

ASSEMBLY, No. 111

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

218th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2018 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblyman JOE DANIELSEN

District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Gove, Assemblyman Rumpf, Assemblywomen Pinkin and Murphy

SYNOPSIS

Authorizes special Combat Action Badge license plate program.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee with technical review.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/25/2018)

1 **AN ACT** concerning Combat Action Badge license plates and
2 supplementing Title 39 of the Revised Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6

7 1. a. Upon proper application, the Chief Administrator of the
8 New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission shall issue Combat Action
9 Badge license plates for any motor vehicle owned or leased and
10 registered in this State. In addition to the registration number and
11 other markings or identification otherwise prescribed by law, the
12 license plate shall display the words, "Combat Action Badge" and
13 depict the Combat Action Badge emblem. The chief administrator,
14 in consultation with the Adjutant General of the New Jersey
15 Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, shall select the design
16 of the Combat Action Badge license plates. The Combat Action
17 Badge license plates shall be subject to the provisions of chapter 3
18 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes, except as hereinafter otherwise
19 specifically provided.

20 b. Application for issuance of a Combat Action Badge license
21 plate shall be made to the chief administrator on forms and in a
22 manner prescribed by the chief administrator. The application shall
23 include proof satisfactory to the chief administrator that the
24 applicant is a holder of the Combat Action Badge as certified on the
25 applicant's DD-214 form or on a Certificate of Release or Discharge
26 from Active Duty. In order to be deemed complete, an application
27 shall be accompanied by a fee of \$50, payable to the New Jersey
28 Motor Vehicle Commission, which shall be in addition to the fee
29 otherwise prescribed by law for the registration of motor vehicles.
30 The chief administrator shall collect annually, subsequent to the
31 year of issuance of the Combat Action Badge license plate, a \$10
32 fee for the license plate in addition to the fee otherwise prescribed
33 by law for the registration of a motor vehicle. The additional fees
34 required by this subsection shall be deposited in the "Combat
35 Action Badge License Plate Fund" created pursuant to subsection c.
36 of this section.

37 c. There is created in the Department of Treasury a special
38 non-lapsing fund to be known as the "Combat Action Badge
39 License Plate Fund." There shall be deposited in the fund the
40 amount collected from all license plate fees collected pursuant to
41 subsection b. of this section, less the amounts necessary to
42 reimburse the commission for administrative costs pursuant to
43 subsection d. of this section. Monies deposited in the fund shall be
44 appropriated annually to the New Jersey Department of Military
45 and Veterans Affairs and shall be used to support programs
46 benefiting combat veterans. Monies deposited in the fund shall be
47 held in interest-bearing accounts in public depositories as defined
48 pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1970, c.236 (C.17:9-41), and may be

1 invested or reinvested in securities approved by the State Treasurer.
2 Interest or other income earned on monies deposited into the fund,
3 and any monies which may be appropriated or otherwise become
4 available for the purposes of the fund, shall be credited to and
5 deposited in the fund for use as set forth in P.L. , c. (C.)
6 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

7 d. Prior to the deposit of the additional fees collected pursuant
8 to subsection b. of this section into the "Combat Action Badge
9 License Plate Fund," amounts thereof as are necessary shall be used
10 to reimburse the commission for all costs reasonably and actually
11 incurred, as stipulated by the chief administrator, for:

12 (1) producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing the
13 availability of the Combat Action Badge license plates; and

14 (2) any computer programming changes that may be initially
15 necessary to implement the Combat Action Badge license plate
16 program established by P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
17 Legislature as this bill), in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

18 The chief administrator shall annually certify to the State
19 Treasurer the average cost per license plate incurred in the
20 immediately preceding year by the commission in producing,
21 issuing, renewing, and publicizing the availability of the Combat
22 Action Badge license plates. The annual certification of the average
23 cost per license plate shall be approved by the Joint Budget
24 Oversight Committee, or its successor.

25 In the event that the average cost per license plate as certified by
26 the chief administrator and approved by the Joint Budget Oversight
27 Committee, or its successor, is greater than the \$50 application fee
28 established in subsection b. of this section in two consecutive fiscal
29 years, the chief administrator may discontinue the issuance of
30 Combat Action Badge license plates.

31 e. The chief administrator shall notify eligible motorists of the
32 opportunity to obtain Combat Action Badge license plates by
33 publicizing the availability of the license plates on the website of
34 the commission. The New Jersey Department of Military and
35 Veterans Affairs, and any other individual or entity designated by
36 the department, may publicize the availability of the Combat Action
37 Badge license plates in any manner that the department deems
38 appropriate.

39 f. The chief administrator and adjutant general shall develop
40 and enter into an inter-departmental memorandum of agreement
41 setting forth the procedures to be followed in carrying out their
42 respective responsibilities under P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
43 before the Legislature as this bill).

44 g. The adjutant general shall appoint a representative who shall
45 act as a liaison between the department and the commission. The
46 liaison shall represent the department in any and all
47 communications with the commission regarding the Combat Action

1 Badge license plates established by P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
2 before the Legislature as this bill).
3
4 2. a. No State or public funds shall be used by the commission
5 for the initial cost of:
6 (1) producing, issuing, and publicizing the availability of
7 Combat Action Badge license plates; or
8 (2) any computer programming changes which may be
9 necessary to implement the Combat Action Badge license plate
10 program established by P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
11 Legislature as this bill).
12 b. The New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans
13 Affairs, or other individual or entity designated by the department,
14 shall contribute non-public monies in an amount to be determined
15 by the chief administrator, not to exceed a total of \$25,000, to be
16 used to offset the initial costs incurred by the commission for
17 producing, issuing, and publicizing the availability of Combat
18 Action Badge license plates, and any computer programming which
19 may be necessary to implement the program. Concerned
20 organizations and individual donors may contribute monies to the
21 department to be used to offset the initial costs incurred by the
22 commission for the Combat Action Badge license plates authorized
23 by P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this
24 bill),. Any amount remaining after the payment of the initial cost
25 shall be deposited in the "Combat Action Badge License Plate
26 Fund" established pursuant to subsection c. of section 1 of
27 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).
28 c. The commission shall not begin designing, producing,
29 issuing, or publicizing the availability of the Combat Action Badge
30 license plates, or making any necessary computer programming
31 changes until the department has provided the commission with the
32 money necessary, as determined by the chief administrator pursuant
33 to subsection b. of this section, to offset the initial costs incurred by
34 the commission in establishing the Combat Action Badge license
35 plate program.
36
37 3. This act shall take effect immediately, but shall remain
38 inoperative until the first day of the seventh month following the
39 date on which the condition set forth in subsection c. of section 2 of
40 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)
41 has been satisfied. The chief administrator may take such
42 anticipatory acts in advance of that date as may be necessary for the
43 timely implementation of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
44 Legislature as this bill). P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
45 Legislature as this bill) shall expire if the condition set forth in
46 subsection c. of section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
47 the Legislature as this bill) is not satisfied by the last day of the
48 12th month following enactment.