

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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A. 018

L.D. 2322

DATE: 2-11-00

(Filing No. H-789)

MAJORITY  
TRANSPORTATION

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
119TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1653, L.D. 2322, Bill, "An Act to Create a Purple Heart Motorcycle License Plate"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'An Act to Recognize Purple Heart Medal Recipients on Special Veterans Motorcycle License Plates'**

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

**'Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §523, sub-§2-A is enacted to read:**

2-A. Disabled veterans motorcycle license plate. The Secretary of State shall issue a registration certificate and special designating plate for a motorcycle to be used in lieu of a registration plate issued in subsection 2 to any 100% disabled veteran if an applicant submits the following together with an application:

A. Evidence of payment of the excise tax required by Title 36, section 1482; and

B. Certification from the United States Veterans Administration or any branch of the United States Armed Forces as to the veteran's permanent disability and receipt of 100% service-connected benefits.

2 Notwithstanding section 468, the Secretary of State may issue  
4 fewer than 2,000 of the plates authorized by this subsection, and  
6 this plate does not require a sponsor. These special designating  
8 plates must bear the word "Veteran."

6 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §524, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 1995, c. 645,  
Pt. B, @11, is further amended to read:

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

20 The Secretary of State, on application and upon evidence of  
22 payment of the excise tax required by Title 36, section 1482 and  
24 a one-time additional fee of \$5, may issue a Purple Heart decal  
26 to affix to a disabled veterans motorcycle license plate to a  
28 person who is a Purple Heart medal recipient. The one-time fee  
30 of \$5 is credited to the Highway Fund for administrative and  
32 production costs.

34 An application for Purple Heart plates or a decal must be  
36 accompanied by proof that the applicant has been awarded the  
Purple Heart medal. The Secretary of State shall verify the  
documentation presented by the applicant. Misrepresentation of  
documents is in violation of section 2103, subsection 5.

38 The Secretary of State may only issue Purple Heart plates for  
40 display on an automobile or pickup truck. A Purple Heart  
42 recipient may be issued Purple Heart plates for no more than 2  
44 vehicles.

46 The surviving spouse of a Purple Heart recipient issued plates or  
48 a decal in accordance with this subsection may retain and display  
the Purple Heart plates as long as the surviving spouse remains  
unmarried. Upon remarriage, the surviving spouse may not use the  
Purple Heart decal or plates on a motor vehicle, but may retain  
them as a keepsake. Upon the death of the surviving spouse, the  
family may retain the Purple Heart decal or plates, but may not  
use them on a motor vehicle.

50 The Secretary of State shall determine the design of the Purple  
Heart plate and decal. Upon request and as provided by section  
453, the Secretary of State shall issue Purple Heart plates that  
are also vanity plates. Purple Heart vanity plates are issued in

accordance with this section and section 453. The annual service fee of \$15 for vanity plates is credited to the Highway Fund.

A Purple Heart recipient or the surviving spouse of a Purple Heart recipient, who does not operate a motor vehicle or register a motor vehicle and who otherwise qualifies for the issuance of special Purple Heart registration plates may apply to the Secretary of State for a special single plate recognizing that award.

The Secretary of State shall design and identify these single plates for recognition purposes only. Single Purple Heart plates may not be attached to a motor vehicle. Only one plate may be issued to each recipient and a one-time fee of \$5 charged.

The Secretary of State shall begin issuing Purple Heart plates in accordance with this subsection no later than November 1, 1995 and Purple Heart decals to affix to special veterans registration plates for motorcycles in accordance with this subsection by November 1, 2000.

**Sec. 3. Plate redesign.** By January 2, 2001, the Secretary of State shall redesign the disabled veterans registration plate for use on motorcycles. This new license plate must be able to incorporate a decal recognizing Purple Heart medal recipients. In redesigning this license plate, the Secretary of State must review whether a system of decals recognizing other special veterans is feasible.

**Sec. 4. Allocation.** The following funds are allocated from the Highway Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

2000-01

**SECRETARY OF STATE,  
DEPARTMENT OF THE**

**Bureau of Motor Vehicles**

All Other \$2,296

Allocates funds to cover the costs of producing certain decals and for manufacturing a redesigned motorcycle registration plate for veterans.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

FISCAL NOTE

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2000-01

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APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS

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Highway Fund

\$2,296

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REVENUES

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Highway Fund

\$300

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This bill includes a Highway Fund allocation of \$2,296 in fiscal year 2000-01 for the Bureau of Motor Vehicles within the Department of the Secretary of State to produce certain decals and to manufacture a redesigned motorcycle registration plate for veterans.

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The issuance of Purple Heart decals for motorcycle registration plates will increase fee collections. The estimated one-time increase of Highway Fund revenue to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles is \$300 in fiscal year 2000-01.'

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SUMMARY

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This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It codifies the current practice of making a disabled veterans motorcycle license plate available to qualified veterans. It requires the Secretary of State to redesign the disabled veterans registration plate for use on motorcycles and allow for space to affix a special decal recognizing Purple Heart medal recipients. It also requires the Secretary of State to review the feasibility of recognizing other special veterans with decals that can be affixed to the disabled veterans motorcycle license plate. This amendment also adds an allocation and fiscal note.

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