



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Fiscal Note 2027 Biennium

Bill#/Title: HB0641.01: Repeal Lewis and Clark bicentennial plate program

Primary Sponsor: Courtenay Sprunger Status: As Introduced

☐ Included in the Executive Budget ☐ Needs to be included in HB 2 ☐ Significant Local Gov Impact

☐ Significant Long-Term Impacts ☐ Technical Concerns ☐ Dedicated Revenue Form Attached

FISCAL SUMMARY

	<u>FY 2026</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2028</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2029</u> <u>Difference</u>
Expenditures				
State Special Revenue (02)	(\$8,667)	(\$8,333)	(\$8,067)	(\$7,867)
Revenues				
State Special Revenue (02)	(\$8,667)	(\$8,333)	(\$8,067)	(\$7,867)
Net Impact	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
General Fund Balance	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

Description of fiscal impact

HB 641 repeals the Lewis and Clark bicentennial license plate program. The fiscal impact reflects the decrease in revenue and associated expenses.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions

Department of Justice

1. The Lewis and Clark Bicentennial plate fee requires a donation fee of \$20. A 3% Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) administration fee of \$0.60 is collected by the Motor Vehicle Division for each plate issued or renewed.
2. In FY 2024, 539 plates were issued or renewed. MVD collected \$323.40 from those plates.
3. Three fourths of the donation revenue goes to the Department of Commerce and one fourth of the donation revenue goes to the Montana Historical Society.

Department of Commerce

4. Under 2-15-151, MCA, an applicant for a generic specialty license plate that was sponsored by the former Lewis and Clark bicentennial commission shall donate \$20 to the Department of Commerce and the Montana Historical Society. The donation is paid to the county treasurer, who remits the amount to the Department of Revenue (DOR). Under 90-1-115, MCA, DOR deposits three fourths of the donation in a state special revenue account statutorily appropriated to the Department of Commerce (Commerce). Commerce disburses donations by thirds to the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center Foundation, the Pompey's Pillar historical Association, and the Travelers' Rest Preservation and Heritage Association.
5. Under the proposed legislation, the Department of Commerce would no longer receive the deposits or disburse the donations.
6. Over the past several years donations have steadily declined, from \$23,883 in FY 2015, to \$7,280 in FY

Fiscal Note Request - As Introduced*(continued)*

2024. Given the rate of decline Commerce assumes collections to be \$6,500 in FY 2026, \$6,250 in FY 2027, \$6,050 in FY 2028, and \$5,900 in FY 2029.

Historical Society

7. The Montana Historical Society (MTHS) receives the other 25% of the above Lewis and Clark license plate revenue to be used to support projects related to Lewis and Clark.
8. HB 641 repeals this license plate revenue source effective December 31, 2025.

Fiscal Analysis Table

	FY 2026 Difference	FY 2027 Difference	FY 2028 Difference	FY 2029 Difference
<u>Fiscal Impact</u>				
<u>Expenditures</u>				
Operating Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Historical Society	(\$2,167)	(\$2,083)	(\$2,017)	(\$1,967)
Grants	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Commerce	(\$6,500)	(\$6,250)	(\$6,050)	(\$5,900)
TOTAL Expenditures	(\$8,667)	(\$8,333)	(\$8,067)	(\$7,867)
Commerce	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<u>Funding of Expenditures</u>				
State Special Revenue (02)	(\$8,667)	(\$8,333)	(\$8,067)	(\$7,867)
TOTAL Funding of Expenditures	(\$8,667)	(\$8,333)	(\$8,067)	(\$7,867)
<u>Revenues</u>				
State Special Revenue (02)	(\$8,667)	(\$8,333)	(\$8,067)	(\$7,867)
TOTAL Revenues	(\$8,667)	(\$8,333)	(\$8,067)	(\$7,867)
<u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures)</u>				
State Special Revenue (02)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0



 Sponsor's Initials

2/25/25

 Date



 Budget Director's Initials

2/27/2025

 Date