
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5074

AN ACT CONCERNING A MOTOR VEHICLE NUMBER PLATE COMMEMORATING CONNECTICUT WOMEN VETERANS.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the motor vehicles commissioner, at the request of a woman who is a veteran or member of the armed forces, to register a motor vehicle and issue a special certificate of registration and a set of license plates commemorating the woman's service. The bill applies if the motor vehicle is owned or leased by the woman veteran or member for at least one year and includes a motor vehicle used exclusively for farming purposes by a woman veteran or woman member who is engaged in agricultural production as a trade or business.

By law, veterans, armed forces members, or their surviving spouses can request a special registration certificate and license plates under the same circumstances.

The bill also makes various technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2025

BACKGROUND

Definition of a Veteran

A "veteran" is anyone honorably discharged or released under honorable conditions, or released with an other than honorable (OTH) discharge based on a qualifying condition, from active service in the armed forces (the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Space Force, Air Force, and any of their reserve components, including the Connecticut National Guard when under federal service) (CGS § 27-103).

A qualifying condition is a (1) post-traumatic stress disorder or traumatic brain injury diagnosis by a licensed health care professional

at a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs facility; (2) military sexual trauma disclosed to such a health care professional; or (3) determination by the Qualifying Review Board that sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression was more likely than not the primary reason for the OTH discharge (CGS § 27-103).

Related Bills

HB 5787 (File 40), favorably reported by the Veterans’ and Military Affairs Committee, allows veterans and members of the armed forces who get a license plate recognizing the Military Order of the Purple Heart to apply for reimbursement of the cost of joining a chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart in order to get the license plate.

HB 6724, favorably reported by the Veterans’ and Military Affairs Committee, authorizes commemorative license plates in recognition of “The Borinqueneers” (the primarily Puerto Rican members of the 65th Infantry Regiment of the U.S. Army who served with distinction). A portion of the fee for the license plates must be used by Hispanic-American Veterans of Connecticut, Inc. to provide bilingual services and assistance to Connecticut veterans and members of the armed forces.

HB 6734, favorably reported by the Veterans’ and Military Affairs Committee, reduces the fee for veterans and armed forces members for certain military-related license plates to the cost to make these plates.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Veterans' and Military Affairs Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/11/2025)