



Joseph G. Aninao

Bill Analysis
Legislative Service Commission

H.B. 370
123rd General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Rep. Salerno

BILL SUMMARY

- Eliminates all state and local taxes and service fees charged or levied in connection with the issuance and renewal of Purple Heart license plates.
- Eliminates the provision that permits an application for Purple Heart license plates to be combined with a request for special reserved license plates.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Special license plates for those persons who have been awarded the Purple Heart

Current law

Under current law, any person who has been awarded the Purple Heart may apply to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles for the registration of one passenger car, noncommercial motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, or other vehicle of a class approved by the Registrar that the person owns or leases. The application must be accompanied by any documentary evidence in support of the award that the Registrar may require and may be combined with a request for a special reserved license plate provided under existing law.

Upon receipt of an application for registration of a motor vehicle under these provisions and the required taxes and fees, and presentation of the required supporting evidence of the award of the Purple Heart, the Registrar must issue to the applicant the appropriate motor vehicle registration and a set of license plates and a validation sticker, or a validation sticker alone when required by existing law.

In addition to the letters and numbers ordinarily inscribed on license plates, these special license plates are inscribed with the words "PURPLE HEART."

They also must bear county identification stickers that identify the county of registration by name or number.

The license plates and validation stickers are issued upon payment of the regular license fee, any applicable local motor vehicle license tax, and an additional fee of \$10 and compliance with all other applicable laws. If the application is combined with a request for a special reserved license plate under existing law, the license plates and validation sticker are issued upon payment of the fees and taxes referred to in this paragraph and the applicable additional fee prescribed in existing law. The additional fee of \$10 is for the purpose of compensating the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) for additional services required in the issuing of Purple Heart license plates, and the Registrar transmits all such fees to the Treasurer of State for deposit into the state treasury to the credit of the existing State Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

No person who is not a recipient of the Purple Heart may willfully and falsely represent that the person is a recipient of a Purple Heart for the purpose of obtaining Purple Heart license plates. No person may own a motor vehicle bearing Purple Heart license plates unless the person is eligible to be issued such license plates. (R.C. 4503.571.)

Regardless of whether a person submits an initial application for Purple Heart license plates or a registration renewal application to a deputy registrar or directly to the Registrar, the person must pay a service fee of \$2.25. If a person renews the registration for Purple Heart license plates by mail, the person also must pay a service fee of \$2.25. (R.C. 4503.10(D) and (G) and 4503.102(C), not in the bill.)

Operation of the bill

The bill eliminates the provision that specifically permits an application for Purple Heart license plates to be combined with a request for a special reserved license plate and all provisions relating to such a request.

The bill that requires Purple Heart license plates and validation stickers be issued without the payment of any license tax or service fee, including the \$2.25 Registrar and deputy registrar service fee reviewed in the preceding portion of this analysis, and without the payment of any applicable local motor vehicle license tax, so long as there is compliance with all other applicable laws relating to the registration of motor vehicles. The bill also eliminates the additional \$10 fee the BMV currently collects for additional services required in the issuing of Purple Heart license plates. (R.C. 4503.571.)

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	06-01-99	p. 736

H0370-I.123/rss

