9740

## IN ASSEMBLY

March 29, 2012

Introduced by M. of A. RAMOS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to establishing distinctive "Support Our Troops" plates; and to amend the state finance law, in relation to creating a Support Our Troops, Inc. fund

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new section 404-x to read as follows:

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- S 404-X. DISTINCTIVE "SUPPORT OUR TROOPS" PLATES. 1. ANY PERSON RESIDING IN THIS STATE SHALL, UPON REQUEST, BE ISSUED A DISTINCTIVE "SUPPORT OUR TROOPS" LICENSE PLATE OF DESIGN SUBMITTED BY THE SPONSORING ORGANIZATION AND APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER, WHICH DESIGN MAY INCLUDE THE SPONSORING ORGANIZATION'S TRADEMARK "SUPPORT OUR TROOPS!" OR "SALUTE OUR HEROES!," ITS TRADEMARK LOGO, AND ITS WEBSITE DOMAIN ADDRESS. APPLICATION FOR SAID LICENSE PLATE SHALL BE FILED WITH THE COMMISSIONER IN SUCH FORM AND DETAIL AS THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PRESCRIBE.
- 2. THE DISTINCTIVE "SUPPORT OUR TROOPS" LICENSE PLATES ISSUED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL BE ISSUED IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER NUMBER PLATES UPON PAYMENT OF THE REGULAR REGISTRATION FEE PRESCRIBED BY SECTION FOUR HUNDRED ONE OF THIS ARTICLE AND AN ADDITIONAL ANNUAL SERVICE CHARGE OF TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS. TWENTY DOLLARS FROM EACH TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS RECEIVED AS ANNUAL SERVICE CHARGES UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE DEPOSITED AS A ROYALTY TO THE CREDIT OF THE SUPPORT OUR TROOPS, INC. FUND, ESTABLISHED AS A REVOLVING FUND PURSUANT TO SECTION NINETY-NINE-U OF THE STATE FINANCE LAW.
- 3. PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT ONE YEAR AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS, OR SO MUCH THEREOF AS MAY BE AVAILABLE, SHALL BE ALLOCATED FROM SUCH FUND TO THE DEPARTMENT TO OFFSET COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PRODUCTION OF SUCH LICENSE PLATES, TOGETHER WITH AN ADDITIONAL FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS TO OFFSET COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH PRODUCTION OF THE PLATE IN MOTORCYCLE SIZE.
- 26 S 2. The state finance law is amended by adding a new section 99-u to 27 read as follows:

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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S 99-U. SUPPORT OUR TROOPS, INC. FUND. 1. THERE IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED IN THE JOINT CUSTODY OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER AND THE COMMISSIONER OF TAXATION AND FINANCE A FUND TO BE KNOWN AS THE SUPPORT OUR TROOPS, INC. FUND.

- 2. SUCH FUND SHALL CONSIST OF ALL MONEYS COLLECTED PURSUANT TO SECTION FOUR HUNDRED FOUR-X OF THE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW, AND ALL OTHER MONEYS CREDITED OR TRANSFERRED THERETO FROM ANY OTHER FUND OR SOURCE PURSUANT TO LAW, PROVIDED THAT SECTION FOUR HUNDRED FOUR-X OF THE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW SHALL CONTROL THE METHOD OF PAYMENT FOR THE COSTS OF PRODUCING THE DISTINCTIVE LICENSE PLATES AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO SUCH SECTION OF THE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW.
- 3. MONEYS SHALL BE PAID OUT OF THE FUND TO THE SUPPORT OUR TROOPS, INC., ORGANIZED PURSUANT TO SECTION 501(C)(3) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, ON THE REQUEST OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SUPPORT OUR TROOPS, INC. ANY INTEREST RECEIVED BY THE COMPTROLLER ON MONEYS ON DEPOSIT IN THE SUPPORT OUR TROOPS, INC. FUND SHALL BE RETAINED IN AND BECOME PART OF SUCH FUND. NO MONEY FROM SUCH FUND MAY BE WITH-18 DRAWN, TRANSFERRED, OR USED BY ANY PERSON FOR ANY PURPOSE OTHER THAN AS PERMITTED BY THIS SECTION.
- 20 S 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after 21 it shall have become a law.