



Rep. Kevin Schmidt

**Filed: 3/24/2026**

10400HB4385ham001

LRB104 17295 LNS 35935 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 4385

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend House Bill 4385 by replacing  
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by  
5 changing Sections 3-609, 3-609.1, 3-609.3, 3-620, 3-623, and  
6 3-806.2 and by adding Section 3-609.4 as follows:

7 (625 ILCS 5/3-609) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 3-609)

8 Sec. 3-609. Plates for veterans with disabilities.

9 (a) Any veteran who holds proof of a service-connected  
10 disability from the United States Department of Veterans  
11 Affairs, and who has obtained certification from a licensed  
12 physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice  
13 registered nurse that the service-connected disability  
14 qualifies the veteran for issuance of registration plates or  
15 digital registration plates or decals to a person with  
16 disabilities in accordance with Section 3-616, may, without

1 the payment of any registration fee, make application to the  
2 Secretary of State for up to 2 sets of license plates for  
3 veterans with disabilities displaying the international symbol  
4 of access, for the registration of a ~~one~~ motor vehicle of the  
5 first division, ~~one~~ motorcycle, or ~~one~~ motor vehicle of the  
6 second division weighing not more than 8,000 pounds.

7 (b) Any veteran who holds proof of a service-connected  
8 disability from the United States Department of Veterans  
9 Affairs, and whose degree of disability has been declared to  
10 be 50% or more, but whose disability does not qualify the  
11 veteran for a plate or decal for persons with disabilities  
12 under Section 3-616, may, without the payment of any  
13 registration fee, make application to the Secretary for up to  
14 2 sets of ~~a~~ special registration plates ~~plate~~ or digital  
15 registration plates ~~plate~~ without the international symbol of  
16 access for the registration of a ~~one~~ motor vehicle of the first  
17 division, ~~one~~ motorcycle, or ~~one~~ motor vehicle of the second  
18 division weighing not more than 8,000 pounds.

19 (c) Renewal of such registration must be accompanied with  
20 documentation for eligibility of registration without fee  
21 unless the applicant has a permanent qualifying disability,  
22 and such registration plates or digital registration plates  
23 may not be issued to any person not eligible therefor. The  
24 Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs may assist in  
25 providing the documentation of disability.

26 (d) The design and color of the plates shall be within the

1 discretion of the Secretary, except that the plates issued  
2 under subsection (b) of this Section shall not contain the  
3 international symbol of access. The Secretary may, in his or  
4 her discretion, allow the plates to be issued as vanity or  
5 personalized plates in accordance with Section 3-405.1 of this  
6 Code. Registration shall be for a multi-year period and may be  
7 issued staggered registration.

8 (e) Any person eligible to receive license plates under  
9 this Section who has been approved for benefits under the  
10 Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities Property Tax  
11 Relief Act, or who has claimed and received a grant under that  
12 Act, shall pay a fee of \$24 instead of the fee otherwise  
13 provided in this Code for passenger cars displaying standard  
14 multi-year registration plates or digital registration plates  
15 issued under Section 3-414.1, for motor vehicles registered at  
16 8,000 pounds or less under Section 3-815(a), or for  
17 recreational vehicles registered at 8,000 pounds or less under  
18 Section 3-815(b), for a second set of plates under this  
19 Section.

20 (f) With respect to the supporting documentation required  
21 to obtain a plate under this Section, the Secretary shall  
22 allow an applicant to redact information on the documentation  
23 that pertains to the nature of the applicant's health issue,  
24 unless that information is necessary to confirm that the  
25 applicant's disability is service-connected or to establish  
26 the degree of the applicant's service-connected disability.

1 (Source: P.A. 104-234, eff. 8-15-25.)

2 (625 ILCS 5/3-609.1) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 3-609.1)

3 Sec. 3-609.1. Medal of Honor plates. Any resident of the  
4 State of Illinois who has been awarded the Medal of Honor, or  
5 an Illinois resident who is the surviving spouse of a person  
6 who was awarded the Medal of Honor, may make application for  
7 the registration for up to 2 motor vehicles ~~of a motor vehicle~~  
8 owned solely or in part by such recipient, to the Secretary of  
9 State without the payment of any registration fee.  
10 Registration shall be for a multi-year period effective from  
11 issuance. The Secretary of State shall furnish at his or her  
12 office at no cost to such Medal of Honor recipients, plates  
13 bearing up to 3 letters designating the recipient's initials  
14 followed by the letters M O H signifying the Medal of Honor.  
15 The plate shall be suitable for attachment to a motor vehicle  
16 or motorcycle registered under this Code.

17 (Source: P.A. 101-262, eff. 1-1-20.)

18 (625 ILCS 5/3-609.3)

19 Sec. 3-609.3. Military series registration plates for  
20 veterans with disabilities. In lieu of receiving registration  
21 plates without the payment of a fee under Section 3-609, any  
22 veteran who holds proof of a 50% or greater service-connected  
23 disability from the United States Department of Veterans  
24 Affairs may apply for a military series registration plate in

1 the manner prescribed by the Secretary of State. Upon the  
2 veteran showing proof of the disability, up to 2 sets of a  
3 military series registration plates ~~plate~~ may be issued to the  
4 veteran without fee for the registration of a ~~one~~ motor  
5 vehicle of the first division or ~~one~~ motor vehicle of the  
6 second division weighing not more than 8,000 pounds. Any  
7 additional fee collected for the issuance and renewal of the  
8 military series registration plate, as may be specified in the  
9 provision authorizing the issuance of that special plate,  
10 shall not be included in the fee waiver authorized under this  
11 Section.

12 (Source: P.A. 104-230, eff. 1-1-26.)

13 (625 ILCS 5/3-609.4 new)

14 Sec. 3-609.4. Second set of no-fee military plates. A  
15 person eligible to receive special plates under Section 3-609,  
16 3-609.1, 3-609.3, 3-620, or 3-623 is entitled to receive, upon  
17 application to the Secretary of State, a second set of the  
18 special plates under the same terms and conditions as the  
19 first set of special plates.

20 (625 ILCS 5/3-620) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 3-620)

21 Sec. 3-620. The Secretary, upon receipt of an application  
22 made on the form prescribed by the Secretary of State, may  
23 issue special registration plates to United States citizens,  
24 who are present or former members of the United States armed

1 forces or any of its allies, and who were prisoners of war of  
2 World War I, World War II, the Korean Conflict, and the  
3 Vietnamese conflict, or to the widowed spouse of a former  
4 member of the United States armed forces, providing that  
5 widowed spouse was married to the POW at the time of death, and  
6 is a single person at the time of application. The special  
7 plates issued pursuant to this Section shall be affixed only  
8 to passenger vehicles of the first division subject to the  
9 staggered registration system, motorcycles, and vehicles of  
10 the second division having a gross weight of 8,000 pounds or  
11 less and shall be issued without charge. Only 2 sets ~~one set~~ of  
12 plates may be issued at no fee.

13 The design and color of the prisoner of war plates shall be  
14 wholly within the discretion of the Secretary of State. The  
15 Secretary may, in his or her discretion, allow the plates to be  
16 issued as vanity or personalized plates in accordance with  
17 Section 3-405.1 of this Code.

18 (Source: P.A. 95-353, eff. 1-1-08.)

19 (625 ILCS 5/3-623) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 3-623)

20 Sec. 3-623. Purple Heart Plates.

21 (a) The Secretary, upon receipt of an application made in  
22 the form prescribed by the Secretary of State, may issue to  
23 recipients awarded the Purple Heart by a branch of the armed  
24 forces of the United States who reside in Illinois, special  
25 registration plates. The Secretary, upon receipt of the proper

1 application, may also issue these special registration plates  
2 to an Illinois resident who is the surviving spouse of a person  
3 who was awarded the Purple Heart by a branch of the armed  
4 forces of the United States. The special plates issued  
5 pursuant to this Section should be affixed only to passenger  
6 vehicles of the 1st division, including motorcycles, or motor  
7 vehicles of the 2nd division weighing not more than 8,000  
8 pounds. The Secretary may, in his or her discretion, allow the  
9 plates to be issued as vanity or personalized plates in  
10 accordance with Section 3-405.1 of this Code. The Secretary of  
11 State must make a version of the special registration plates  
12 authorized under this Section in a form appropriate for  
13 motorcycles.

14 (b) The design and color of such plates shall be wholly  
15 within the discretion of the Secretary of State. Appropriate  
16 documentation, as determined by the Secretary, and the  
17 appropriate registration fee shall accompany the application,  
18 except:

19 (1) a person eligible to be issued Purple Heart plates  
20 may display the plates on up to 2 vehicles ~~one vehicle~~  
21 without the payment of any registration or registration  
22 renewal fee; and

23 (2) for an individual who has been issued Purple Heart  
24 plates for an additional vehicle and who has been approved  
25 for benefits under the Senior Citizens and Persons with  
26 Disabilities Property Tax Relief Act, the annual fee for

1 the registration of the vehicle shall be as provided in  
2 Section 3-806.3 of this Code.

3 (Source: P.A. 98-902, eff. 1-1-15; 99-143, eff. 7-27-15.)

4 (625 ILCS 5/3-806.2) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 3-806.2)

5 Sec. 3-806.2. Limitations on no-fee plates. Except as  
6 provided in Section 3-609.4, no ~~no~~ individual shall be issued  
7 more than one pair of plates of any category for which no fee  
8 is required. The Secretary of State may issue additional pairs  
9 of plates of any such category upon receiving the required  
10 application and registration fees.

11 (Source: P.A. 88-517.)

12 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,  
13 2027."