

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1040

BY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO VETERANS PLATES; AMENDING SECTION 49-418, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE
2 FOR AMERICAN LEGION OR VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS DESIGNATIONS AND TO MAKE
3 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 only upon re-
36 ceipt 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 either one (1) of the five (5) branches of
39 military service or the name of one (1) of the veterans service organizations
40 identified in subsection (7) of this section, and shall display either:

41 (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
5 who has served in Afghanistan or Iraq during the post_9/11 global oper-
6 ations period, as defined in 38 U.S.C. 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 de-
10 sign, color, and numbering system shall be subject to approval of the depart-
11 ment.

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 surviving spouses of qualified veterans shall be authorized to apply for and
16 receive veterans plates and may retain, renew and display veterans plates
17 for ~~so~~ as long as the surviving spouse is within the definition set forth in
18 38 U.S.C. 101(3). There shall be no requirement that the veteran, while liv-
19 ing, resided in Idaho or had applied for or received veterans plates. Such
20 plates shall be used on a vehicle owned by the surviving spouse.

21 (7) Pursuant to subsection (5) of this section, the American legion
22 or the veterans of foreign wars may be designated as a veterans service or-
23 ganization in lieu of a branch of military service, provided that the Idaho
24 transportation department has entered into or adopted a memorandum of un-
25 derstanding with such organizations regarding any costs associated with
26 participation in the veterans plate program pursuant to this section.