



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB4985

Introduced 2/8/2024, by Rep. Ryan Spain

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 5/3-609

from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 3-609

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that a veteran who holds proof of a service-connected disability from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs may, without the payment of a registration fee, make application to the Secretary of State for one motor vehicle of the second division weighing not more than 10,000 (rather than 8,000) pounds for license plates for veterans with disabilities displaying the international symbol of access or, if the veteran's degree of disability has been declared to be 50% or more, but does not qualify the veteran for a plate or decal for persons with disabilities, for a special registration plate or digital registration plate without the international symbol of access for the registration.

LRB103 38550 MXP 68686 b

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 Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by
5 changing Section 3-609 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 5/3-609) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 3-609)

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

8 (a) Any veteran who holds proof of a service-connected
9 disability from the United States Department of Veterans
10 Affairs, and who has obtained certification from a licensed
11 physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice
12 registered nurse that the service-connected disability
13 qualifies the veteran for issuance of registration plates or
14 digital registration plates or decals to a person with
15 disabilities in accordance with Section 3-616, may, without
16 the payment of any registration fee, make application to the
17 Secretary of State for license plates for veterans with
18 disabilities displaying the international symbol of access,
19 for the registration of one motor vehicle of the first
20 division, one motorcycle, or one motor vehicle of the second
21 division weighing not more than 10,000 ~~8,000~~ pounds.

22 (b) Any veteran who holds proof of a service-connected
23 disability from the United States Department of Veterans

1 Affairs, and whose degree of disability has been declared to
2 be 50% or more, but whose disability does not qualify the
3 veteran for a plate or decal for persons with disabilities
4 under Section 3-616, may, without the payment of any
5 registration fee, make application to the Secretary for a
6 special registration plate or digital registration plate
7 without the international symbol of access for the
8 registration of one motor vehicle of the first division, one
9 motorcycle, or one motor vehicle of the second division
10 weighing not more than 10,000 ~~8,000~~ pounds.

11 (c) Renewal of such registration must be accompanied with
12 documentation for eligibility of registration without fee
13 unless the applicant has a permanent qualifying disability,
14 and such registration plates or digital registration plates
15 may not be issued to any person not eligible therefor. The
16 Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs may assist in
17 providing the documentation of disability.

18 (d) The design and color of the plates shall be within the
19 discretion of the Secretary, except that the plates issued
20 under subsection (b) of this Section shall not contain the
21 international symbol of access. The Secretary may, in his or
22 her discretion, allow the plates to be issued as vanity or
23 personalized plates in accordance with Section 3-405.1 of this
24 Code. Registration shall be for a multi-year period and may be
25 issued staggered registration.

26 (e) Any person eligible to receive license plates under

1 this Section who has been approved for benefits under the
2 Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities Property Tax
3 Relief Act, or who has claimed and received a grant under that
4 Act, shall pay a fee of \$24 instead of the fee otherwise
5 provided in this Code for passenger cars displaying standard
6 multi-year registration plates or digital registration plates
7 issued under Section 3-414.1, for motor vehicles registered at
8 8,000 pounds or less under Section 3-815(a), or for
9 recreational vehicles registered at 8,000 pounds or less under
10 Section 3-815(b), for a second set of plates under this
11 Section.

12 (f) With respect to the supporting documentation required
13 to obtain a plate under this Section, the Secretary shall
14 allow an applicant to redact information on the documentation
15 that pertains to the nature of the applicant's health issue,
16 unless that information is necessary to confirm that the
17 applicant's disability is service-connected or to establish
18 the degree of the applicant's service-connected disability.

19 (Source: P.A. 101-395, eff. 8-16-19; 101-536, eff. 1-1-20;
20 102-273, eff. 8-6-21; 102-558, eff. 8-20-21.)