STATE OF CONNECTICUT

General Assembly   ***Committee Bill No. 5787***

January Session, 2025   LCO No. **4434**

04434HB05787VA

Referred to Committee on VETERANS' AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Introduced by:
(VA)

AN ACT CONCERNING REIMBURSEMENT FOR VETERANS WHO JOIN A CHAPTER OF THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART AND RECEIVE A NUMBER PLATE RECOGNIZING THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1   Section 1. Section 14-19a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2   following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

3   (a) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall adopt regulations in
4   accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 to establish (1) standards
5   for the issuance of a special certificate of registration and special number
6   plates to a member of an organization which qualifies for issuance, (2)
7   qualifications of organizations whose members wish to apply for such
8   special registrations, (3) procedures for application for such special
9   registration, and (4) a fee for such special number plates which shall
10   cover at least the entire cost of making the plates and which shall be in
11   addition to the fee for registration of the motor vehicle. The regulations
12   shall provide that a labor union shall be a qualifying organization.

13   (b) The Department of Motor Vehicles, in consultation with the Board

14 of Regents for Higher Education, shall adopt regulations, in accordance
15 with the provisions of chapter 54, to establish standards for the issuance
16 and renewal of collegiate special number plates with the logos or
17 emblems of Connecticut public and independent institutions of higher
18 education.

19   (c) On or after July 1, 2004, the commissioner may issue special
20 certificates of registration and special number plates in accordance with
21 the regulations adopted under subsection (a) of this section provided
22 the commissioner may not issue a set of special number plates bearing
23 the same numerals as any other plate issued by the department. The
24 commissioner may discontinue the issuance of any such special number
25 plates issued for a qualified organization, or special plates issued in
26 accordance with the provisions of sections 14-19b and 14-21f to 14-21p,
27 inclusive, at any time, upon written notice to the organization if, in the
28 opinion of the commissioner, the demand for such plates is insufficient
29 to support the costs of production.

30   (d) Any veteran or member of the armed forces, as those terms are
31 defined in section 27-103, who is issued, on or after July 1, 2025, a
32 number plate recognizing the Military Order of the Purple Heart
33 pursuant to any regulation adopted under subsection (a) of this section,
34 and who paid a charge to join as a member of a chapter of the Military
35 Order of the Purple Heart in order to obtain such number plate, may
36 apply to the Commissioner of Veterans Affairs, in a form and a manner
37 prescribed by said commissioner, for reimbursement of such
38 membership charge from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Not later
39 than sixty days after receipt of any such application, said commissioner
40 shall notify such veteran or member of the armed forces of a decision on
41 such application and, if approved, provide such reimbursement.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	*July 1, 2025*	14-19a

Statement of Purpose:

To reimburse veterans and members of the armed forces who may obtain a number plate recognizing the Military Order of the Purple Heart the cost to join a chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart and recognize the sacrifice of such veterans and members.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. FISHBEIN, 90th Dist.

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