

**Introduced by Senator Newman**February 17, 2017

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An act to amend Section 5168 of the Vehicle Code, relating to license plates.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 673, as introduced, Newman. Pet Lover's specialized license plates.

Existing law establishes a specialized license plate program and requires the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to issue specialized license plates on behalf of a sponsoring state agency that meets certain requirements. Existing law requires that the DMV charge specified additional fees for the issuance, renewal, or transfer of specialized license plates, and requires the DMV to deposit the fees, less the DMV's costs, into the Specialized License Plate Fund. Existing law requires that moneys in the fund be allocated, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to each sponsoring agency in proportion to the amount that is attributable to the agency's specialized license plate program. Existing law authorizes the sponsoring state agency to use these moneys to fund projects and programs that promote the state agency's official policy, mission, or work. Existing law requires the DMV to deposit fees for the issuance, renewal, or transfer of the Pet Lover's specialized license plates, less the DMV's costs, into the Pet Lover's Fund in the Specialized License Plate Fund, for the deposit of revenue derived from these specialized license plates. Existing law requires that these funds be allocated, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the Veterinary Medical Board for disbursement by a nonprofit organization selected by the board to fund grants to providers of no-cost or low-cost animal sterilization services. Existing law requires the board to determine

eligibility requirements for the grants, establish the grant application process, and develop program specifics. Existing law authorizes the board to contract with an entity, including a nonprofit organization, to provide advice, consultation, and administrative services for purposes of implementing and administering the grant program. Existing law requires the board to provide oversight for the disbursement of grant funds under the grant program.

This bill would substitute the Department of Food and Agriculture in place of the Veterinary Medical Board for those purposes. The bill would authorize rather than require the department to allocate funds to a nonprofit organization it selects for disbursement to qualifying spay and neuter facilities for the purpose of funding grants to providers of no-cost or low-cost animal sterilization services.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 5168 of the Vehicle Code is amended to  
2 read:

3 5168. (a) The fees specified in Section 5157 shall be imposed  
4 for the issuance, renewal, or transfer of the Pet Lover's specialized  
5 license plates. Notwithstanding subdivision (c) of Section 5157,  
6 after deducting its administrative costs, the department shall deposit  
7 the revenue derived from the additional fees into the Pet Lover's  
8 Fund, which is hereby established in the Specialized License Plate  
9 Fund.

10 (b) Upon appropriation by the Legislature, the moneys in the  
11 Pet Lover's Fund shall be allocated to the ~~Veterinary Medical~~  
12 ~~Board~~ *Department of Food and Agriculture*. There shall not be  
13 an allocation to the ~~board~~ *department* pursuant to subdivision (c)  
14 of Section 5157. The ~~board~~ *department* ~~shall~~ *may* allocate those  
15 funds to a nonprofit organization it selects for disbursement to  
16 qualifying spay and neuter facilities for the sole and exclusive  
17 purpose of funding grants to providers of no-cost or low-cost  
18 animal sterilization services.

19 (c) Annual administrative costs for the program shall not exceed  
20 25 percent of the funds collected from the issuance of the Pet  
21 Lover's license plates, and may include marketing and other

1 promotional activities associated with encouraging application for  
2 or renewal of Pet Lover’s license plates.

3 (d) The nonprofit organization selected by the ~~board~~ *department*  
4 shall not use more than 5 percent of the moneys received pursuant  
5 to this section for administrative costs.

6 (e) The ~~board~~ *department* shall determine eligibility  
7 requirements for the grants, establish the grant application process,  
8 and develop program specifics. The ~~board~~ *department* may contract  
9 with an entity, including a nonprofit organization, to provide  
10 advice, consultation, and administrative services for purposes of  
11 implementing and administering the grant program. The ~~board~~  
12 *department* shall provide oversight for the disbursement of grant funds  
13 under the grant program.