Buffalo Soldier License Plates; SB 132

SB 132 authorizes a Buffalo Soldier license plate for use on a passenger vehicle or a truck registered for a gross weight of 20,000 pounds or less, for issuance on or after January 1, 2024.

The bill allows the Richard Allen Cultural Center and Museum, Inc., to authorize the organization's logo to be affixed on these license plates. The bill requires a person desiring this license plate to make a logo use royalty payment of between \$25 and \$100, of which a portion will be dedicated to the construction of the reimagined Frontier Army Museum outside of Fort Leavenworth. The bill requires the vehicle owner or lessee to apply for the new plate at least 60 days prior to their renewal of registration date, on a form provided by the Director of Vehicles (Director), Department of Revenue (Department), after making a logo use royalty payment to the Richard Allen Cultural Center and Museum or the county treasurer. Payment of the regular license fee will be required.

The registration or license plate will not be transferable to any other person. The bill authorizes the Director to transfer the plate from a leased vehicle to a purchased vehicle.

The bill requires the Richard Allen Cultural Center and Museum to provide to county treasurers an email address for applicant inquiries and, with the approval of the Director, to design the plate.

The bill provides introductory clauses with information about the history of the Buffalo Soldiers and efforts to tell their story.

Under continuing law, Buffalo Soldier license plates will not be issued unless there is a guarantee of an initial issuance of least 250 license plates, and the Richard Allen Cultural Center and Museum is required to submit a nonrefundable amount not to exceed \$5,000 to defray costs of the Division of Vehicles (Division) in the Department for developing the distinctive license plate. Continuing law also requires the Division to produce a distinctive license plate for a motorcycle upon request to the Division.

The bill takes effect upon publication in the Kansas Register.