

HB1187



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB1187

Introduced 1/9/2025, by Rep. Maurice A. West, II

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

605 ILCS 10/19

from Ch. 121, par. 100-19

Amends the Toll Highway Act. Allows an individual who is a veteran or active duty member of the United States Armed Forces to use any toll highway in the State without paying the toll if the veteran or active duty member of the United States Armed Forces displays a military license plate offered by the Secretary of State while using the toll highway.

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A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Toll Highway Act is amended by changing
5 Section 19 as follows:

6 (605 ILCS 10/19) (from Ch. 121, par. 100-19)

7 Sec. 19. Toll rates. The Authority shall fix and revise
8 from time to time, tolls or charges or rates for the privilege
9 of using each of the toll highways constructed pursuant to
10 this Act. Such tolls shall be so fixed and adjusted at rates
11 calculated to provide the lowest reasonable toll rates that
12 will provide funds sufficient with other revenues of the
13 Authority to pay, (a) the cost of the construction of a toll
14 highway authorized by joint resolution of the General Assembly
15 pursuant to Section 14.1 and the reconstruction, major repairs
16 or improvements of toll highways, (b) the cost of maintaining,
17 repairing, regulating and operating the toll highways
18 including only the necessary expenses of the Authority, and
19 (c) the principal of all bonds, interest thereon and all
20 sinking fund requirements and other requirements provided by
21 resolutions authorizing the issuance of the bonds as they
22 shall become due. In fixing the toll rates pursuant to this
23 Section 19 and Section 10(c) of this Act, the Authority shall

1 take into account the effect of the provisions of this Section
2 19 permitting the use of the toll highway system without
3 payment of the covenants of the Authority contained in the
4 resolutions and trust indentures authorizing the issuance of
5 bonds of the Authority. No such provision permitting the use
6 of the toll highway system without payment of tolls after the
7 date of this amendatory Act of the 95th General Assembly shall
8 be applied in a manner that impairs the rights of bondholders
9 pursuant to any resolution or trust indentures authorizing the
10 issuance of bonds of the Authority. The use and disposition of
11 any sinking or reserve fund shall be subject to such
12 regulation as may be provided in the resolution or trust
13 indenture authorizing the issuance of the bonds. Subject to
14 the provisions of any resolution or trust indenture
15 authorizing the issuance of bonds any moneys in any such
16 sinking fund in excess of an amount equal to one year's
17 interest on the bonds then outstanding secured by such sinking
18 fund may be applied to the purchase or redemption of bonds. All
19 such bonds so redeemed or purchased shall forthwith be
20 cancelled and shall not again be issued. No person shall be
21 permitted to use any toll highway without paying the toll
22 established under this Section except when on official Toll
23 Highway Authority business which includes police and other
24 emergency vehicles or an individual who is a veteran or active
25 duty member of the United States Armed Forces. However, any
26 law enforcement agency vehicle, fire department vehicle,

1 public or private ambulance service vehicle engaged in the
2 performance of an emergency service or duty that necessitates
3 the use of the toll highway system, or other emergency vehicle
4 that is plainly marked shall not be required to pay a toll to
5 use a toll highway. A law enforcement, fire protection, or
6 emergency services officer driving a law enforcement, fire
7 protection, emergency services agency vehicle, or public or
8 private ambulance service vehicle engaging in the performance
9 of emergency services or duties that is not plainly marked
10 must present an Official Permit Card which the law
11 enforcement, fire protection, or emergency services officer
12 receives from his or her law enforcement, fire protection,
13 emergency services agency, or public or private ambulance
14 service in order to use a toll highway without paying the toll.
15 A law enforcement, fire protection, emergency services agency,
16 or public or private ambulance service engaging in the
17 performance of emergency services or duties must apply to the
18 Authority to receive a permit, and the Authority shall adopt
19 rules for the issuance of a permit, that allows public or
20 private ambulance service vehicles engaged in the performance
21 of emergency services or duties that necessitate the use of
22 the toll highway system and all law enforcement, fire
23 protection, or emergency services agency vehicles of the law
24 enforcement, fire protection, or emergency services agency to
25 use any toll highway without paying the toll established under
26 this Section. A veteran or active duty member of the United

1 States Armed Forces must display a military license plate as
2 offered by the Secretary of State in order to use any toll
3 highway in this State without paying the toll established
4 under this Section. The Authority shall maintain in its office
5 a list of all persons that are authorized to use any toll
6 highway without charge when on official business of the
7 Authority and such list shall be open to the public for
8 inspection. In recognition of the unique role of public
9 transportation in providing effective transportation in the
10 Authority's service region, and to give effect to the
11 exemption set forth in subsection (b) of Section 2.06 of the
12 Regional Transportation Authority Act, the following vehicles
13 may use any toll highway without paying the toll: (1) a vehicle
14 owned or operated by the Suburban Bus Division of the Regional
15 Transportation Authority that is being used to transport
16 passengers for hire; and (2) any revenue vehicle that is owned
17 or operated by a Mass Transit District created under Section 3
18 of the Local Mass Transit District Act and running regular
19 scheduled service.

20 Among other matters, this amendatory Act of 1990 is
21 intended to clarify and confirm the prior intent of the
22 General Assembly to allow toll revenues from the toll highway
23 system to be used to pay a portion of the cost of the
24 construction of the North-South Toll Highway authorized by
25 Senate Joint Resolution 122 of the 83rd General Assembly in
26 1984.

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1 (Source: P.A. 100-739, eff. 1-1-19.)