



Department of the Secretary of State Bureau of Motor Vehicles

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

L.D. 990 “An Act Regarding Veterans License Plates”

Testimony Provided by Stephen P. Ashcroft, Director of Vehicle Services
Department of the Secretary of State Bureau of Motor Vehicles
April 8, 2021

Senator Diamond, Representative Martin, members of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation, my name is Stephen Ashcroft. I am the Director of Vehicle Services for the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. I am representing the Bureau today speaking “neither for nor against” this bill.

It is the intent of my testimony today to advise the committee on any implementation and financially considerations this bill may have as written. The bureau fully supports honoring our veterans and in no way wishes this testimony to be construed as unsupportive of their service and sacrifice.

Presently, the bureau has issued approximately 50,202 Veteran’s registration plates that would be encompassed within the scope of this bill.

As we contemplate the implementation of this bill, several problems arise. We currently do not have any way to distinguish which of the “up to 3” registration plates would be the “one-time fee” registration and which would be subject to the yearly renewal fee. In speaking with our Information Services staff, they tell me there is currently no relationship between plates and there is no easy way to program such a relationship within our database. Moreover, anytime these types of changes have to be made within our systems, we also have to take into account that we have three independent vendor systems that our municipal partners use to process registrations. Our municipal partners do not use the BMV software that our branches and main office use. Requiring these programming changes to both our systems and these vendor systems would be problematic, time consuming and possibly costly.

Additionally, renewal revenue generated from the current 50,202 registration plates would subsequently not be subject to a renewal fee which would amount to approximately \$1.7 million dollars yearly.

I would be happy to answer any questions you may have at this time.