

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 385

BY TRANSPORTATION AND DEFENSE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO VETERANS PLATES; AMENDING SECTION 49-418, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE  
2 CONDITIONS WHEN THE SURVIVING SPOUSE OF A QUALIFIED VETERAN MAY OBTAIN  
3 VETERANS PLATES AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.  
4

5 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

6 SECTION 1. That Section 49-418, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 49-418. VETERANS PLATES. (1) Any person who is the owner of a vehicle  
9 registered under the provisions of section 49-402 or 49-434(1), Idaho Code,  
10 may apply for and upon department approval receive special veterans license  
11 plates in lieu of regular license plates. The provisions of this section  
12 shall not apply to any vehicle with a registered maximum gross weight over  
13 twenty-six thousand (26,000) pounds. Availability of veterans plates for  
14 other vehicles shall be subject to the rules, policies and procedures of the  
15 department.

16 (2) Proof of being a current or former member of the United States armed  
17 forces must be furnished to the department before special veterans plates  
18 will be issued. Acceptable proof shall be a copy of form DD214 or an equiva-  
19 lent document or statement from the department of veterans affairs.

20 (3) In addition to the regular registration fees required in section  
21 49-402(1) or 49-434(1), Idaho Code, the applicant shall pay the initial pro-  
22 gram fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) and the annual program fee of fif-  
23 teen dollars (\$15.00) as specified in section 49-402, Idaho Code, and the  
24 plate fee specified in section 49-450, Idaho Code. Ten dollars (\$10.00) of  
25 the initial program fee and ten dollars (\$10.00) of the annual program fee  
26 shall be deposited in the state highway account and shall be used to fund  
27 the cost of administration of this special license plate program. Fifteen  
28 dollars (\$15.00) of the initial program fee and five dollars (\$5.00) of the  
29 annual program fee shall be deposited to the veterans cemetery maintenance  
30 fund created in section 65-107, Idaho Code, and shall be used to operate and  
31 maintain a state veterans cemetery.

32 (4) Whenever title or interest in a vehicle registered under the pro-  
33 visions of this section is transferred or assigned, the owner may transfer  
34 the special plates to another vehicle upon payment of the required transfer  
35 fees. The owner may only display the plates on another vehicle upon receipt  
36 of the new registration from the department.

37 (5) The veterans license plate design shall include the colors red,  
38 white and blue, shall designate one (1) of the five (5) branches of military  
39 service, and display either:

40 (a) The word "VETERAN";

1 (b) The name of a conflict or war period recognized by the United States  
2 department of veterans affairs for the purpose of awarding federal vet-  
3 erans benefits as defined in 38 U.S.C. 101(11); or

4 (c) For a current or former member of the United States armed forces who  
5 has served in Afghanistan or Iraq during the post 9/11 global operations  
6 period, as defined in 38 U.S.C. ~~section~~ 4110A(c), the name of the post  
7 9/11 global operations theater.

8 The license plate design shall comply with all applicable rules of the de-  
9 partment, and shall include a separate and distinct numbering system. The  
10 design, color, and numbering system shall be subject to approval of the de-  
11 partment.

12 (6) Veterans license plates may be retained and displayed on vehicles  
13 owned by the surviving spouse of a qualified veteran. In addition, provided  
14 that the deceased veteran met the criteria set forth above in this section,  
15 the surviving spouses of a deceased qualified veteran is eligible to reap-  
16 ply for and shall be issued veterans license plates if the deceased quali-  
17 fied veteran died on or after January 1 of the five (5) years preceding the  
18 date of reapplication for the plates qualified veterans shall be authorized  
19 to apply for and receive veterans plates and may retain, renew and display  
20 veterans plates for so long as the surviving spouse is within the definition  
21 set forth in 38 U.S.C. 101(3). There shall be no requirement that the vet-  
22 eran, while living, resided in Idaho or had applied for or received veterans  
23 plates. Such plates shall be used on a vehicle owned by the surviving spouse.