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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Steinborn **ORIGINAL DATE** 02/06/14
LAST UPDATED _____ **HB** 347
SHORT TITLE 50% Or More Disabled Veteran License Plates **SB** _____
ANALYST Cerny

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY14	FY15	FY16		
	(Indeterminate)	(Indeterminate)	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Revenue Decreases)

Conflicts with SB 154

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 347 amends Section 66-3-412 NMSA 1978 which deals with Special Registration motor vehicle plates for veterans who are fifty percent or more disabled. HB 347 in its title states that it provides “disabled veterans with a choice of free license plates.”

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Fiscal impact is indeterminate.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The language of this bill appears to conflict with its intent as expressed in the title. Current statute already allows for free issuance to qualified disabled veterans with disabilities at 50% or more of “distinctive registration plates for up to two vehicles” at no cost to the veteran, including the regular registration fees. This bill extends the language to include “distinctive plates” but then indicates that the “no fee” aspect of this section is “notwithstanding the fee that otherwise would be collected for issuance of that distinctive or special registration plate.”

Further, section B, in new language, state that a “person eligible for a distinctive plate pursuant

to this section shall be issued only one special or distinctive registration plate of the person's choice." This language appears to conflict with the language in section 1A that provides two distinctive plates to the veteran.

CONFLICT

SB 154 Extra License Plates for Purple Hearts is providing additional plates for those who have received two or more Purple Hearts.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

Language needs to be clarified to reflect intent of the title of the bill.

CAC/ds