

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 50

DATE: February 25, 2011

Version: Delete everything amendment (H0050DE4)

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Subject: Veterans; creating a license plate for women veterans

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Overview

This bill creates a new veterans license plate, for *women veterans* who have served honorably in any branch or unit of the United States Armed Forces at any time and place.

As with most other veterans plates authorized under current law, the veteran would be charged a \$10 fee upon application for the *Woman Veteran* plate, in addition to being charged the regular annual registration fee for the vehicle. In addition, there would be a \$5 surcharge for each set of Woman Veteran plates, for a grant to the Minnesota Women Veterans Initiative Working Group for use in promoting public awareness of woman soldiers and veterans. The plate issuance would be for the veteran's lifetime, and for an additional fee of \$5 would be transferable to another motor vehicle owned or co-owned by the veteran, if desired.

Under the A1 amendment, the existence of this new *Woman Veteran* license plate would not prevent a qualifying female veteran from *instead* applying for any other veterans license plate for which she may qualify - e.g., a veteran's war plate or distinguished military medal plate. However, given the (requested) design of the new plate, the choices would be mutually exclusive; a woman vet would be able to get either a woman veteran plate or a regular (war-designated) veterans plate, but not both. Nevertheless, as with any other veterans plates, a qualifying veteran may register one type of plate on one vehicle (e.g., the *Woman Veteran* plate), and a different type of plate on a second or subsequent motor vehicle that the person is registering (e.g., the *Iraq War Veteran* plate).

[Note that the original bill language would have recognized a qualified female veteran by means of a special emblem or other design feature imposed onto any other existing veterans license plate - e.g., a special decal placed onto an Iraq War Veteran plate, assuming that the qualifying female veteran was also qualified for that particular war plate.]