



the Catawba Nation

Office of Tribal Government

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SC House of Representatives Pass Bill For Catawba Nation To Have Special License Plates

Rock Hill, SC - The South Carolina House of Representatives passed an amendment to House Bill 5244, which will allow issuance of “Catawba Nation” special license plates.

The South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles can now issue a “Catawba Nation” license plate, after the Nation submits an emblem for the plate design and the DMV approves the design. The fee for the new license plate will be set at a biennial fee of \$40 of which the Catawba Nation will receive the fee. This will be in addition to the regular motor vehicle license fee of \$40, which will be distributed as required by the state.

Catawba Nation Chief Brian Harris said this announcement emphasizes the importance of persistence. “This shows our perseverance when seeking to get a special license plate, historical mile markers and other things that show the importance of the Catawba Nation. It serves as a reminder to keep pushing forward despite setbacks or challenges that may arise in the process.” This bill is a result of close collaboration between the Catawba Nation, the Department of Motor Vehicles, and legislative staff. The DMV is supportive of the bill and worked with the Nation to recommend changes during the drafting process.

The plate is a tool of recognition for the Nation. The Catawba Nation is the only federally recognized tribe located in South Carolina and has over 3300 enrolled members.

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