



24-1049

The Secretary of State presents his compliments to Their Excellencies and Messieurs and Mesdames the Chiefs of Mission and wishes to inform all Missions that the Department has designated the acquisition by honorary consuls of motor vehicle license plates bearing signifiers of diplomatic or consular status as a benefit under the Foreign Missions Act (FMA) as defined in 22 U.S.C. § 4302(a)(1).

Using its FMA authority, the Department has prohibited the issuance or reissuance of license plates to honorary consuls by U.S. states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the territories of the United States that have any of the following terms or parts or combinations of them:

1. Consul;
2. Diplomat;
3. Envoy;
4. Foreign Mission Member;

5. Honorary Consul;
6. Consular Corps;
7. Foreign Consul;
8. Honorary Consular Official; or,
9. Any other words or terms that aim to describe or reference the individual's status as an honorary consul and/or having diplomatic or consular status.

The Department hereby requests that Honorary Consuls that currently possess these license plates issues by U.S. states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the territories of the United States, promptly return the plates to appropriate authorities.

The Department wishes to remind all missions that, pursuant to § 211(a) of the Act (22 U.S.C. § 4307), it is unlawful for any person or entity to make available any benefits to a foreign mission that are contrary to requirements and determination made under the Act.

The Chiefs of Mission are requested to communicate this important information to its honorary consular and all mission personnel throughout the United States.

The Foreign Missions Act Designation and Determination 2024-01,  
dated May 28, 2024, is enclosed for reference.

Questions regarding this matter may be send to [OFM-  
Policy@state.gov](mailto:OFM-Policy@state.gov).

Enclosure:

As stated.

Department of State,

Washington, June 3, 2024.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of stylized, overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

DESIGNATION & DETERMINATION PURSUANT TO THE FOREIGN MISSIONS ACT

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Secretary of State under the Foreign Missions Act, 22 U.S.C. § 4301 et seq. ("the Act"), and delegated pursuant to Department of State Delegation of Authority No. 484 of May 26, 2020, and after due consideration of the benefits, privileges, and immunities provided to missions of the United States abroad, as well as matters related to the protection of the interests of the United States, I hereby designate the acquisition and reissuance of motor vehicle license plates which bear any of the following terms or words by members of foreign missions who are accredited by the Department of State as honorary consuls as a benefit as defined in 22 U.S.C. § 4302(a)(1):

1. Consul;
2. Diplomat;
3. Envoy;
4. Foreign Mission Member;
5. Honorary Consul;
6. Consular Corps;
7. Foreign Consul;
8. Honorary Consular Officer; or
9. Any other words or terms that aim to describe or reference the individual's status as an honorary consul.

Additionally, I hereby determine it is reasonably necessary to achieve one or more of the purposes set forth in section 204(b) of the Act (22 U.S.C. § 4304(b)), to prohibit the issuance or reissuance of such motor vehicle license plates by U.S. states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the territories and possessions of the United States.

5/28/2024  
Date

  
Clifton Seagroves  
Principal Deputy Director  
Office of Foreign Missions