

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Transportation to which was referred Senate Bill No.
3 256 entitled “An act relating to Department of Motor Vehicles credentials and
4 number plates with veteran designations” respectfully reports that it has
5 considered the same and recommends that the bill be amended as follows:

6 First: That a new Sec. 1 be inserted before existing Sec. 1 to read as
7 follows :

8 Sec. 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

9 (a) It is the intent of the General Assembly for the State to properly honor
10 Vermonters who are veterans, which includes Vermonters who have served in
11 the active military, naval, air, or space service, and who have been discharged
12 or released from active service under conditions other than dishonorable,
13 where active military, naval, air, or space service includes:

14 (1) active duty;

15 (2) any period of active duty for training during which the individual
16 concerned was disabled or died from a disease or injury incurred or aggravated
17 in line of duty; and

18 (3) any period of inactive duty training during which the individual
19 concerned was disabled or died from an injury incurred or aggravated in line of
20 duty or from an acute myocardial infarction, a cardiac arrest, or a
21 cerebrovascular accident occurring during such training.

1 **(b) It is also the intent of the General Assembly that the Department of**
2 **Motor Vehicles and the Vermont Office of Veterans’ Affairs:**

3 **(1) jointly determine which specialty plates should be offered to**
4 **Vermonters who are veterans so as to ensure specific recognition for those who**
5 **have received a military award or decoration and those who have served in**
6 **combat; and**

7 **(2) allow for a means for a Vermonter who is a veteran to request that a**
8 **new specialty plate be designed and offered to Vermonters who are veterans**
9 **when an existing specialty plate does not provide for specific recognition of**
10 **the Vermonter who is a veteran.**

11 **Second:** By renumbering the remaining sections to be numerically correct.

12 **Third:** By striking out renumbered Sec. 4, 23 V.S.A. § 304, in its entirety
13 and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 4 to read as follows:

14 Sec. 4. 23 V.S.A. § 304 is amended to read:

15 § 304. REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES; NUMBER PLATES; VANITY
16 AND OTHER SPECIAL PLATES

17 * * *

18 (j) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall, upon proper application,
19 issue special plates to Vermont veterans, as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(2) and
20 including an individual disabled during active military, naval, air, or space
21 service, as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(24), and to members of the U.S. Armed

1 Forces, as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(10), for use on vehicles registered at the
2 pleasure car rate, on vehicles registered at the motorcycle rate, and on trucks
3 registered for less than 26,001 pounds and excluding vehicles registered under
4 the International Registration Plan. The type and style of the ~~plate~~ plates shall
5 be determined by the Commissioner, ~~except that an American flag, or a~~
6 ~~veteran or military related emblem selected by the Commissioner and the~~
7 ~~Vermont Office of Veterans' Affairs shall appear on one side of the plate. At a~~
8 ~~minimum, emblems shall be available to recognize recipients of the Purple~~
9 ~~Heart, Pearl Harbor survivors, former prisoners of war, and disabled veterans.~~
10 An applicant shall apply on a form prescribed by the Commissioner, and the
11 applicant's eligibility as a member of one of the groups recognized will be
12 certified by the Office of Veterans' Affairs. The plates shall be reissued only
13 to the original holder of the plates or the surviving spouse. The Commissioner
14 may adopt rules to implement the provisions of this subsection. Except for
15 new or renewed registrations, applications for the issuance of plates under this
16 subsection shall be processed in the order received by the Department subject
17 to normal workflow considerations. The costs associated with developing new
18 emblems shall be borne by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

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(Committee vote: _____)

Senator _____

FOR THE COMMITTEE