

ASSEMBLY, No. 2809

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 20, 1997

By Assemblymen BUCCO, AZZOLINA, Carroll,  
Assemblywoman Murphy, Assemblymen Talarico and DeCroce

1 AN ACT providing for the issuance of special license plates to Purple  
2 Heart recipients and supplementing chapter 3 of Title 39 of the  
3 Revised Statutes.

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

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8 1. a. Upon application of a person who has been awarded a Purple  
9 Heart as certified on the applicant's DD-214 form or on a Certificate  
10 of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, the Director of the Division  
11 of Motor Vehicles shall issue for a motor vehicle owned or leased by  
12 the applicant special license plates bearing a design, as determined by  
13 the director, identifying the applicant as a Purple Heart recipient, in  
14 addition to the registration number and other markings or  
15 identification otherwise prescribed by law.

16 b. The application for special Purple Heart license plates shall be  
17 accompanied by a \$15 application fee, payable to the Division of  
18 Motor Vehicles, which shall be in addition to fees otherwise required  
19 by law. The application fee shall be retained by the division to cover  
20 its costs for producing and issuing Purple Heart license plates.

21 c. The surviving spouse of a deceased Purple Heart recipient may  
22 retain the special license plates issued to the recipient for display on a  
23 motor vehicle registered to the spouse pursuant to R.S.39:3-4 if the  
24 spouse is licensed to drive in this State pursuant to R.S.39:3-10.

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26 2. This act shall take effect on the 180th day after enactment, but  
27 the director may take anticipatory action in advance of that date as  
28 may be necessary for the timely implementation of this act upon its  
29 effective date.

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32 STATEMENT

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34 This bill authorizes the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles  
35 in the Department of Transportation to issue special license plates to  
36 recipients of a Purple Heart, the decoration awarded to persons

1 wounded in action while serving in the United States armed forces.  
2 Under the current law, special Purple Heart plates are issued only to  
3 members of service organizations, such as the Military Order of the  
4 Purple Heart.

5 The license plates authorized by this bill would bear a design  
6 approved by the director identifying the registrant as a recipient of the  
7 Purple Heart, in addition to other markings or identification otherwise  
8 prescribed by law. There would be a \$15 application fee to obtain the  
9 special plates which would be in addition to the normal registration  
10 fee. The application fee would be retained by the Division of Motor  
11 Vehicles to cover the cost of producing and issuing the plates. The  
12 bill would also allow surviving spouses of deceased Purple Heart  
13 recipients to retain the special license plates.

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18 Provides special license plates for Purple Heart recipients.