plates

4:03 p.m. Chairwoman Cory led discussion on annual fees for blackout number plates and referenced previously submitted testimony in favor #44927.

4:09 p.m. Brad Schaffer, Director of Driver and Vehicle Services, NDDOT, testified neutral.

4:14 p.m. Senator Klein moved Amendment LC#25.0580.02004 in Place of #25.0580.02001.

4:14 p.m. Representative Paulson seconded the motion.

Motion passed 5-1-0.

Chairwoman Cory will carry the bill for the senate.

Representative Hendrix will carry the bill for the house.

4:16 p.m. Chairwoman Cory adjourned the meeting.

Chance Anderson, Committee Clerk

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
FIRST ENGROSSMENT**

VC 4/15/25
1 of 1

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2133

Introduced by

Senators Roers, Cory, Rummel

Representatives Christy, Stemen, Vigesaa

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17 exceed twenty thousand pounds [9071.85 kilograms], or a motorcycle.

SB 2133 041525 1615 PM Roll Call Vote

Final Recommendation

SB 2133

Date Submitted: April 15, 2025, 4:15 p.m.

Recommendation: In Place Of

Amendment LC #: 25.0580.02004

Engrossed LC #: N/A

Description:

Motioned By: Klein, Jerry

Seconded By: Paulson, Bob

House Carrier: Hendrix, Jared

Senate Carrier: Cory, Claire

Emergency Clause: None

Vote Results: 5 - 1 - 0

Sen. Cory, Claire	Yea
Sen. Paulson, Bob	Yea
Sen. Klein, Jerry	Yea
Rep. Johnston, Daniel	Nay
Rep. Kasper, Jim	Yea
Rep. Hendrix, Jared	Yea

**REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
ENGROSSED SB 2133**

Your conference committee (Sens. Cory, Paulson, Klein and Reps. D. Johnston, Kasper, Hendrix) recommends that in place of amendment [25.0580.02001](#) adopted by the House, Engrossed SB 2133 is amended by amendment [25.0580.02004](#).

Engrossed SB 2133 was placed on the Seventh order of business on the calendar.