

**ASSEMBLY, No. 3506**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**219th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 25, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman ERIK PETERSON**

**District 23 (Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren)**

**Assemblyman JAY WEBBER**

**District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Authorizes special Support Our Veterans license plate with proceeds supporting New Jersey homeless veteran's centers.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 7/2/2020)**

1 AN ACT concerning special Support Our Veterans license plates and  
2 supplementing chapter 3 of 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. Upon proper application, the Chief Administrator of the  
8 New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission shall issue “Support Our  
9 Veterans” license plates for any motor vehicle owned or leased and  
10 registered in the State. In addition to the registration number and  
11 other markings or identification otherwise prescribed by law, the  
12 “Support Our Veterans” license plate shall display appropriate  
13 words and an emblem honoring the nation’s veterans. The chief  
14 administrator, in consultation with the New Jersey Department of  
15 Military and Veterans Affairs, shall choose the design, including an  
16 emblem and a color scheme. “Support Our Veterans” license plates  
17 shall be subject to the provisions of chapter 3 of Title 39 of the  
18 Revised Statutes, except as provided pursuant to P.L. ,  
19 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

20  
21 2. Application for issuance of a “Support Our Veterans” license  
22 plate shall be made to the chief administrator on forms and in a  
23 manner prescribed by the chief administrator. In order to be deemed  
24 complete, an application shall be accompanied by a fee of \$50,  
25 payable to the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, which shall  
26 be in addition to the fee otherwise prescribed by law for the  
27 registration of motor vehicles. The chief administrator shall collect  
28 annually, subsequent to the year of issuance of the “Support Our  
29 Veterans” license plate, a \$10 fee for the license plate in addition to  
30 the fees otherwise prescribed by law for the registration of a motor  
31 vehicle. The additional fees required by this section shall be  
32 deposited in the “Support Our Veterans License Plate Fund” created  
33 pursuant to section 3 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the  
34 Legislature as this bill).

35  
36 3. a. There is created in the Department of the Treasury a  
37 special non-lapsing fund to be known as the “Support Our Veterans  
38 License Plate Fund.” There shall be deposited into the fund the  
39 amount collected from all license plate fees collected pursuant to  
40 section 2 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature  
41 as this bill), less the amounts necessary to reimburse the New Jersey  
42 Motor Vehicle Commission for administrative costs pursuant to this  
43 section. The monies in the fund shall be appropriated annually to  
44 the Veterans Haven Council within the Division of Veterans'  
45 Services in the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans'  
46 Affairs, established pursuant to P.L.2011, c.170 (C.38A:3-47 et  
47 seq.), to support services for the benefit of veterans housed at the  
48 Veterans Haven facility and duties of the council. Monies

1 deposited in the fund shall be held in interest-bearing accounts in  
2 public depositories as defined pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1970,  
3 c.236 (C.17:9-41), and may be invested or reinvested in such  
4 securities as are approved by the State Treasurer. Interest or other  
5 income earned on monies deposited in the fund, and any monies  
6 which may be appropriated or otherwise become available for the  
7 purposes of the fund, shall be credited to and deposited in the fund  
8 for use as set forth in P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the  
9 Legislature as this bill).

10 b. Prior to the deposit of license plate fees collected pursuant to  
11 section 2 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature  
12 as this bill) into the fund, amounts thereof as are necessary shall be  
13 used to reimburse the commission for all costs reasonably and  
14 actually incurred, as stipulated by the chief administrator, for: (1)  
15 producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing the availability of  
16 "Support Our Veterans" license plates; and (2) any computer  
17 programming changes that may be initially necessary to implement  
18 the "Support Our Veterans" license plate program established by  
19 P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill),  
20 in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

21 c. The chief administrator annually shall certify to the State  
22 Treasurer the average cost per license plate incurred in the  
23 immediately preceding year by the commission in producing,  
24 issuing, renewing, and publicizing the availability of "Support Our  
25 Veterans" license plates. The annual certification of the average  
26 cost per license plate shall be approved by the Joint Budget  
27 Oversight Committee, or its successor.

28 d. In the event that the average cost per license plate as  
29 certified by the chief administrator and approved by the Joint  
30 Budget Oversight Committee, or its successor, is greater than the  
31 \$50 application fee established in section 2 of P.L. ,  
32 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) in two  
33 consecutive fiscal years, the chief administrator may discontinue  
34 the issuance of "Support Our Veterans" license plates.

35  
36 4. a. The chief administrator shall notify eligible motorists of  
37 the opportunity to obtain Support Our Veterans license plates by  
38 publicizing the availability of the license plates on the website of  
39 the commission. The Veterans Haven Council, and any other  
40 individual or entity designated by the Veterans Haven Council, may  
41 publicize the availability of "Support Our Veterans" license plates  
42 in any manner the Veterans Haven Council deems appropriate.

43 b. The chief administrator and the Veterans Haven Council  
44 shall develop and enter into an interagency memorandum of  
45 agreement setting forth the procedures to be followed in carrying  
46 out their respective responsibilities under P.L. , c. (C. )  
47 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

1 c. The Veterans Haven Council shall appoint a representative  
2 who shall act as a liaison between the council and the commission.  
3 The liaison shall represent the Veterans Haven Council in any and  
4 all communications with the commission regarding the “Support  
5 Our Veterans” license plates established by P.L. , c. (C. )  
6 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

7  
8 5. a. No State or other public funds shall be used by the  
9 commission for the initial cost of:

10 (1) producing, issuing, and publicizing the availability of  
11 “Support Our Veterans” license plates; or

12 (2) any computer programming changes which may be  
13 necessary to implement the “Support Our Veterans” license plate  
14 program established by P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the  
15 Legislature as this bill).

16 b. The Veterans Haven Council or other individual or entity  
17 designated by the Veterans Haven Council, shall contribute monies  
18 in an amount to be determined by the chief administrator, not to  
19 exceed a total of \$25,000, to be used to offset the initial costs  
20 incurred by the commission for producing, issuing, and publicizing  
21 the availability of “Support Our Veterans” license plates, and any  
22 computer programming which may be necessary to implement the  
23 program. To further help offset the initial costs incurred by the  
24 commission for the special license plates authorized by P.L. ,  
25 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), other  
26 concerned organizations and individual donors may contribute  
27 monies to the Veterans Haven Council, or an individual or entity  
28 designated by the Veterans Haven Council, for this purpose. Any  
29 amount remaining after the payment of the initial costs shall be  
30 deposited in the “Support Our Veterans License Plate Fund”  
31 established pursuant to subsection a. of section 3 of P.L. ,  
32 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

33 c. The commission shall not begin designing, producing,  
34 issuing, or publicizing the availability of “Support Our Veterans”  
35 license plates, or making any necessary programming changes, until  
36 the following requirements have been met:

37 (1) The Veterans Haven Council or the individual or entity  
38 designated by the Veterans Haven Council, has provided the  
39 commission with the money necessary, as determined by the chief  
40 administrator pursuant to subsection b. of this section, to offset the  
41 initial costs incurred by the commission in establishing the  
42 “Support Our Veterans” license plate program; and

43 (2) The liaison appointed by the Veterans Haven Council  
44 pursuant to subsection c. of section 4 of P.L. , c. (C. )  
45 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) has provided the  
46 commission with not less than 500 completed applications for  
47 “Support Our Veterans” license plates. These applications shall  
48 constitute the initial order for “Support Our Veterans” license plates

1 and shall be accompanied by a fee representing the total cost of the  
2 initial order. Such fee shall be determined by multiplying the  
3 number of sets of plates being ordered by the applicable initial fee  
4 for each set of plates as set forth in section 2 of P.L. ,  
5 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

6  
7 6. This act shall take effect immediately, but shall remain  
8 inoperable until the first day of the seventh month following the  
9 date on which the conditions set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2) of  
10 subsection c. of section 5 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before  
11 the Legislature as this bill) have been satisfied. The chief  
12 administrator may take such anticipatory acts in advance of that  
13 date as may be necessary for the timely implementation of P.L. ,  
14 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). P.L. ,  
15 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)) shall  
16 expire if the conditions set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2) of  
17 subsection c. of section 5 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before  
18 the Legislature as this bill) are not satisfied by the last day of the  
19 12th month following enactment.

## 20 21 22 STATEMENT

23  
24 This bill authorizes a special Support Our Veterans license plate  
25 with the proceeds supporting New Jersey homeless veterans'  
26 centers, Veterans Haven, North and South.

27 The design of the license plate would be chosen by the Chief  
28 Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission in  
29 consultation with the Division of Veterans' Services in the New  
30 Jersey Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs (NJDMAVA).

31 There is a \$50 initial fee, in addition to the registration fees  
32 required by law, with a \$10 annual fee, in addition to the renewal  
33 fees required by law. The additional fees, after the deduction of the  
34 cost of producing and publicizing the plates, will be deposited into a  
35 special non-lapsing fund known as the "Support Our Veterans  
36 License Plate Fund." The proceeds of the fund are to be annually  
37 appropriated to the Veterans Haven Council within the  
38 (NJDMAVA).

39 The chief administrator is required to annually certify the  
40 average cost per license plate in producing, issuing, and publicizing  
41 the Support Our Veterans license plates. If the average cost  
42 exceeds \$50 for two consecutive fiscal years, the chief  
43 administrator may discontinue the license plate program.

44 The bill provides that no State or other public funds may be used  
45 by the commission for the initial cost of producing, issuing, and  
46 publicizing the availability of Support Our Veterans license plates  
47 or any computer programming changes which may be necessary to  
48 implement the Support Our Veterans license plate program.

1       The bill also requires that the Veterans Haven Council or other  
2 individual or entity designated by the Veterans Haven Council,  
3 contribute monies in an amount to be determined by the chief  
4 administrator, not to exceed a total of \$25,000, to be used to offset  
5 the initial costs incurred by the commission for producing, issuing,  
6 and publicizing the availability of Support Our Veterans license  
7 plates, and any computer programming which may be necessary to  
8 implement the program.

9       The bill prohibits the commission from designing, producing,  
10 issuing, or publicizing the availability of Support Our Veterans  
11 license plates, or making any necessary programming changes,  
12 until: (1) the Veterans Haven Council, or its designee, has provided  
13 the commission with the money necessary to offset the initial costs  
14 incurred by the commission in establishing the Support Our  
15 Veterans license plate program; and (2) the Veterans Haven  
16 Council, or its designee, has provided the commission with a  
17 minimum of 500 completed applications for Support Our Veterans  
18 license plates, upon the availability for purchase of those plates.

19       The chief administrator is responsible for publicizing the  
20 availability of the license plates on the commission's website. The  
21 Veterans Haven Council or any individual or entity designated by  
22 the Veterans Haven Council, may also publicize the availability of  
23 Support Our Veterans license plates in any manner the Veterans  
24 Haven Council deems appropriate.

25       The provisions of the bill remain inoperative until the  
26 appropriate applications and fees required to offset the initial costs  
27 incurred by the commission are provided by the board, and the bill  
28 expires after 12 months if sufficient applications and fees to offset  
29 the initial costs are not received.