

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 137

DATE: 4/25/95

(Filing No. H- 154)

TRANSPORTATION

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
117TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 102, L.D. 137, Bill, "An Act to Create a Purple Heart License Plate"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, a special registration plate is a means of giving recognition to recipients of the Purple Heart medal; and

Whereas, providing these plates in a timely manner is important to these distinguished individuals; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §524, sub-§4 is enacted to read:

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2 4. Purple Heart medal recipients; special license plates.
3 The Secretary of State, on application and upon evidence of
4 payment of the excise tax required by Title 36, section 1482, the
5 registration fee required by section 501 and a one-time
6 additional fee of \$10, shall issue a registration certificate and
7 a set of Purple Heart registration plates, to be used in lieu of
8 regular registration plates, to a person who is a Purple Heart
9 medal recipient. The one-time additional fee of \$10 is credited
10 to the Highway Fund for administrative and production costs.

11 An application for Purple Heart plates must be accompanied by
12 proof that the applicant has been awarded the Purple Heart
13 medal. The Secretary of State shall verify the documentation
14 presented by the applicant. Misrepresentation of documents is in
15 violation of section 2103, subsection 5.

16 The Secretary of State may only issue Purple Heart plates for
17 display on an automobile or pickup truck. A Purple Heart
18 recipient may be issued Purple Heart plates for no more than 2
19 vehicles.

20 The surviving spouse of a Purple Heart recipient issued plates in
21 accordance with this subsection may retain and display the Purple
22 Heart plates as long as the surviving spouse remains unmarried.
23 Upon remarriage, the surviving spouse may not use the Purple
24 Heart plates on a motor vehicle, but may retain them as a
25 keepsake. Upon the death of the surviving spouse, the family may
26 retain the Purple Heart plates, but may not use them on a motor
27 vehicle.

28 The Secretary of State shall determine the design of the Purple
29 Heart plate. Upon request and as provided by section 453, the
30 Secretary of State shall issue Purple Heart plates that are also
31 vanity plates. Purple Heart vanity plates are issued in
32 accordance with this section and section 453. The annual service
33 fee of \$15 for vanity plates is credited to the Highway Fund.

34 The Secretary of State shall begin issuing Purple Heart plates in
35 accordance with this subsection no later than November 1, 1995.

36 **Sec. 2. Allocation.** The following funds are allocated from the
37 Highway Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

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44 1994-95

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46 SECRETARY OF STATE,
47 DEPARTMENT OF THE

48 Administration - Motor
49 Vehicles
50

All Other \$30,960

Provides funds for the manufacturing and postage costs associated with creating a special license plate for recipients of the Purple Heart medal.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the statement of fact the following:

FISCAL NOTE

1994-95 1995-96

APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS

Highway Fund \$30,960

REVENUES

Highway Fund \$60,000

The Bureau of Motor Vehicles within the Department of the Secretary of State will require a Highway Fund allocation of \$30,960 in fiscal year 1994-95 for the manufacturing costs of a special license plate for recipients of the Purple Heart medal. The projected Highway Fund unappropriated surplus on June 30, 1995 is sufficient to cover this allocation so that a balanced budget is maintained.

The one-time fee of \$10 for a new pair of Purple Heart plates will increase Highway Fund revenue by \$60,000 in fiscal year 1995-96.'

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill authorizes the Secretary of State to issue special plates for recipients of the Purple Heart medal. The plates are only to be issued to vehicles in the automobile or pickup truck registration class. A Purple Heart medal recipient may be issued special plates for only 2 vehicles. The Secretary of State shall issue Purple Heart plates that are also vanity plates in accordance with the provisions of the vanity plate laws. The surviving spouse of a Purple Heart medal recipient who was issued Purple Heart plates may continue to use those plates. Family members may retain the plates after the recipient's death but may

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 102, L.D. 137

2 not display them on a vehicle. This amendment also adds an emergency preamble, an emergency clause, an allocation section and a fiscal note to the bill.