S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

2691

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

January 20, 2011

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

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to authorizing distinctive license plates for New York state licensed mental health counselors

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:

S 404-X. DISTINCTIVE PLATES FOR NEW YORK STATE LICENSED MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS. 1. ANY NEW YORK STATE LICENSED MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR RESIDING IN THIS STATE SHALL, UPON REQUEST, BE ISSUED A LICENSE PLATE FORMATTED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE DEPARTMENT BEARING THE LETTERS "MHC". IF A DISTINCTIVE PLATE IS ISSUED TO A NEW YORK STATE LICENSED MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, SUCH DISTINCTIVE PLATE SHALL NOT BE ISSUED TO THE SPOUSE OF SUCH PERSON UNLESS SUCH SPOUSE IS A MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR AS WELL. APPLICATION FOR SUCH LICENSE SHALL BE FILED WITH THE COMMISSIONER IN SUCH FORM AND DETAIL AS THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PRESCRIBE, AND SHALL BE VERIFIED ANNUALLY BY THE APPLICANT.

2. THE DISTINCTIVE PLATE AUTHORIZED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE ISSUED UPON PROOF, SATISFACTORY TO THE COMMISSIONER, THAT THE APPLICANT IS PRESENTLY A MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR LICENSED TO PRACTICE IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK AND 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; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT AN ADDITIONAL SERVICE CHARGE OF TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS SHALL BE CHARGED FOR SUCH PLATE ON AN ANNUAL BASIS.

3. THE COMMISSIONER MAY SET AN ADDITIONAL FEE, NOT TO EXCEED FIFTEEN DOLLARS, TO THE ANNUAL SERVICE CHARGE, ESTABLISHED IN SUBDIVISION TWO OF THIS SECTION, AND SUCH FEE SHALL BE DEPOSITED TO THE CREDIT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES DISTINCTIVE PLATE DEVELOPMENT FUND ESTAB-

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

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LISHED BY SECTION NINETY-FIVE-G OF THE STATE FINANCE LAW. SUCH FEE SHALL BE USED FOR THE PRODUCTION, DESIGN, ADVERTISING AND MARKETING OF DISTINCTIVE LICENSE PLATES PURSUANT TO SUCH SECTION NINETY-FIVE-G.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.