

ASSEMBLY, No. 2402

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

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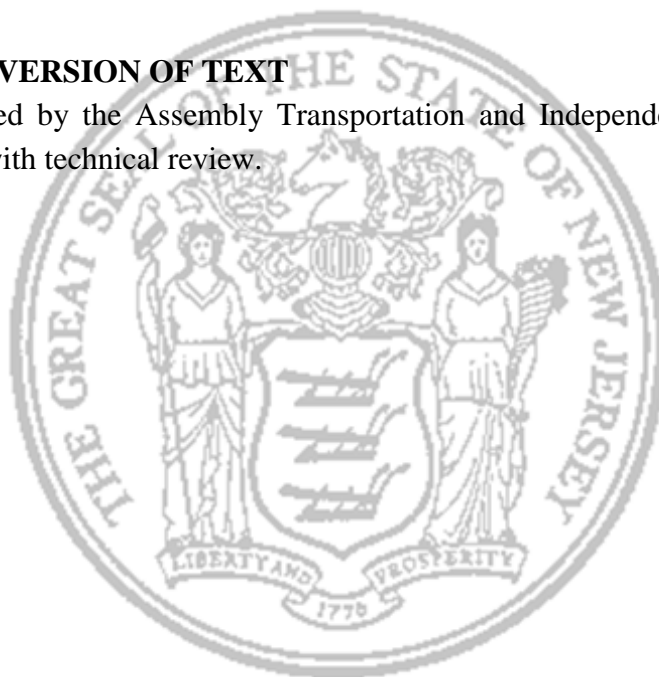
Assemblywoman **Flynn**, Assemblymen **Scharfenberger**, **McClellan**,
Torrissi, **Kanitra**, Assemblywoman **Carter**, Assemblymen **Inganamort**,
Stanley and Assemblywoman **Speight**

SYNOPSIS

Authorizes special license plates for members of the United States Coast Guard.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Transportation and Independent Authorities Committee with technical review.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/28/2024)

A2402 SIMONSEN, MURPHY

2

1 AN ACT concerning special motor vehicle registration plates for
2 members of the United States Coast Guard and supplementing
3 chapter 3 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

7
8 1. a. Upon proper application, the Chief Administrator of the
9 New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission shall issue United States
10 Coast Guard license plates for any motor vehicle owned or leased
11 and registered in the State to a person who is an active member of
12 the United States Coast Guard or former active member who has
13 been honorably separated from the United States Coast Guard, any
14 motor vehicle owned by a business firm of which such person is the
15 principal owner or stockholder, or to any motor vehicle owned or
16 leased by the parent or spouse of such person. In addition to the
17 registration number and other markings or identification otherwise
18 prescribed by law, the license plate shall display the United States
19 Coast Guard Seal and appropriate words or a slogan representative
20 of the United States Coast Guard. The chief administrator, in
21 consultation with the United States Coast Guard, shall select the
22 design, including an emblem and color scheme. United States
23 Coast Guard license plates shall be subject to the provisions of
24 chapter 3 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes, except as hereinafter
25 otherwise specifically provided.

26 b. Application for issuance of United States Coast Guard
27 license plates shall be made to the chief administrator in a form and
28 manner prescribed by the chief administrator. The application shall
29 include proof satisfactory to the chief administrator that the
30 applicant or the applicant's spouse or child is an active member of
31 the United States Coast Guard or former active member who has
32 been honorably separated from the United States Coast Guard. In
33 order to be deemed complete, an application shall be accompanied
34 by a fee of \$50, payable to the commission, which shall be in
35 addition to the fees otherwise prescribed by law for the registration
36 of a motor vehicle.

37 The chief administrator shall collect annually, subsequent to the
38 year of issuance of the United States Coast Guard license plates, a
39 \$10 fee for the license plates in addition to the fees otherwise
40 prescribed by law for the registration of a motor vehicle. The
41 additional fees required by this subsection shall be deposited in the
42 "United States Coast Guard License Plate Fund" created pursuant to
43 subsection c. of this section.

44 c. There is created in the Department of the Treasury a special
45 non-lapsing fund to be known as the "United States Coast Guard
46 License Plate Fund." There shall be deposited in the fund the
47 amount collected from all license plate fees collected pursuant to
48 subsection b. of this section, less the amounts necessary to

1 reimburse the commission for the administrative costs pursuant to
2 subsection d. of this section. Monies deposited in the fund shall be
3 appropriated annually to the United States Coast Guard. Monies
4 deposited in the fund shall be held in interest bearing accounts in
5 public depositories as defined pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1970,
6 c.236 (C.17:9-41), and may be invested or reinvested in such
7 securities as are approved by the State Treasurer. Interest or other
8 income earned on monies deposited in the fund, and any monies
9 which may be appropriated or otherwise become available for the
10 purposes of the fund, shall be credited to and deposited in the fund
11 for use as set forth in this section.

12 d. Prior to the deposit of the additional fees collected pursuant
13 to subsection b. of this section into the "United States Coast Guard
14 License Plate Fund," amounts thereof as are necessary shall be used
15 to reimburse the commission for all costs reasonably and actually
16 incurred, as stipulated by the chief administrator, for:

17 (1) designing, producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing the
18 availability of the United States Coast Guard license plates; and

19 (2) any computer programming changes that may be initially
20 necessary to implement the United States Coast Guard license plate
21 program in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

22 The chief administrator shall annually certify to the State
23 Treasurer the average cost per license plate incurred in the
24 immediately preceding year by the commission in producing,
25 issuing, renewing, and publicizing the availability of the United
26 States Coast Guard license plates. The annual certification of the
27 average cost per license plate shall be approved by the Joint Budget
28 Oversight Committee or its successor.

29 In the event that the average cost per license plate as certified by
30 the chief administrator and approved by the Joint Budget Oversight
31 Committee, or its successor, is greater than the \$50 application fee
32 established in subsection b. of this section in two consecutive fiscal
33 years, the chief administrator may discontinue the issuance of
34 United States Coast Guard license plates.

35 e. The chief administrator shall notify eligible motorists of the
36 opportunity to obtain United States Coast Guard license plates by
37 publicizing the availability of the license plates on the website of
38 the commission. The United States Coast Guard, and any other
39 individual or entity designated by the United States Coast Guard,
40 may publicize the availability of the license plates in any manner
41 the United States Coast Guard deems appropriate.

42 f. The chief administrator and the United States Coast Guard
43 shall develop and enter into a memorandum of agreement setting
44 forth the procedures to be followed in carrying out their respective
45 responsibilities under P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
46 Legislature as this bill).

47 g. The United States Coast Guard shall appoint a representative
48 who shall act as a liaison between the United States Coast Guard

1 and the commission. The liaison shall represent the United States
2 Coast Guard in any and all communications with the commission
3 regarding the license plates established by P.L. , c. (C.)
4 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

5

6 2. a. State or public funds shall not be used by the
7 commission for the initial cost of:

8 (1) designing, producing, issuing, and publicizing the
9 availability of United States Coast Guard license plates; or

10 (2) any computer programming changes which may be
11 necessary to implement the United States Coast Guard license plate
12 program established by P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
13 Legislature as this bill).

14 b. The United States Coast Guard, or an individual or entity
15 designated by the United States Coast Guard, shall contribute non-
16 public monies in an amount to be determined by the chief
17 administrator, not to exceed a total of \$25,000, to be used to offset
18 the initial costs incurred by the commission for designing,
19 producing, issuing, and publicizing the availability of United States
20 Coast Guard license plates and for any computer programming
21 which may be necessary to implement the license plate program.
22 Concerned organizations and individual donors may contribute
23 monies to the United States Coast Guard to be used to offset the
24 initial costs incurred by the commission for the United States Coast
25 Guard license plates authorized by P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
26 before the Legislature as this bill). Any amount remaining after the
27 payment of the initial cost shall be deposited in the “United States
28 Coast Guard License Plate Fund” established pursuant to subsection
29 c. of section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
30 Legislature as this bill).

31 c. The commission shall not begin designing, producing,
32 issuing, or publicizing the availability of United States Coast Guard
33 license plates, or making any necessary programming changes, until
34 the following requirements have been met:

35 (1) the United States Coast Guard, or the individual or entity
36 designated by the United States Coast Guard, has provided the
37 commission with the money necessary, as determined by the chief
38 administrator pursuant to subsection b. of this section, to offset the
39 initial costs incurred by the commission in establishing the United
40 States Coast Guard license plate program; and

41 (2) the liaison appointed by the United States Coast Guard
42 pursuant to subsection g. of section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.)
43 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) has provided the
44 commission with not less than 500 completed applications for the
45 United States Coast Guard license plates. These applications shall
46 constitute the initial order for United States Coast Guard license
47 plates and shall be accompanied by a fee representing the total cost
48 of the initial order. The fee shall be determined by multiplying the

1 number of sets of license plates being ordered by the applicable
2 initial fee for each set of license plates as set forth in subsection b.
3 of section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
4 Legislature as this bill).

5
6 3. This act shall take effect immediately but shall remain
7 inoperative until the first day of the 13th month following the date
8 on which the conditions set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2) of
9 subsection c. of section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
10 the Legislature as this bill) have been satisfied. The chief
11 administrator may take such anticipatory actions in advance of that
12 date as may be necessary for the timely implementation of
13 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).
14 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)
15 shall expire if the conditions set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2) of
16 subsection c. of section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
17 the Legislature as this bill) are not satisfied by the last day of the
18 12th month following enactment.