

# STATE OF NEW YORK

1585

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

January 12, 2023

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 section 98 of part PP of chapter  
3 56 of the laws of 2022, 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 one of  
8 the veterans' services law, and has received a discharge other than bad  
9 conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT  
10 veteran, as defined in section one of the veterans' services law, and  
11 has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from  
12 such service, or (iv) was a member of the National Guard or military  
13 reserves who served at least twenty years, shall, upon his or her  
14 request and submission of proof as set forth herein, contain a distin-  
15 guishing mark, in such form as the commissioner shall determine, indi-  
16 cating 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 section 97 of part PP of chapter 56 of the  
6 laws of 2022, is amended 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 one of the veterans' services law, and has received a discharge  
20 other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a  
21 discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the veterans'  
22 services law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or  
23 dishonorable from such service, or (iv) was a member of the National  
24 Guard or military reserves who served at least twenty years, shall, upon  
25 his or her request and submission of proof as set forth herein, contain  
26 a distinguishing mark, in such form as the commissioner shall determine,  
27 indicating that he or she is a veteran. Such proof shall consist of a  
28 certificate of release or discharge from active duty including but not  
29 limited to a DD Form 214, or in the case of a National Guard member an  
30 NGB22 Form indicating twenty years of service, or in the case of a mili-  
31 tary reservist a DD Form 256 and a Notification of Eligibility for  
32 Retired Pay letter, or other proof satisfactory to the commissioner. The  
33 commissioner shall not require fees for the issuance of such identifica-  
34 tion cards or renewals thereof to persons under twenty-one years of age  
35 which are different from the fees required for the issuance of identifi-  
36 cation cards or renewals thereof to persons twenty-one years of age or  
37 over, nor fees to persons requesting a veteran distinguishing mark which  
38 are different from fees that would otherwise be required. Provided,  
39 however, that notwithstanding the provisions of section four hundred  
40 ninety-one of this article, the commissioner shall not require any fees  
41 for the duplication or amendment of an identification card prior to its  
42 renewal if such duplication or amendment was solely for the purpose of  
43 adding a veteran distinguishing mark to such identification card.

44 § 3. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall  
45 have become a law; provided that if part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of  
46 2022 shall not yet have taken effect on or before such effective date  
47 then this act shall take effect on the same date that such part, takes  
48 effect.