

ASSEMBLY, No. 1359

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblywoman CLEOPATRA G. TUCKER

District 28 (Essex)

Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY

District 7 (Burlington)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Holley, DeAngelo, DePhillips, Danielsens and DiMaio

SYNOPSIS

Authorizes creation of Woman Veteran license plates.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/3/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning the creation of special Woman Veteran license
2 plates and supplementing chapter 3 of Title 39 of the Revised
3 Statutes.

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

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

20 b. Application for issuance of Woman Veteran license plates
21 shall be made to the chief administrator on forms and in a manner
22 prescribed by the chief administrator. The application shall include
23 proof satisfactory to the chief administrator that the applicant is a
24 veteran as certified on the applicant's DD-214 form or on a
25 Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty. In order to
26 be deemed complete, an application shall be accompanied by a fee
27 of \$50, payable to the commission, which shall be in addition to the
28 fees otherwise prescribed by law for the registration of a motor
29 vehicle.

30 The chief administrator shall collect annually, subsequent to the
31 year of issuance of the Woman Veteran license plates, a \$10 fee for
32 the license plates in addition to the fees otherwise prescribed by law
33 for the registration of a motor vehicle. The additional fees required
34 by this subsection shall be deposited in the "Woman Veteran
35 License Plate Fund" created pursuant to subsection c. of this
36 section.

37 c. There is created in the Department of the Treasury a special
38 non-lapsing fund to be known as the "Woman Veteran License
39 Plate Fund." There shall be deposited in the fund the amount
40 collected from all license plate fees collected pursuant to subsection
41 b. of this section. Monies deposited in the fund shall be
42 appropriated annually to the New Jersey Department of Military
43 and Veterans' Affairs and shall be used to support programs
44 benefiting female veterans, including grants for the provision of
45 shelter to homeless female veterans. Monies deposited in the fund
46 shall be held in interest bearing accounts in public depositories as
47 defined pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1970, c.236 (C.17:9-41), and
48 may be invested or reinvested in such securities as are approved by

1 the State Treasurer. Interest or other income earned on monies
2 deposited in the fund, and any monies which may be appropriated
3 or otherwise become available for the purposes of the fund, shall be
4 credited to and deposited in the fund for use as set forth in this
5 section.

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

11 (1) designing, producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing the
12 availability of the Woman Veteran license plates; and

13 (2) any computer programming changes that may be initially
14 necessary to implement the Woman Veteran license plate program
15 in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

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

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

29 e. The chief administrator shall notify eligible motorists of the
30 opportunity to obtain Woman Veteran license plates by publicizing
31 the availability of the license plates on the website of the
32 commission. The New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans'
33 Affairs, and any other individual or entity designated by the
34 department, may publicize the availability of the license plates in
35 any manner the organization deems appropriate.

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

41 g. The adjutant general shall appoint a representative who shall
42 act as a liaison between the department and the commission. The
43 liaison shall represent the department in any and all
44 communications with the commission regarding the license plates
45 established by P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature
46 as this bill).

1 2. a. State or public funds shall not be used by the
2 commission for the initial cost of:

3 (1) designing, producing, issuing, and publicizing the
4 availability of Woman Veteran license plates; or

5 (2) any computer programming changes which may be
6 necessary to implement the Woman Veteran license plate program
7 established by P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
8 Legislature as this bill).

9 b. An individual or entity designated by the New Jersey
10 Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs shall contribute non-
11 public monies in an amount to be determined by the chief
12 administrator, not to exceed a total of \$25,000, to be used to offset
13 the initial costs incurred by the commission for designing,
14 producing, issuing, and publicizing the availability of Woman
15 Veteran license plates, and any computer programming which may
16 be necessary to implement the program. Concerned organizations
17 and individual donors may contribute monies to the department to
18 be used to offset the initial costs incurred by the commission for the
19 Woman Veteran license plates authorized by P.L. , c. (C.)
20 (pending before the Legislature as this bill). Any amount remaining
21 after the payment of the initial cost shall be deposited in the
22 "Woman Veteran License Plate Fund" established pursuant to
23 subsection c. of section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
24 the Legislature as this bill).

25 c. The commission shall not begin designing, producing,
26 issuing, or publicizing the availability of Woman Veteran license
27 plates, or making any necessary programming changes, until the
28 following requirements have been met:

29 (1) The individual or entity designated by the New Jersey
30 Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs has provided the
31 commission with the money necessary, as determined by the chief
32 administrator pursuant to subsection b. of this section, to offset the
33 initial costs incurred by the commission in establishing the Woman
34 Veteran license plate program; and

35 (2) The liaison appointed by the department pursuant to
36 subsection g. of section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
37 the Legislature as this bill) has provided the commission with not
38 less than 500 completed applications for Woman Veteran license
39 plates. These applications shall constitute the initial order for
40 Woman Veteran license plates and shall be accompanied by a fee
41 representing the total cost of the initial order. The fee shall be
42 determined by multiplying the number of sets of license plates
43 being ordered by the applicable initial fee for each set of license
44 plates as set forth in subsection b. of section 1 of
45 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).
46

47 3. This act shall take effect immediately, but shall remain
48 inoperative until the first day of the 13th month following the date

1 on which the conditions set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2) of
2 subsection c. of section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
3 the Legislature as this bill) have been satisfied. The chief
4 administrator may take such anticipatory actions in advance of that
5 date as may be necessary for the timely implementation of
6 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).
7 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)
8 shall expire if the conditions set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2) of
9 subsection c. of section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
10 the Legislature as this bill) are not satisfied by the last day of the
11 12th month following enactment.

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STATEMENT

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16 This bill authorizes the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission
17 (commission) to issue special Woman Veteran license plates.

18 The license plate is to display the words, "Woman Veteran,"
19 along with the registration number and other markings or
20 identification otherwise prescribed by law. An application to obtain
21 a Woman Veteran license plate is to include satisfactory proof that
22 the applicant is a veteran as evidenced by the applicant's DD-214
23 form or on a Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty.

24 In addition to the required motor vehicle registration fees, there
25 is an application fee of \$50 and an annual renewal fee of \$10 for the
26 Woman Veteran license plates. After deducting the cost of
27 producing and publicizing the plates, the additional fees collected
28 will be deposited into the "Woman Veteran License Plate Fund"
29 and the funds will be appropriated annually to the New Jersey
30 Department of Military Veterans' Affairs (department) for
31 programs to benefit female veterans, including providing shelter to
32 homeless female veterans as grants.

33 The Chief Administrator of the commission is required to
34 annually certify the average cost of producing, issuing, and
35 publicizing the availability of the specialty license plates. If the
36 average cost per plate exceeds \$50 in two consecutive fiscal years,
37 the chief administrator may discontinue the Woman Veteran license
38 plate program. The bill also requires that the Adjutant General of
39 the department appoint a liaison to represent the department in all
40 communications with the commission regarding the Woman
41 Veteran license plates.

42 The bill provides that State or other public funds may not be
43 used by the commission for the initial cost to implement the
44 Woman Veteran license plate program. The bill requires an
45 individual or entity designated by the department to contribute non-
46 public monies, not to exceed \$25,000, to offset the initial costs to
47 design, produce, issue, and publicize the license plates. The bill

1 authorizes the department to receive funds from private sources to
2 be used to offset the initial costs.

3 The chief administrator is not required to design, produce, issue,
4 or publicize the availability of the Woman Veteran license plates,
5 until: (1) an individual or entity designated by the department has
6 provided the commission with the money necessary to offset the
7 initial costs incurred by the commission in establishing the Woman
8 Veteran license plate program; and department, or its designee, has
9 provided the commission with a minimum of 500 completed
10 applications for the Woman Veteran license plates, upon the
11 availability for purchase of those license plates.

12 The provisions of the bill will remain inoperative until the
13 appropriate applications and fees required to offset the initial costs
14 incurred by the commission are provided by the department's
15 designee. The bill expires after 12 months if sufficient applications
16 and fees to offset the initial costs are not received.