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NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

INCLUDING STATEMENT OF NEED & FISCAL IMPACT

CHAPTER 735
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DRIVER AND MOTOR VEHICLE SERVICES DIVISION

FILED: 10/21/2026 1:45 PM
ARCHIVES DIVISION SECRETARY OF STATE

FILING CAPTION: Honorary consul registration plates

LAST DAY AND TIME TO OFFER COMMENT TO AGENCY: 11/21/2026 5:00 PM

The Agency requests public comment on whether other options should be considered for achieving the rule's substantive goals while reducing negative economic impact of the rule on business.
A public rulemaking hearing may be requested in writing by 10 or more people, or by a group with 10 or more members, within 21 days following the publication of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the Oregon Bulletin or 28 days from the date the Notice was sent to people on the agency mailing list, whichever is later. If sufficient hearing requests are received, the notice of the date and time of the rulemaking hearing must be published in the Oregon Bulletin at least 14 days before the hearing.

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NEED FOR THE RULE(S):

The Oregon Department of Transportation, Driver and Motor Vehicle Services (DMV) proposes to amend Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 735-046-0050 to remove references to the issuance of Honorary Consular registration plates. The statutory authority for these plates, Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 805.117, was repealed by the Oregon Legislature in 2023 through Oregon Laws 2023, chapter 400, section 50. With the underlying statute repealed, DMV no longer has legal authority to issue or administer Honorary Consular plates.

DMV did not amend the rule immediately following repeal because section 51 of chapter 400 includes a saving clause ensuring that Honorary Consular plates issued before the law's effective date would remain valid until they expired. The last valid plate expired on September 25, 2026, completing the sunset of all remaining Honorary Consular registration plates.

Now that all previously issued plates have expired and no statutory authority remains, references in OAR 735-046-0050

to the issuance of Honorary Consular registration plates are outdated and inconsistent with current law. Updating the rule to remove obsolete language ensures alignment with existing statutory provisions and maintains clarity and accuracy within DMV's administrative rules.

DOCUMENTS RELIED UPON, AND WHERE THEY ARE AVAILABLE:

Oregon laws 2023, Chapter 400 - https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/lawsstatutes/2023orlaw0400.pdf

STATEMENT IDENTIFYING HOW ADOPTION OF RULE(S) WILL AFFECT RACIAL EQUITY IN THIS STATE:

The proposed amendments to OAR 735-046-0050 are not expected to impact racial equity because they remove obsolete references to a statutorily discontinued plate type and do not change any current registration processes, fees, or eligibility criteria.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT:

See below.

COST OF COMPLIANCE:
(1) Identify any state agencies, units of local government, and members of the public likely to be economically affected by the rule(s). (2) Effect on Small Businesses: (a) Estimate the number and type of small businesses subject to the rule(s); (b) Describe the expected reporting, recordkeeping and administrative activities and cost required to comply with the rule(s); (c) Estimate the cost of professional services, equipment supplies, labor and increased administration required to comply with the rule(s).

(1) No state agencies, local governments, or members of the public are expected to be economically affected because the rule amendments only remove references to a statutorily discontinued registration plate type and do not change any operational processes or fees.
(2) No economic effect on small businesses is anticipated. The amendments remove obsolete language and do not introduce new requirements or costs.
(2)(a) No small businesses are subject to the rule because the discontinued plate type was not associated with any business activity.
(2)(b) No reporting, recordkeeping, or administrative activities are required because the amendments do not impose any new obligations.
(2)(c) No costs are anticipated, as the rule does not create any compliance requirements.

DESCRIBE HOW SMALL BUSINESSES WERE INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THESE RULE(S):

Small businesses were not involved in the development of these amendments because the changes do not affect business operations and only remove obsolete rule language. DMV did, however, provide the draft rule to small business representatives for review to confirm that they would not be economically impacted.

WAS AN ADMINISTRATIVE RULE ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSULTED? NO IF NOT, WHY NOT?

An advisory committee was not convened because the rule amendments are limited to removing outdated references to a statutorily repealed plate and do not impact stakeholders, programs, or operations in a manner that would necessitate committee review.

AMEND: 735-046-0050

RULE SUMMARY: DMV proposes to amend Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 735-046-0050 to remove references to the issuance of Honorary Consular registration plates.

CHANGES TO RULE:

735-046-0050
Congressional Medal of Honor~~,~~ and Elected Official ~~and Consular Corps~~ Plates~~-~~
(1) Requirements and Qualifications. In addition to all other requirements for registration, an applicant for Congressional Medal of Honor plates~~,~~ or elected official plates ~~or consular corps plates~~ must submit to DMV an application for registration and all applicable fees, including any fee required for the custom plate requested. At the time of application, the applicant must be the registered owner of the vehicle listed on the application and:¶
(a) For Congressional Medal of Honor recipients, meet the qualifications for issuance of Congressional Medal of Honor plates under ORS 805.103 and this rule~~;~~.¶
(b) For elected officials, meet the qualifications of ORS 805.220, and hold the office specified on the application. DMV may contact the Secretary of State to verify compliance with this subsection~~;~~¶
~~(c) For consular corps plates, provide proof to DMV that the applicant is appointed by a foreign government as an honorary consul and is acting in that capacity. Proof under this subsection is a copy of the applicant's current Consular Identification Card issued by the U.S. Department of State, Office of Protocol.~~¶
(2) For purposes of section (1) of this rule, the annual custom plate fee set forth in ORS 805.250(2)(a) for issuance or renewal of Congressional Medal of Honor plates is waived and is not a required fee.¶
(3) Elected official plates are assigned to a specific vehicle and~~–~~, if requested by the applicant~~–~~, are issued in addition to the regular registration plates issued to the vehicle. The fee for an elected official plate issued in addition to a regular series plate is the plate manufacturing fee established under ORS 803.570. Elected official plates may be transferred to another vehicle if:¶
(a) The vehicle to which the plates are to be transferred is registered in the name of the elected official who qualifies for the particular plate configuration; and¶
(b) The applicant submits to DMV a completed application that identifies the vehicle to which the elected official plates are to be assigned.¶
(4) ~~Consular corps plates are assigned to a specific vehicle and may only be transferred to another vehicle under section (5) of this rule.¶~~
~~(5)~~ Plate Transfer. In addition to all other requirements for transferring registration plates, an applicant for a Congressional Medal of Honor plate transfer must submit to DMV a completed, signed application to transfer registration plates and all applicable fees. At the time of transfer, the applicant must be the registered owner of the vehicle listed on the application. There is no plate transfer fee for elected official plates.¶
(~~6~~5) Plate Configurations. The following plate configurations are reserved as specified:¶
(a) For Congressional Medal of Honor recipients: Except as provided in paragraph (B) of this subsection, the applicant may choose the letter combination "MOH" or "CMH," which will be followed by a single number from 1 to 9, to be designated by DMV;¶
(A) A total of 18 pairs of Congressional Medal of Honor plates are reserved for issuance to qualified Congressional Medal of Honor recipients.¶
(B) When a Congressional Medal of Honor plate configuration is issued, it will be removed from the list of available plates and will not be issued again. For example, after plate configuration "CMH 1" is issued, that configuration is no longer available. The next qualified applicant is issued the next available plate number in numeric order.¶
(b) For elected officials:¶
(A) Governor: "GOVERNOR 1";¶
(B) Secretary of State: "SECRETARY OF STATE 2";¶
(C) State Treasurer: "STATE TREASURER 3";¶
(D) President of the Senate: "PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE 4";¶
(E) President pro tempore of the Senate: "SENATE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE 4A";¶
(F) Speaker of the House of Representatives: "SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 5";¶
(G) Speaker pro tempore of the House: "SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE PRO TEMPORE 5A";¶
(H) State Senators: "STATE SENATOR" followed by the applicable Senate district number;¶
(I) State Representatives: "STATE REP." followed by the applicable House district number;¶
(J) U.S. Senator: "U.S. SENATOR" followed by the number 1 or 2, depending on seniority; and¶
(K) U.S. Representative: "U.S. REP." followed by the House District number~~; and~~¶
~~(c) For consular corps plates: "OFFICAL CONSULAR CORPS" followed by a number assigned by DMV.~~¶
(~~7~~6) In addition to the elected official plate for the Governor under subsection (3)(b) of this rule, DMV will issue regular series plates to the Governor upon request from the Governor's office. The fee for a regular series plate issued under this section is the plate manufacturing fee established under ORS 803.570.¶
(~~8~~7) The plates must be removed from the vehicle to which they are assigned when the person no longer qualifies for elected official plates ~~or consular corps plates~~ because the term of office or appointment expires, or the person otherwise ceases to act in the official capacity required to qualify for the plates. After removing the plates from the

vehicle, the person may surrender the plates to DMV or retain the plates as a souvenir.
Statutory/Other Authority: ORS ~~184.616,~~ 184.619, 802.010, 805.103, 805.200, 805.205, 805.220
Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 803.420, 803.530, 803.535, 805.103, 805.200, 805.220, 805.240, ~~805.242,~~ 805.250