

STATE OF NEW YORK

8887

IN ASSEMBLY

January 26, 2024

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

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to registration and special plates for severely disabled veterans

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision 3 of section 404-a of the vehicle and traffic
2 law, as added by chapter 601 of the laws of 1987, is amended to read as
3 follows:
4 3. Registration of vehicles owned by severely disabled veterans. The
5 commissioner shall assign to such motor vehicles, including any vans or
6 pick-up trucks used for transporting handicapped veterans which are not
7 used for commercial purposes and which are owned by such veterans or a
8 not-for-profit corporation serving such veterans, a distinctive number
9 and issue and deliver in such manner as the commissioner may prescribe
10 to the owner a certification of registration, in such form as the
11 commissioner shall prescribe and two number plates, called disabled
12 veteran plates. Said severely disabled veteran plates shall conform to
13 the requirements of section four hundred one of this ~~[chapter]~~ article,
14 but shall bear distinctive marks to distinguish them from number plates
15 to be issued to other persons, qualifying under this chapter. The
16 commissioner ~~[in his discretion,]~~ may exercise the discretion to issue,
17 for any registration year, only one plate as a set for a motor vehicle,
18 in which event a set of severely disabled veteran plates for a motor
19 vehicle shall consist of one plate. Where a severely disabled veteran
20 owns more than one vehicle and such vehicle or vehicles is or are used
21 by severely disabled members of the owner's family who reside with the
22 owner, the commissioner shall issue one set of plates for each additional
23 vehicle used by such severely disabled veteran, provided that
24 such user qualifies as a severely disabled veteran in the manner
25 required by this section. For purposes of this subdivision, the term
26 "severely disabled veteran" shall mean any member of the armed forces of
27 the United States who served ~~[in time of war, as defined in section~~
28 ~~eighty-five of the civil service law]~~ and was honorably discharged or

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

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1 released under conditions other than dishonorable from such service, and
2 whose disability qualifies [~~him~~] such person as a severely disabled
3 person within the meaning of such term as defined in subdivision four of
4 this section; or who was rated sixty percent or more disabled by the
5 United States department of veterans affairs.

6 § 2. Section 404-a of the vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding
7 a new subdivision 6-a to read as follows:

8 6-a. Fee exemptions for severely disabled veterans. Notwithstanding
9 subdivision six of this section and the fees prescribed or permitted by
10 section four hundred one of this article, there shall be no charge for
11 the issuance of a number plate pursuant to this section to a severely
12 disabled veteran, nor shall there be imposed an additional service
13 charge for the issuance of such plate to a severely disabled veteran.
14 Furthermore, upon the issuance of a distinctive plate pursuant to this
15 section, such severely disabled veteran shall be exempt from the payment
16 of any fees relating to the registration or renewal thereof as
17 prescribed by section four hundred one of this article.

18 § 3. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeed-
19 ing the date on which it shall have become a law.