

SENATE, No. 1653

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 28, 1996

By Senator MARTIN

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. There shall be no cost to the applicant for the special Purple  
17 Heart plates other than motor vehicle registration fees otherwise  
18 required by law.

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

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

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30 STATEMENT

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32 This bill authorizes the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles  
33 in the Department of Transportation to issue special license plates to  
34 recipients of a Purple Heart, the decoration awarded to persons  
35 wounded in action while serving in the United States armed forces.  
36 Under the current law, special Purple Heart plates are issued only to  
37 members of service organizations, such as the Military Order of the

1 Purple Heart.

2 The license plates authorized by this bill would bear a design  
3 approved by the director identifying the registrant as a recipient of the  
4 Purple Heart, in addition to other markings or identification otherwise  
5 prescribed by law. There would be no fee required to obtain the  
6 special plates other than the normal registration fee. The bill would  
7 also allow surviving spouses of deceased Purple Heart recipients to  
8 retain the special license plates.

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13 Provides special license plates for Purple Heart recipients.