

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 1115

S.P. 369

In Senate, March 21, 2017

An Act To Establish a Specialty License Plate for Female Veterans

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Heather J.R. Priest'.

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin. (BY REQUEST)

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

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §523, sub-§3**, as amended by PL 2009, c. 80, §1, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **3. Special veterans registration plates.** The Secretary of State, on application and
5 evidence of payment of the excise tax required by Title 36, section 1482 and the
6 registration fee required by section 501, shall issue a registration certificate and a set of
7 special veterans registration plates to be used in lieu of regular registration plates for a
8 vehicle with a registered gross weight of not more than 10,000 pounds to any person who
9 has served in the United States Armed Forces and who has been honorably discharged or
10 to a person who has served in the United States Armed Forces for at least 3 years and
11 continues to serve. If a person who qualifies for a special veterans registration plate
12 under this subsection is the primary driver of 3 vehicles, the Secretary of State may issue
13 in accordance with this section a set of special veterans registration plates for each
14 vehicle.

15 Each application must be accompanied by the applicant's Armed Forces Report of
16 Transfer or Discharge, DD Form 214, certification from the United States Veterans
17 Administration or the appropriate branch of the United States Armed Forces verifying the
18 applicant's military service and honorable discharge, or a letter from the Department of
19 Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services
20 verifying active duty military service and length of service.

21 The Secretary of State shall also make available a special veterans registration plate for
22 female veterans, which has the same design as the special veterans registration plate
23 except that the "V" designation is pink in color. A person who qualifies for a special
24 veterans registration plate under this subsection may request the special veterans
25 registration plate for female veterans.

26 The Secretary of State shall recall a special veterans registration plate of a recipient who
27 has been less than honorably discharged from the United States Armed Forces.

28 All surplus revenue collected for issuance of the special registration plates is retained by
29 the Secretary of State to maintain and support this program.

30 The surviving spouse of a special veteran plate recipient issued plates in accordance with
31 this subsection may retain and display the special veteran plates as long as the surviving
32 spouse remains unmarried. Upon remarriage, the surviving spouse may not use the
33 special veteran plates on a motor vehicle, but may retain them as a keepsake. Upon the
34 death of the surviving spouse, the family may retain the special veteran plates, but may
35 not use them on a motor vehicle.

36 The Secretary of State may issue a special disability registration plate for veterans in
37 accordance with section 521, subsections 1, 5, 7 and 9. The special disability registration
38 plate for veterans must bear the International Symbol of Access. The Secretary of State
39 shall also make available a special disability registration plate for female veterans, which
40 has the same design as the special disability registration plate for veterans except that the
41 "V" designation is pink in color. A person who qualifies for a special disability
42 registration plate for veterans under this subsection may request the specialty disability
43 registration plate for female veterans.

1 The Secretary of State may issue a set of special veterans registration plates when the
2 qualifying veteran is the primary driver of a company-owned vehicle if:

3 A. The company is owned solely by a veteran who qualifies for a veteran plate under
4 this section;

5 B. The vehicle is leased by a veteran who qualifies for the veteran plate under this
6 subsection; or

7 C. The vehicle is leased by the employer of a veteran who qualifies for the veteran
8 plate and the employer has assigned the vehicle exclusively to the veteran. The
9 employer must attest in writing that the veteran will have exclusive use of the vehicle
10 and agrees to the display of the special veteran plate.

11 **SUMMARY**

12 This bill requires the Secretary of State to make available a special veterans
13 registration plate for female veterans and a special disability registration plate for female
14 veterans, which have the same design as the special veterans registration plate and the
15 special disability registration plate except that the "V" designation is pink in color.