

## CHAPTER 319

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**MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC REGULATION**


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## SENATE BILL 21-253

BY SENATOR(S) Zenzinger and Danielson, Buckner, Rankin, Story, Winter, Garcia;  
 also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Carver and Michaelson Jenet, Bacon, Bennett, Bird, Cutter, Exum, Herod, Hooton, Jackson, Jodeh,  
 Lontine, McCluskie, McLachlan, Mullica, Ortiz, Ricks, Snyder, Sullivan, Tipper, Valdez A., Valdez D., Woodrow, Young.

## AN ACT

**CONCERNING LICENSE PLATES FOR VETERANS WHO HAVE DISABILITIES, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, CREATING A LICENSE PLATE TO HONOR WOMEN VETERANS WITH DISABILITIES AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

**SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 42-3-213, **amend** (1)(a)(XXIX), (1)(a)(XXX), and (1)(b)(II) introductory portion; and **add** (1)(a)(XXXI), (1)(b)(II)(J), and (32) as follows:

**42-3-213. License plates - military veterans - rules - retirement.** (1) (a) The department shall issue one or more sets of license plates to the following persons who own a truck that does not exceed sixteen thousand pounds empty weight, a passenger car, a motorcycle, or a noncommercial or recreational vehicle:

(XXIX) An honorably discharged, retired, reserve, or active member of a submarine crew of the United States Navy; ~~or~~

(XXX) An honorably discharged or retired woman veteran of the United States armed forces; OR

(XXXI) A WOMAN VETERAN OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES WHO HAS A DISABILITY.

(b) (II) Notwithstanding ~~subparagraph (I) of this paragraph (b)~~ SUBSECTION (1)(b)(I) OF THIS SECTION:

(J) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT CHARGE A FEE FOR ONE SET OF DISABLED

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*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.*

WOMAN VETERAN LICENSE PLATES ISSUED UNDER SUBSECTION (32) OF THIS SECTION FOR A PASSENGER CAR, TRUCK, MOTORCYCLE, OR NONCOMMERCIAL OR RECREATIONAL VEHICLE.

(32) **Disabled women veterans.** (a) THE LICENSE PLATE THAT HONORS UNITED STATES WOMEN VETERANS WHO HAVE DISABILITIES MUST INDICATE THAT AN OWNER OF A MOTOR VEHICLE TO WHICH THE PLATE IS ATTACHED IS A WOMAN VETERAN OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES WHO HAS A DISABILITY.

(b) A WOMAN VETERAN WHO HAS RECEIVED AN HONORABLE DISCHARGE FROM OR IS RETIRED FROM THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES AND MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 42-3-304 (3)(a) MAY USE A LICENSE PLATE THAT HONORS UNITED STATES WOMEN VETERANS WHO HAVE DISABILITIES. TO BE ISSUED THE LICENSE PLATE, AN APPLICANT MUST BE A WOMAN AND MUST SUBMIT A DD214 FORM ISSUED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT OR OTHER EVIDENCE SUFFICIENT TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE APPLICANT HAS AN HONORABLE DISCHARGE FROM OR IS RETIRED FROM THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES.

(c) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DESIGN THE LICENSE PLATE ISSUED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION (32) TO INDICATE THAT THE LICENSE PLATE IS ISSUED TO A WOMAN VETERAN WHO HAS A DISABILITY. THE DEPARTMENT MAY ISSUE ADDITIONAL LICENSE PLATES UNDER THIS SUBSECTION (32) TO ELIGIBLE PERSONS UPON THE PAYMENT OF ANY FEE REQUIRED BY THIS ARTICLE 3.

(d) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL BEGIN ISSUING THE UNITED STATES DISABLED WOMAN VETERAN LICENSE PLATE ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2022.

**SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 42-3-104, **amend** (5) as follows:

**42-3-104. Exemptions - specific ownership tax - registration - domicile and residency - rules - definitions.** (5) (a) One Class B or Class C motor vehicle weighing less than sixteen thousand pounds empty weight owned by a person who is a veteran and has established rights to benefits under the provisions of Public Law 663, 79th Congress, as amended, and Public Law 187, 82nd Congress, as amended, or is a veteran of the armed forces of the United States who incurred a disability and is receiving compensation from the veterans administration or any branch of the armed forces of the United States for a fifty percent or more, service-connected, permanent disability, or for loss of use of one or both feet or one or both hands, or for permanent impairment or loss of vision in both eyes that constitutes virtual blindness ~~shall be~~ IS EXEMPT from the imposition of the annual specific ownership tax imposed by this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 3. Only one such Class B or Class C motor vehicle per veteran ~~shall be exempted~~ IS EXEMPT.

(b) A PERSON WHO HAS A LICENSE PLATE FOR A VETERAN WHO HAS A DISABILITY OR A WOMAN VETERAN WHO HAS A DISABILITY, AS EITHER PLATE IS ISSUED UNDER SECTION 42-3-213, QUALIFIES FOR THE EXEMPTION CREATED IN THIS SUBSECTION (5).

**SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 42-3-301, **amend** (2)(b) as follows:

**42-3-301. License plate cash fund - license plate fees.** (2) (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 3, with the exception of special license

plates issued pursuant to section 42-3-213 for purple heart recipients, medal of valor recipients, former prisoners of war, survivors of the attack on Pearl Harbor, ~~disabled veterans WHO HAVE DISABILITIES, WOMEN VETERANS WHO HAVE DISABILITIES,~~ or recipients of a medal of honor, the fees imposed by this subsection (2) ~~shall~~ apply to all other special license plates issued in accordance with this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 3.

**SECTION 4. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2021-22 state fiscal year, \$5,481 is appropriated to the department of revenue for use by the division of motor vehicles. This appropriation consists of \$5,400 from the Colorado DRIVES vehicle services account in the highway users tax fund created in section 42-1-211 (2)(b)(I), C.R.S., and \$81 from the license plate cash fund created in section 42-3-301 (1)(b), C.R.S. To implement this act, the division may use this appropriation as follows:

(a) \$5,400 from the Colorado DRIVES vehicle services account in the highway users tax fund for DRIVES maintenance and support; and

(b) \$81 from the license plate cash fund for license plate ordering.

**SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2022 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

Approved: June 24, 2021