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HOUSE BILL 660

44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999

INTRODUCED BY

Gloria C. Vaughn

AN ACT

RELATING TO LICENSE PLATES; EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY FOR
VETERANS' REGISTRATION PLATES TO PERSONS RETIRED FROM THE
NATIONAL GUARD AND MILITARY RESERVES.

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 [~~division~~] 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 the [~~division~~] department of honorable

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

3 B. For a fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00), which
4 shall be in addition to the regular motor vehicle registration
5 fees, any motor vehicle owner who is a veteran of the armed
6 forces of the United States or is retired from the national
7 guard or military reserves may apply for the issuance of a
8 special registration plate as defined in Subsection A of this
9 section. No two owners shall be issued identically lettered
10 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
17 a veteran-designation decal to be placed across the top of the
18 plate, centered above the registration number [~~in lieu of the~~
19 ~~county-designation decal specified in Subsection H of Section~~
20 ~~66-3-14 NMSA 1978~~]. Replacement or different veteran-
21 designation decals shall be available for purchase from the
22 [~~division~~] department at a reasonable charge to be set by the
23 [~~director~~] secretary. The department shall furnish the
24 following veteran-designation decals with the armed forces
25 veteran plate to a:

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- 1 (1) medal of honor recipient;
- 2 (2) silver star recipient;
- 3 (3) bronze star recipient;
- 4 (4) navy cross recipient;
- 5 (5) distinguished service cross recipient;
- 6 (6) air force cross recipient;
- 7 (7) ex-prisoner of war;
- 8 (8) disabled veteran;
- 9 (9) purple heart veteran;
- 10 (10) atomic veteran;
- 11 (11) Pearl Harbor survivor;
- 12 (12) Navajo code talker;
- 13 (13) Vietnam veteran;
- 14 (14) Korean veteran;
- 15 (15) disabled Korean veteran;
- 16 (16) World War II veteran;
- 17 (17) World War I veteran;
- 18 (18) Grenada veteran;
- 19 (19) Panama veteran; [~~and~~] or
- 20 (20) Desert Storm veteran.

21 E. The revenue from the special registration
22 plates for the armed forces veterans fee imposed by Subsection
23 B of this section shall be distributed as follows:

- 24 (1) seven dollars (\$7.00) of the fee
25 collected for each registration plate shall be retained by the

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1 ~~[division]~~ department and is appropriated to the ~~[division]~~
2 department for the manufacture and issuance of the
3 registration plates; and

4 (2) eight dollars (\$8.00) of the fee
5 collected for each registration plate shall be transferred
6 ~~[under]~~ pursuant to the provisions of Subsection F of this
7 section.

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

1 FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

2 FIRST SESSION, 1999

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4
5
6 February 25, 1999

7
8 Mr. Speaker:

9
10 Your TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE, to whom has been
11 referred

12
13 HOUSE BILL 660

14
15 has had it under consideration and reports same with
16 recommendation that it DO PASS.

17 Respectfully submitted,

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21 _____
22 Daniel P. Silva, Chairman
23
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FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1999

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4 Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

6 (Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

8 Date _____

10 The roll call vote was 10 For 0 Against

11 Yes: 10

12 Excused: Chavez, Godbey, Whitaker

13 Absent: None

15 J: \99BillSWP\H0660

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