

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 6, 2016  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 31, 2016  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 15, 2016  
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2131**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Maienschein**

February 17, 2016

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An act to add Section 5173 to the Vehicle Code, relating to license plates, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2131, as amended, Maienschein. 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 department 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 requires the sponsoring state agency to use these moneys exclusively to fund projects and programs that promote the state agency's official policy, mission, or work. Existing law establishes the Food Bank Advisory Committee and requires the committee to advise the Department of Food and Agriculture on the establishment of new food

banks and to advise on the adequate and efficient distribution of surplus food commodities to all areas of the state.

This bill would require the Department of Food and Agriculture to apply to the DMV to sponsor an Imagine license plate bearing an image of John Lennon ~~on a light-blue background with clouds~~ and the word “Imagine” under the numerical series. The bill would direct the DMV to deposit the additional revenue from these license plates into the Imagine Account, which the bill would create. The bill would continuously appropriate moneys in the Imagine Account to the Department of Food and Agriculture for allocation to ~~the California Association of Food Banks and further distribution~~ *a nonprofit organization for the purpose of funding grants* to local food banks. The bill would require the ~~California Association of Food Banks~~ *Department of Food and Agriculture* to determine eligibility requirements for food banks receiving the funds under the Imagine program and to develop program specifics. The bill would authorize the ~~California Association of Food Banks~~ *Department of Food and Agriculture* to contract with an entity, including a nonprofit organization, to provide advice, consultation, and administrative services for purposes of implementing and administering the Imagine program. ~~The bill would require the Department of California Highway Patrol to approve the design of the Imagine specialized license plate prior to production, as specified. The bill would require the Department of Food and Agriculture to provide oversight for the program and would limit the nonprofit selected by the department from using more than 5 percent of the moneys received for its administrative costs.~~

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 5173 is added to the Vehicle Code, to
- 2 read:
- 3 5173. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the revenue
- 4 from the “Imagine” license plates issued pursuant to this section
- 5 be used to help *food banks* end hunger in California.
- 6 (b) The Department of Food and Agriculture shall apply to the
- 7 department to sponsor the Imagine license plate program pursuant
- 8 to this article.

1 (c) Except for environmental license plate fees, the fees specified  
2 in Section 5157 shall be imposed for the issuance, renewal, or  
3 transfer of the Imagine license plates. Imagine license plates may  
4 be issued as environmental license plates with no additional fee.

5 (d) (1) Notwithstanding subdivision (c) of Section 5157, after  
6 deducting its administrative costs, the department shall deposit the  
7 revenue derived from the additional fees into the Imagine Account,  
8 which is hereby established in the Specialized License Plate Fund.  
9 Notwithstanding Section 13340 of the Government Code, all  
10 moneys in the account are continuously appropriated without regard  
11 to fiscal years to the Department of Food and Agriculture for the  
12 purposes specified in this section. The Department of Food and  
13 Agriculture shall allocate these funds to ~~the California Association~~  
14 ~~of Food Banks, which shall distribute the funds to local food banks,~~  
15 *a nonprofit organization that has authorization to utilize the image*  
16 *described in subdivision (e), for the sole and exclusive purpose of*  
17 *funding food banks in accordance with paragraph (2), to help end*  
18 *hunger in California.*

19 (2) ~~The California Association of Food Banks~~ *Department of*  
20 *Food and Agriculture* shall determine eligibility requirements for  
21 food banks receiving funds through the ~~Department of Food and~~  
22 ~~Agriculture's~~ *Imagine* program and develop program specifics.  
23 ~~The California Association of Food Banks~~ *Department of Food*  
24 *and Agriculture* may contract with an entity, including a nonprofit  
25 organization, to provide advice, consultation, and administrative  
26 services for purposes of implementing and administering the  
27 ~~Imagine grant program.~~ *The Department of Food and Agriculture*  
28 *shall provide oversight for the Imagine program.*

29 (3) *The nonprofit organization selected by the Department of*  
30 *Food and Agriculture shall not use more than 5 percent of the*  
31 *moneys received pursuant to this section for administrative costs.*

32 (e) License plates issued pursuant to this section shall contain  
33 ~~of a full-plate graphic of a light blue sky with clouds and, in the~~  
34 ~~area described in Section 5155, an image of a duly-licensed~~ *duly*  
35 *licensed* self-portrait of John ~~Lennon.~~ *Lennon to the left of the*  
36 *numerical series.* The license plates shall also bear the word  
37 “Imagine” under the numerical series. The department shall obtain  
38 the necessary consent from the persons described in subdivision  
39 (c) of Section 3344.1 of the Civil Code.

- 1     ~~(f) The Department of the California Highway Patrol shall~~
- 2     ~~approve the design of the Imagine specialized license plate for~~
- 3     ~~legibility, reflectivity, and visibility prior to production.~~

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