

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL 92

**50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011**

AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF LAW  
PROVIDING FOR ARMED FORCES SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES TO ALLOW  
A VETERAN-DESIGNATION DECAL FOR MEDALS WITHIN A CATEGORY OF  
PERSONAL AWARDS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**SECTION 1.** Section 66-3-419 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1990,  
Chapter 46, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-3-419. SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES FOR ARMED FORCES  
VETERANS.--

A. The department shall issue distinctive  
registration plates indicating that the recipient is a veteran  
of the armed forces of the United States [~~as defined in Section  
28-13-7 NMSA 1978~~] or is retired from the national guard or  
military reserves if that person submits proof satisfactory to

.186029.3

underscoring material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1 the department of honorable discharge from the armed forces or  
2 of retirement from the national guard or military reserves.

3 B. For a fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00), which  
4 ~~[shall be]~~ is in addition to the regular motor vehicle  
5 registration fees, any motor vehicle owner who is a veteran of  
6 the armed forces of the United States or is retired from the  
7 national guard or military reserves may apply for the issuance  
8 of a special registration plate, as defined in Subsection A of  
9 this section. No two owners shall be issued identically  
10 lettered or numbered plates.

11 C. The fifteen-dollar (\$15.00) fee provided in  
12 Subsection B of this section shall be waived for each  
13 registration period in which a validating sticker is issued  
14 under the provisions of Section 66-3-17 NMSA 1978, in lieu of  
15 the issuance of a special armed forces veteran plate.

16 D. Each armed forces veteran may elect to receive a  
17 veteran-designation decal to be placed ~~[across the top of the~~  
18 ~~plate, centered above the registration number]~~ in a dominant  
19 and blank space on the registration plate as determined by the  
20 department. Replacement or different veteran-designation  
21 decals shall be available for purchase from the department at a  
22 reasonable charge to be set by the secretary. The department  
23 shall furnish the following veteran-designation decals with the  
24 armed forces veteran plate to a:

25 [~~(1) medal of honor recipient;~~

1                   ~~(2) silver star recipient;~~  
 2                   ~~(3) bronze star recipient;~~  
 3                   ~~(4) navy cross recipient;~~  
 4                   ~~(5) distinguished service cross recipient;~~  
 5                   ~~(6) air force cross recipient;~~  
 6                   ~~(7)]~~ (1) recipient of a personal award medal  
 7 from, in order of descending precedence as established by the  
 8 United States armed forces, the medal of honor to a military  
 9 branch achievement medal;

10                   (2) ex-prisoner of war;  
 11                   ~~[8)]~~ (3) disabled veteran;  
 12                   ~~[9)]~~ ~~purple heart veteran;~~  
 13                   ~~[10)]~~ (4) atomic veteran;  
 14                   ~~[11)]~~ (5) Pearl Harbor survivor;  
 15                   ~~[12)]~~ (6) Navajo code talker;  
 16                   ~~[13)]~~ (7) Vietnam veteran;  
 17                   ~~[14)]~~ (8) Korean veteran;  
 18                   ~~[15)]~~ (9) disabled Korean veteran;  
 19                   ~~[16)]~~ (10) World War II veteran;  
 20                   ~~[17)]~~ (11) World War I veteran;  
 21                   ~~[18)]~~ (12) Grenada veteran;  
 22                   ~~[19)]~~ (13) Panama veteran;  
 23                   ~~[20)]~~ (14) Desert Storm veteran; or  
 24                   ~~[21)]~~ (15) Iraqi Freedom veteran.

25                   E. The revenue from the special registration plates

1 for the armed forces veterans fee imposed by Subsection B of  
2 this section shall be distributed as follows:

3 (1) seven dollars (\$7.00) of the fee collected  
4 for each registration plate shall be retained by the department  
5 and is appropriated to the department for the manufacture and  
6 issuance of the registration plates; and

7 (2) eight dollars (\$8.00) of the fee collected  
8 for each registration plate shall be transferred pursuant to  
9 the provisions of Subsection F of this section.

10 F. There is created in the state treasury the  
11 "armed forces veterans license fund". A portion of the fee  
12 collected for each special registration plate for armed forces  
13 veterans, as provided in Subsection E of this section, shall be  
14 transferred to the state treasurer for the credit of the fund.  
15 Expenditures from the fund shall be made on vouchers issued and  
16 signed by the secretary of veterans' services or [~~his~~] the  
17 secretary's authorized representative upon warrants drawn by  
18 the department of finance and administration for the purpose of  
19 expanding services to rural areas of the state, including  
20 Native American communities and senior citizen centers. Any  
21 unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of any  
22 fiscal year in the armed forces veterans license fund shall not  
23 revert to the general fund."