



HOUSE BILL 427: Honor Women Veterans Plate/Women Veterans Day.

2023-2024 General Assembly

Committee:	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 26, 2023
Introduced by:	Reps. Majeed, Logan, Cunningham, Goodwin	Prepared by:	Trina Griffin
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 427 would authorize the Division of Motor Vehicles to produce a new Honor Women Veterans special registration plate. The requestor of the plate has submitted everything required by the statutory plate development process, making this authorization eligible for consideration during the current legislative session. The bill would also designate June 12 of each year as Women Veterans Day in North Carolina.*

CURRENT LAW: North Carolina offers a number of special registration plates. Upon application and payment of the required registration fees, a person may obtain from the Division of Motor Vehicles a special registration plate for a motor vehicle registered in that person's name if the person qualifies for the plate. The issuance of most authorized plates is contingent upon the receipt by the Division of at least 300 applications for a standard background plate, or 500 applications for full-color background plates.

As a general rule, the fee for a special registration plate is the regular vehicle registration fee plus a \$10 special registration plate fee. The \$10 special registration plate fee is credited to the Special Registration Plate Account. After deducting the cost of the plates from this account, \$1.3 million is appropriated to provide operating assistance for Visitor Centers. The remaining revenue in the account is transferred quarterly to the Department of Transportation for highway beautification (50%) and the Highway Fund for the Roadside Vegetation Management Program (50%). The cost of some special plates includes a fee in addition to the \$10 special registration plate fee. In those instances, the first \$10 goes to the special registration plate fund and the remainder is transferred quarterly to designated beneficiaries.

In 2014, the General Assembly enacted legislation creating a development process for special registration plates, which requires the organization desiring the plate to submit the required number of paid applications to the Division before legislation is introduced to authorize the plate. Once legislation has passed, the organization must submit the final artwork and list of paid applicants to the Division within 60 days, or the authorization expires.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 427 would authorize the Division to produce a new Honor Women Veterans special registration plate. The plate would be issuable to any registered owner of a motor vehicle and would bear the silhouette of a saluting female Armed Forces member and the phrase "Honor Women Veterans". The fee for the plate, in addition to the regular vehicle registration fee, would be \$10.

The organization requesting the plate has completed the requirements of the plate development process, including submitting the required number of paid applications, as reported by the Division of Motor Vehicles.

The bill would also designate June 12 of each year as Women Veterans Day in North Carolina.

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Legislative Analysis
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EFFECTIVE DATE: The Honor Women Veterans plate authorization would become effective July 1, 2023. The remainder of the act would be effective when it becomes law.

Wendy Ray, counsel to House Transportation, substantially contributed to this summary.