

STATE OF NEW YORK

3717

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 30, 2021

Introduced by Sen. ORTT -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to special designation for veterans on driver's licenses

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Paragraph (a-1) of subdivision 1 of section 504 of the
2 vehicle and traffic law, as amended by chapter 490 of the laws of 2019,
3 is amended to read as follows:

4 (a-1) Every license or renewal thereof issued to an applicant who was
5 a member of the armed forces of the United States and who (i) received
6 an honorable discharge or was released therefrom under honorable condi-
7 tions, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section three
8 hundred fifty of the executive law, and has received a discharge other
9 than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a
10 discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section three hundred fifty of
11 the executive law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct
12 or dishonorable from such service, or (iv) was a member of the National
13 Guard or military reserves who served at least twenty years, shall, upon
14 his or her request and submission of proof as set forth herein, contain
15 a distinguishing mark, in such form as the commissioner shall determine,
16 indicating that he or she is a veteran. Such proof shall consist of a
17 certificate of release or discharge from active duty including but not
18 limited to a DD Form 214, or in the case of a National Guard member an
19 NGB22 Form indicating twenty years of service, or in the case of a mili-
20 tary reservist a DD Form 256 and a Notification of Eligibility for
21 Retired Pay letter, or other proof satisfactory to the commissioner. The
22 commissioner shall not require fees for the issuance of such licenses or
23 renewals thereof to persons requesting a veteran distinguishing mark
24 which are different from fees otherwise required; provided, however,
25 that notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the commissioner

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

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1 shall not require fees for a duplication or amendment of a license prior
2 to its renewal if such duplication or amendment was solely for the
3 purpose of adding a veteran distinguishing mark to such license.

4 § 2. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 3 of section 490 of the vehicle and
5 traffic law, as amended by chapter 490 of the laws of 2019, is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 (b) The identification card shall contain a distinguishing number or
8 mark and adequate space upon which an anatomical gift, pursuant to arti-
9 cle forty-three of the public health law, by the holder may be recorded
10 and shall contain such other information and shall be issued in such
11 form as the commissioner shall determine; provided, however, every iden-
12 tification card or renewal thereof issued to a person under the age of
13 twenty-one years shall have prominently imprinted thereon the statement
14 "UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE" in notably distinctive print or format.

15 Provided, further, however, that every identification card issued to an
16 applicant who was a member of the armed forces of the United States and
17 (i) received an honorable discharge or was released therefrom under
18 honorable conditions, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in
19 section three hundred fifty of the executive law, and has received a
20 discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or
21 (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section three hundred
22 fifty of the executive law, and has received a discharge other than bad
23 conduct or dishonorable from such service, (iv) or was a member of the
24 National Guard or military reserves who served at least twenty years

25 shall, upon his or her request and submission of proof as set forth
26 herein, contain a distinguishing mark, in such form as the commissioner
27 shall determine, indicating that he or she is a veteran. Such proof
28 shall consist of a certificate of release or discharge from active duty
29 including but not limited to a DD Form 214, or in the case of a National
30 Guard member an NGB22 Form indicating twenty years of service, or in the
31 case of a military reservist a DD Form 256 and a Notification of Eligi-
32 bility for Retired Pay letter, or other proof satisfactory to the
33 commissioner. The commissioner shall not require fees for the issuance
34 of such identification cards or renewals thereof to persons under twen-
35 ty-one years of age which are different from the fees required for the
36 issuance of identification cards or renewals thereof to persons twenty-
37 one years of age or over, nor fees to persons requesting a veteran
38 distinguishing mark which are different from fees that would otherwise
39 be required. Provided, however, that notwithstanding the provisions of
40 section four hundred ninety-one of this article, the commissioner shall
41 not require any fees for the duplication or amendment of an identifica-
42 tion card prior to its renewal if such duplication or amendment was
43 solely for the purpose of adding a veteran distinguishing mark to such
44 identification card.

45 § 3. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
46 have become a law.