

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 422

H.P. 330

House of Representatives, February 4, 2003

An Act To Honor Purple Heart Award Recipients

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative NORBERT of Portland. (BY REQUEST)

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

2
4 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §515-B, first ¶**, as amended by PL 2001, c. 361, §10, is further amended to read:

6 The Secretary of State, on application and upon evidence of
7 payment of the excise tax required by Title 36, section 1482 and
8 ~~the--registration--fee--required--by--section--515~~, shall issue a
9 registration certificate and a Purple Heart motorcycle
10 registration plate, to be used in lieu of a regular registration
11 plate, to a person who is a Purple Heart medal recipient.
12 Notwithstanding section 468, the Secretary of State may issue
13 fewer than 2,000 of the plates authorized by this section, and
14 this plate does not require a sponsor.

16 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §524, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 2001, c. 155,
17 §2, is further amended to read:

18 **4. Purple Heart medal recipients; special license plates.**

19 The Secretary of State, on application and upon evidence of
20 payment of the excise tax required by Title 36, section 1482 and
21 ~~the--registration--fee--required--by--section--501~~, shall issue a
22 registration certificate and a set of Purple Heart registration
23 plates, to be used in lieu of regular registration plates, to a
24 person who is a Purple Heart medal recipient.

25 An application for Purple Heart plates must be accompanied by
26 proof that the applicant has been awarded the Purple Heart
27 medal. The Secretary of State shall verify the documentation
28 presented by the applicant. Misrepresentation of documents is in
29 violation of section 2103, subsection 5.

30 The Secretary of State may ~~only~~ issue Purple Heart plates for
31 display only on an automobile or pickup truck. A Purple Heart
32 recipient may be issued Purple Heart plates for no more than 2
33 vehicles.

34 The surviving spouse of a Purple Heart recipient issued plates in
35 accordance with this subsection may retain and display the Purple
36 Heart plates as long as the surviving spouse remains unmarried.
37 Upon remarriage, the surviving spouse may not use the Purple
38 Heart plates on a motor vehicle, but may retain them as a
39 keepsake. Upon the death of the surviving spouse, the family may
40 retain the Purple Heart plates, but may not use them on a motor
41 vehicle.

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

8
10 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
12 special Purple Heart registration plates may apply to the
Secretary of State for a special single plate recognizing that
14 award.

16 The Secretary of State shall design and identify these single
plates for recognition purposes only. Single Purple Heart plates
18 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.

20
22 The Secretary of State shall begin issuing Purple Heart plates in
accordance with this subsection no later than November 1, 1995.

24

26 SUMMARY

28 This bill exempts Purple Heart recipients in this State from
car registration fees.