

1 H.599

2 Introduced by Representative Frank of Underhill

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Motor vehicles; license plates; military and veterans

6 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to require the commissioner of motor
7 vehicles to issue registration plates honoring recipients of the Medal of Honor,
8 Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, Air Force Cross, Silver Star, Bronze
9 Star, and other military valor awards.

10 An act relating to license plates commemorating military valor awards

11 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

12 Sec. 1. 23 V.S.A. § 304(j) is amended to read:

13 (j) The commissioner of motor vehicles shall, upon proper application,
14 issue special plates to Vermont veterans, as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(2), and
15 to members of the United States Armed Forces, as defined in 38 U.S.C.
16 § 101(10), for use on vehicles registered at the pleasure car rate, on vehicles
17 registered at the motorcycle rate, and on trucks registered for less than 26,001
18 pounds ~~and, but~~ excluding vehicles registered under the International
19 Registration Plan. The type and style of the plate shall be determined by the
20 commissioner, except that an American flag, or a veteran- or military-related

1 emblem selected by the commissioner and the Vermont office of veterans'
2 affairs shall appear on one side of the plate. At a minimum, distinct emblems
3 shall be available to recognize recipients of the Purple Heart, Medal of Honor,
4 Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, Air Force Cross, Silver Star, Bronze
5 Star, and other military valor awards, and to recognize Pearl Harbor survivors,
6 former prisoners of war, and disabled veterans. An applicant shall apply on a
7 form prescribed by the commissioner, and the applicant's eligibility as a
8 member of one of the groups recognized will be certified by the office of
9 veterans' affairs. The plates shall be reissued only to the original holder of the
10 plates or the surviving spouse. The commissioner may adopt rules to
11 implement the provisions of this subsection. Except for new or renewed
12 registrations, applications for the issuance of plates under this subsection shall
13 be processed in the order received by the department subject to normal
14 workflow considerations. The costs associated with developing new emblems
15 shall be borne by the department of motor vehicles.

16 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

17 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2012.