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HOUSE BILL 673

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001

INTRODUCED BY

Rick Miera

AN ACT

**RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF
SPECIAL MOTORCYCLE REGISTRATION PLATES FOR ARMED FORCES
VETERANS; ENACTING A NEW SECTION OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE CODE;
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**Section 1. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code is
enacted to read:**

**" [NEW MATERIAL] SPECIAL MOTORCYCLE REGISTRATION PLATES
FOR ARMED FORCES VETERANS. - -**

**A. The department shall issue distinctive
motorcycle registration plates indicating that the recipient
is a veteran of the armed forces of the United States, as
defined in Section 28-13-7 NMSA 1978, or is retired from the
national guard or military reserves, if that person submits**

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1 proof satisfactory to the department of honorable discharge
2 from the armed forces or of retirement from the national guard
3 or military reserves.

4 B. For a fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00), which
5 shall be in addition to the regular motorcycle registration
6 fees, any motorcycle owner who is a veteran of the armed
7 forces of the United States or is retired from the national
8 guard or military reserves may apply for the issuance of a
9 special motorcycle registration plate as defined in Subsection
10 A of this section. No two owners shall be issued identically
11 lettered or numbered plates.

12 C. An owner shall make a new application and pay a
13 new fee each year he desires to obtain a special motorcycle
14 registration plate. He will have first priority on that plate
15 for each subsequent year that he makes a timely and
16 appropriate application.

17 D. Each armed forces veteran may elect to receive
18 a veteran-designation decal to be placed across the top of the
19 special motorcycle registration plate, centered above the
20 registration number. Replacement or different
21 veteran-designation decals shall be available for purchase
22 from the department at a reasonable charge to be set by the
23 secretary. The department shall furnish the following
24 veteran-designation decals with the armed forces veteran
25 motorcycle registration plate to a:

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- 1 (1) medal of honor recipient;
- 2 (2) silver star recipient;
- 3 (3) bronze star recipient;
- 4 (4) navy cross recipient;
- 5 (5) distinguished service cross recipient;
- 6 (6) air force cross recipient;
- 7 (7) ex-prisoner of war;
- 8 (8) disabled veteran;
- 9 (9) purple heart veteran;
- 10 (10) atomic veteran;
- 11 (11) Pearl Harbor survivor;
- 12 (12) Navajo code talker;
- 13 (13) Vietnam veteran;
- 14 (14) Korean veteran;
- 15 (15) disabled Korean veteran;
- 16 (16) World War II veteran;
- 17 (17) World War I veteran;
- 18 (18) Grenada veteran;
- 19 (19) Panama veteran; or
- 20 (20) Desert Storm veteran.

21 E. The revenue from the fee imposed pursuant to
22 Subsection B of this section shall be distributed as follows:

- 23 (1) seven dollars (\$7.00) of the fee
24 collected for each special motorcycle registration plate shall
25 be retained by the department and is appropriated to the

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1 department for the manufacture and issuance of the
2 registration plates; and

3 (2) eight dollars (\$8.00) of the fee
4 collected for each special motorcycle registration plate shall
5 be transferred pursuant to the provisions of Subsection F of
6 this section.

7 F. The "armed forces veterans license fund" is
8 created in the state treasury. A portion of the fee collected
9 for each special motorcycle registration plate for armed
10 forces veterans, as provided in Subsection E of this section,
11 shall be transferred to the state treasurer for credit to the
12 fund. Expenditures from the fund shall be made on vouchers
13 issued and signed by the director of veterans' affairs upon
14 warrants drawn by the department of finance and administration
15 for the purpose of expanding services to rural areas of the
16 state, including Native American communities and senior
17 citizen centers. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance
18 remaining at the end of any fiscal year in the armed forces
19 veterans license fund shall not revert to the general fund."

20 Section 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
21 provisions of this act is July 1, 2001.

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