

1 SENATE BILL 225

2 **54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Clemente Sanchez

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10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO REGISTRATION PLATES; CREATING A SPECIAL AIR MEDAL
12 LICENSE PLATE FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE RECEIVED THE UNITED
13 STATES ARMED FORCES AIR MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT WHILE
14 PARTICIPATING IN AERIAL FLIGHT.

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

17 **SECTION 1.** Section 66-3-419 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1990,
18 Chapter 46, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

19 "66-3-419. SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES--ARMED FORCES
20 VETERANS.--

21 A. The department shall issue distinctive
22 registration plates indicating that the recipient is a veteran
23 of the armed forces of the United States or is retired from the
24 national guard or military reserves if that person submits
25 proof satisfactory to the department of honorable discharge

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1 from the armed forces or of retirement from the national guard
2 or military reserves.

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

10 C. The fifteen-dollar (\$15.00) fee provided in
11 Subsection B of this section shall be waived for each
12 registration period in which a validating sticker is issued
13 under the provisions of Section 66-3-17 NMSA 1978, in lieu of
14 the issuance of a special armed forces veteran plate.

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

- 23 (1) medal of honor recipient;
24 (2) silver star recipient;
25 (3) bronze star recipient;

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- 1 (4) navy cross recipient;
- 2 (5) distinguished service cross recipient;
- 3 (6) air force cross recipient;
- 4 (7) armed forces air medal recipient;
- 5 [~~(7)~~] (8) ex-prisoner of war;
- 6 [~~(8)~~] (9) disabled veteran;
- 7 [~~(9)~~] (10) purple heart veteran;
- 8 [~~(10)~~] (11) atomic veteran;
- 9 [~~(11)~~] (12) Pearl Harbor survivor;
- 10 [~~(12)~~] (13) Navajo code talker;
- 11 [~~(13)~~] (14) Vietnam veteran;
- 12 [~~(14)~~] (15) Korean veteran;
- 13 [~~(15)~~] (16) disabled Korean veteran;
- 14 [~~(16)~~] (17) World War II veteran;
- 15 [~~(17)~~] (18) World War I veteran;
- 16 [~~(18)~~] (19) Grenada veteran;
- 17 [~~(19)~~] (20) Panama veteran;
- 18 [~~(20)~~] (21) Desert Storm veteran; or
- 19 [~~(21)~~] (22) Iraqi Freedom veteran.

20 E. The revenue from the special registration plates
21 for the armed forces veterans fee imposed by Subsection B of
22 this section shall be distributed as follows:

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

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1 issuance of the registration plates; and

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

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

19 G. A person shall not falsely represent that the
20 person was honorably discharged from the armed forces or
21 retired from the national guard or military reserves so as to
22 be eligible to be issued a special registration plate pursuant
23 to this section. A person who violates the provisions of this
24 subsection is guilty of a penalty assessment misdemeanor."

25 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the

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1 provisions of this act is July 1, 2019.

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