

1 HB489  
2 199728-1  
3 By Representatives Reynolds, Kiel, Moore (P), Ball, Sorrell,  
4 Sanderford, Crawford and Whitt  
5 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security  
6 First Read: 23-APR-19

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8 SYNOPSIS: Existing law provides for distinctive  
9 license plates for certain organizations, including  
10 firefighters.

11 This bill would provide for a distinctive  
12 license plate for emergency medical services  
13 providers and would provide for criminal penalties  
14 for fraudulently obtaining a distinctive license  
15 plate.

16 Amendment 621 of the Constitution of Alabama  
17 of 1901, now appearing as Section 111.05 of the  
18 Official Recompilation of the Constitution of  
19 Alabama of 1901, as amended, prohibits a general  
20 law whose purpose or effect would be to require a  
21 new or increased expenditure of local funds from  
22 becoming effective with regard to a local  
23 governmental entity without enactment by a 2/3 vote  
24 unless: it comes within one of a number of  
25 specified exceptions; it is approved by the  
26 affected entity; or the Legislature appropriates

1 funds, or provides a local source of revenue, to  
2 the entity for the purpose.

3 The purpose or effect of this bill would be  
4 to require a new or increased expenditure of local  
5 funds within the meaning of the amendment. However,  
6 this bill does not require approval of a local  
7 governmental entity or enactment by a 2/3 vote to  
8 become effective because it comes within one of the  
9 specified exceptions contained in the amendment.

10  
11 A BILL  
12 TO BE ENTITLED  
13 AN ACT  
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15 Relating to distinctive license plates; to add  
16 Section 32-6-281 to the Code of Alabama 1975; to provide for  
17 distinctive license plates for emergency medical services  
18 providers; to provide criminal penalties for fraudulently  
19 obtaining a distinctive license plate; and in connection  
20 therewith would have as its purpose or effect the requirement  
21 of a new or increased expenditure of local funds within the  
22 meaning of Amendment 621 of the Constitution of Alabama of  
23 1901, now appearing as Section 111.05 of the Official  
24 Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as  
25 amended.

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

1           Section 1. Section 32-6-281 is added to the Code of  
2 Alabama 1975, to read as follows:

3           §32-6-281.

4           (a) As used in this section, "emergency medical  
5 services provider" or "EMSP" means a paramedic, emergency  
6 medical technician - intermediate, advanced emergency medical  
7 technician, or emergency medical technician who is currently  
8 licensed with the Alabama Department of Public Health, Office  
9 of Emergency Medical Services.

10           (b) (1) Notwithstanding Sections 32-6-64, 32-6-67,  
11 and 32-6-68, an EMSP, upon application and subject to this  
12 section, may be issued a distinctive motor vehicle license  
13 plate as identification as an EMSP.

14           (2) In addition to the proper numbers, words, and  
15 insignias used on the standard license plate issued for motor  
16 vehicles, the distinctive plate issued for an EMSP shall have  
17 a design created by the Alabama Department of Public Health,  
18 Office of Emergency Medical Services.

19           (c) (1) The distinctive license plate provided in  
20 this section shall be approved by the Commissioner of Revenue  
21 and shall be issued through the judge of probate, license  
22 commissioner, or other license issuing official of the several  
23 counties of the state in the same manner as are other motor  
24 vehicle license plates or tags and the officers shall be  
25 entitled to their regular fees for the service.

26           (2) Proof of licensure as an EMSP shall be verified  
27 using the public license search on the Alabama Department of

1 Public Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services website.  
2 Only an active, unexpired EMSP, as verified, may obtain a  
3 distinctive EMSP plate.

4 (3) The distinctive license plate issued under this  
5 section shall be used only upon and for personally owned,  
6 private, passenger vehicles, to include station wagons and  
7 pick-up trucks, registered in the name of the EMSP making  
8 application therefor, and when issued to the applicant shall  
9 be used upon the vehicle for which issued in lieu of the  
10 standard license plate normally issued for the vehicle.

11 (d) Anyone who is proven to have either falsely  
12 obtained or certified an individual to obtain a distinctive  
13 EMSP license plate shall be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor,  
14 and upon conviction, shall be punished according to law.

15 (e) The distinctive plate as provided by this  
16 section shall be prepared and furnished for the licensing year  
17 commencing January 1, 2020, and thereafter as is provided by  
18 law for the issuance of other license plates.

19 (f) The Department of Revenue may adopt any rules  
20 necessary to administer this section.

21 Section 2. Although this bill would have as its  
22 purpose or effect the requirement of a new or increased  
23 expenditure of local funds, the bill is excluded from further  
24 requirements and application under Amendment 621, now  
25 appearing as Section 111.05 of the Official Recompilation of  
26 the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, because the

1 bill defines a new crime or amends the definition of an  
2 existing crime.

3 Section 3. This act shall become effective on the  
4 first day of the third month following its passage and  
5 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.