STATE OF NEW YORK

4366

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 4, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. HUNTER, PHEFFER AMATO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law and the state finance law, in relation to creating the "Women Veterans" distinctive license plate program

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-ff to read as follows:

§ 404-ff. Distinctive "Women Veterans" license plates. 1. Any person residing in this state shall, upon request, be issued a distinctive "Women Veterans" license plate. Application for said license plate shall be filed with the form and detail as the commissioner shall prescribe.

2. A distinctive plate issued pursuant to this section shall be issued in the same manner as other number plates upon the payment of the regular registration fee prescribed by section four hundred one of this article, provided, however, that an additional annual service charge of twenty-five dollars shall be charged for such plate.

3. Each twenty-five dollars received as the annual service charge under this section shall be deposited to the credit of the "women veterans support fund" established pursuant to section ninety-five-j of the state finance law and shall be used for women veterans programs as determined by the New York state division of veterans' affairs' women veterans' services pursuant to subdivision three of section ninety-five-j of the state finance law.

§ 2. The state finance law is amended by adding a new section 95-j to read as follows:

§ 95-j. Women veterans support fund. 1. There is hereby established in the joint custody of the commissioner of taxation and finance and the comptroller, a special fund to be known as the women veterans support fund.

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

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2. Such fund shall consist of all revenues received pursuant to section four hundred four-ff of the vehicle and traffic law, and all other moneys appropriated, credited or transferred thereto from any other fund or source pursuant to law. Nothing contained in this section shall prevent the state from receiving grants, gifts, or bequests for the purposes of the fund, as defined in this section, and depositing them into the fund according to law.

3. Monies of the fund shall be expended only by the New York state division of veterans' affairs' women veterans' services. These funds shall be used for women veterans homelessness, counseling and other programs that support women veterans.

§ 3. 1. A distinctive plate established pursuant to section 404-ff of the vehicle and traffic law, as added by section one of this act, shall only be designed, produced and issued upon the delivery to the department of motor vehicles of a surety bond in the amount of $6,000, which shall be executed by a surety company authorized by the department of financial services to transact business in this state. Provided, however, that if the commissioner of motor vehicles shall have received prior to the plate design, production and issuance at least 200 orders for such distinctive plate together with the additional annual service charge applicable to each such order, which shall be non-refundable, no such surety bond shall be required. All such service charges shall be deposited pursuant to the provisions of section 404-oo of the vehicle and traffic law to the credit of the department of motor vehicles distinctive plate development fund established by section 95-g of the state finance law and shall be used for the design, production, advertising and distribution of distinctive license plates in accordance with such section 95-g.

2. If, upon the expiration of two years following the date upon which distinctive plates in the series are first available for sale, 200 or more sets of such plates are sold, a bond delivered pursuant to this section shall be discontinued. If fewer than 200 sets of such plates are sold by such time, the department of motor vehicles shall be entitled to recover against the bond an amount proportionate to such shortfall.

§ 4. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.