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H.645

Introduced by Representatives Pugh of South Burlington and Potter of
Clarendon

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Motor vehicles; license plates

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the
Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to issue service branch-specific license plates
for veterans.

An act relating to the issuance of service branch-specific license plates

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

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

(j) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall, upon proper application,
issue special plates to Vermont veterans, as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(2), and
to members of the U.S. Armed Forces, as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(10), for
use on vehicles registered at the pleasure car rate, on vehicles registered at the
motorcycle rate, and on trucks registered for less than 26,001 pounds and
excluding vehicles registered under the International Registration Plan. The
type and style of the plate shall be determined by the Commissioner, except
that an American flag, or a veteran- or military-related emblem selected by the

1 Commissioner and the Vermont Office of ~~Veterans'~~ Veterans Affairs shall
2 appear on one side of the plate. At a minimum, emblems shall be available to
3 recognize recipients of the Purple Heart, Pearl Harbor survivors, former
4 prisoners of war, and disabled veterans, and service branch-specific license
5 plates for the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Coast Guard, and
6 U.S. Marines shall be issued. An applicant shall apply on a form prescribed by
7 the Commissioner, and the applicant's eligibility as a member of one of the
8 groups recognized will be certified by the Office of ~~Veterans'~~ Veterans
9 Affairs. The plates shall be reissued only to the original holder of the plates or
10 the surviving spouse. The Commissioner may adopt rules to implement the
11 provisions of this subsection. Except for new or renewed registrations,
12 applications for the issuance of plates under this subsection shall be processed
13 in the order received by the Department subject to normal workflow
14 considerations. The costs associated with developing new emblems and plate
15 designs shall be borne by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

16 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

17 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.