

The Military Order Of The Purple Heart
of the United States of America

(Chartered by Act of Congress)

NATIONAL ORDER OF THE COMBAT-WOUNDED
DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT



TO: Honorable Members of the Veterans Affairs Committee

SUBJECT: Regulation 14-19a-2(b) and Senate Bill 700

DATE: February 19, 2013

QUESTION: Is the Military Order of the Purple Heart acting unlawfully or violating anyone's Civil Rights by requiring membership? The answer is obviously NO.

The above cited regulation states:

“A certificate of registration and special number plate shall be issued only to an applicant who is a MEMBER in good standing of an ORGANIZATION which qualifies in accordance with Section 14-19a-3.”

The Military Order of the Purple Heart has complied with and is qualified under all the Regulations. Our plates are *Organizational Plates*, as are those of the Marine Corps League, Silent Runners, and all the Organizations which have been authorized to have such special *Organizational Plates*.

Senate Bill 700 requires the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to verify that an applicant for OUR ORGANIZATIONAL PLATES has the Purple Heart but exempts that person from having to be a member of our organization.

Senate Bill 700 may very well be unconstitutional in that it changes one of our criteria to be entitled to our organizational plates, i.e., membership in our organization. To provide a person with our organizational plates implies that person is a member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart without actually having to be a member, which may be violations of the First and Fifth Amendments (freedom of assembly and taking of property without due process).

Respectfully,

Charles P. Gallagher

Charles P. Gallagher, Judge Advocate
Department of Connecticut
Military Order of the Purple Heart