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H.B. 359
133rd General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Wiggam and Richardson

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SUMMARY

- Authorizes World War II veterans to obtain WWII license plates without paying motor vehicle registration taxes and fees.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

WWII license plates

The bill authorizes a World War II veteran to receive the WWII license plates, which currently exist through the military license plates administrative program, without paying registration taxes and fees.¹ The administrative program includes a variety of military license plates that are designed to recognize a specific military branch, a particular combat zone, or a medal that the veteran was awarded.²

Exceptions under current law

Generally, military veterans who receive and renew their motor vehicle registrations through the program receive the physical license plates for free (a savings between \$6.50 and \$7.50), but still pay the standard registration taxes and fees.³ Recently, an exception to paying the registration taxes and fees for military license plates through the program was created for military veterans with a service connected disability rated at 100% by the federal Veterans'

¹ R.C. 4503.29(D)(2)(c). Registration taxes and fees include the base vehicle tax (R.C. 4503.04), the base BMV registration fees (R.C. 4503.10, 4503.102, and 4503.103), local motor vehicle taxes (Chapter 4504), the license plate fee (R.C. 4503.19), and any deputy registrar fee (R.C. 4503.038).

² R.C. 4503.29.

³ R.C. 4503.29(D)(2)(a) and 4503.19(A)(5), not in the bill.

Administration.⁴ Such disabled veterans can receive the “Disabled Veterans” license plates without paying registration taxes or fees, as well.⁵ Additionally, current law permits a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, a former prisoner of war, and a Purple Heart recipient to receive license plates reflecting that status or honor without paying registration taxes or fees.⁶

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	10-08-19

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⁴ R.C. 4503.29(D)(2)(b). The exception was enacted through Am. Sub. H.B. 166 of the 133rd General Assembly.

⁵ R.C. 4503.41, not in the bill. A disabled veteran may only receive the benefit of obtaining license plates without paying registration taxes and fees for up to two vehicles total. R.C. 4503.29(D)(2)(b) and 4503.41(C).

⁶ R.C. 4503.43, 4503.46, and 4503.571, not in the bill.