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Bill Analysis
Legislative Service Commission

H.B. 259

124th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Salerno, Collier, Calvert, Seitz, Boccieri, Evans, Flowers, Krupinski, Willamowski, Jones, Redfern, Allen, Coates, Strahorn, Schuring, Fessler, Reidelbach

BILL SUMMARY

- Creates a special motorcycle license plate for retired and honorably discharged veterans.
- Requires the veterans motorcycle license plate to be inscribed with the letters and numbers ordinarily inscribed on motorcycle license plates plus contain either an inscription or symbol representing veterans or the word "veteran" or be designed to display a sticker bearing the word "veteran."
- Exempts the veterans motorcycle license plate from the minimum registration requirements and termination and revival provisions of current law that generally apply to new special license plates.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Special veterans motorcycle license plate

The bill permits any person who is a retired or honorably discharged veteran of any branch of the armed forces of the United States to apply to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles for the registration of any motorcycle that the person owns or leases. The application must be accompanied by written evidence that the applicant is a retired or honorably discharged veteran of a branch of the armed forces of the United States that the Registrar requires by rule.

Upon receipt of an application for registration of a motorcycle under the bill, presentation of satisfactory evidence documenting that the applicant is a retired or honorably discharged veteran, and payment of the regular motorcycle license fee prescribed by current law, any local motor vehicle license tax, and an additional fee of \$10, the Registrar must issue to the applicant the appropriate

motor vehicle registration and a license plate and a validation sticker or a validation sticker alone when required by existing law.

The additional \$10 fee is compensation to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles for the additional services required in issuing the applicant's special veterans motorcycle license plate. The Registrar is required to deposit all such additional fees in the existing State Bureau of Motor Vehicles Fund. (Sec. 4503.541(A).)

Special veterans motorcycle license plates must be inscribed with the letters and numbers ordinarily inscribed on motorcycle license plates, except that the Registrar must provide for one of the following:

- (1) The license plates to contain an inscription or symbol representing U.S. veterans;
- (2) The plates to include the word "veteran"; or
- (3) The plates to be designed to display a sticker bearing the word "veteran." (Sec. 4503.541(B).)

Exemption from the minimum registration requirements and termination provisions generally applicable to special license plates

Under current law, certain enumerated special license plates and generally all special license plates created since October 21, 1997, are subject to a minimum registration requirement and to termination and revival procedures. For example, the Registrar is not required to implement any legislation that creates a new license plate until the Registrar receives written statements from at least 1,000 persons indicating that they intend to apply for and obtain the special license plate. (Sec. 4503.78, not in the bill.) If, during any calendar year, the total number of new and renewal motor vehicle registrations involving a particular type of nonstandard special license plate totals less than 1,000, the issuance of that special license plate may cease as of December 31 of the following year. The issuance of a special license plate whose issuance is so ended may be resumed if certain conditions are met. (Sec. 4503.77, not in the bill.)

The bill exempts the special veterans motorcycle license plate from both the minimum registration requirement and the termination and revival procedures (sec. 4503.541(C)). This is consistent with current law in which this requirement and the procedures are not applicable to the military-related special license plates that existed at the time of the enactment of the special license plate minimum requirement and the termination and revival procedures.

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	05-15-01	p. 426

h0259-i.124/kl

