

SENATE, No. 1718

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 16, 1996

By Senators KYRILLOS and SINGER

1 AN ACT providing for the issuance of special license plates to military
2 veterans and supplementing chapter 3 of Title 39 of the Revised
3 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. As used in this act:

9 "Armed forces" means the United States Air Force, Army, Coast
10 Guard, Marines or Navy.

11 "Veteran" means a person who has been honorably discharged or
12 released under honorable circumstances from active military service in
13 a branch of the armed forces.

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15 2. a. Upon the application of a person who qualifies as a veteran
16 of the armed forces, the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles
17 shall issue for a motor vehicle owned or leased by the applicant special
18 license plates bearing the word "VETERAN," in addition to the other
19 markings or identification otherwise prescribed by law. The special
20 plates also may contain an appropriate slogan or emblem, or a
21 designation of the war or conflict in which the veteran served, as
22 determined by the director in consultation with the Adjutant General
23 of the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs and
24 representatives of veterans' organizations. A veteran shall not use the
25 special plates on a motor vehicle other than the vehicle for which they
26 were issued.

27 b. The fee for a special veterans' license plate issued pursuant to
28 this act shall be \$25, in addition to fees otherwise required by law.

29 c. The surviving spouse of a deceased veteran may retain the
30 special license plates issued to the veteran under this act for display on
31 a motor vehicle registered to the spouse pursuant to R.S.39:3-4 if the
32 spouse is licensed to drive in this State pursuant to R.S.39:3-10.

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34 3. This act shall take effect on the 180th day after enactment, but
35 the director may take such anticipatory acts in advance of that date as
36 may be necessary for the timely implementation of this act upon its
37 effective date.

STATEMENT

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3 This bill authorizes the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles
4 in the Department of Transportation to issue special license plates to
5 any veteran who has been honorably discharged or released under
6 honorable circumstances from active military duty in the United States
7 armed forces. The bill defines "armed forces" as the United States Air
8 Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines and Navy.

9 Under the current law, special veteran plates can only be obtained
10 by veterans who are affiliated with a veterans' organization or who
11 have received an award.

12 The special license plates are to bear the word "VETERAN," in
13 addition to other markings or identification otherwise prescribed by
14 law. The plates also may contain an appropriate slogan or emblem,
15 such as a designation of the war or conflict in which the veteran
16 served, to be determined by the director after consultation with the
17 Adjutant General of the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs
18 and representatives of veterans' organizations. The fee to obtain the
19 plates is \$25, in addition to fees otherwise required by law. The
20 special plates may not be used on any motor vehicle other than the
21 vehicle for which they were issued.

22 This bill also allows the surviving spouse of a deceased veteran who
23 had been issued the special veteran license plates to retain the plates
24 for a motor vehicle properly registered to the surviving spouse,
25 provided the surviving spouse is eligible to operate the motor vehicle
26 in this State.

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31 Provides for the issuance of special motor vehicle license plates to
32 certain veterans.