

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 387

BY TRANSPORTATION AND DEFENSE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO LICENSE PLATES; AMENDING SECTION 49-403A, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE  
2 FEE EXEMPTIONS FOR CERTAIN PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL  
3 CORRECTIONS.  
4

5 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

6 SECTION 1. That Section 49-403A, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 49-403A. PURPLE HEART RECIPIENT -- LICENSE PLATES. (1) Purple heart  
9 recipient license plates are available to any applicant who is a veteran or  
10 an active or retired member of any of the armed forces of the United States,  
11 reserve forces or Idaho national guard, and who furnishes proof of entitle-  
12 ment by providing one (1) of the following documents:

13 (a) A copy of form DD214 or equivalent document showing an award of the  
14 purple heart medal;

15 (b) A copy of the certificate presented with the medal; or

16 (c) A copy of the military order describing the award of the medal to the  
17 applicant.

18 (2) In addition to the regular registration fee, the applicant shall be  
19 charged the plate fee required in section 49-450, Idaho Code. Whenever title  
20 or interest in a vehicle registered under the provisions of this section is  
21 transferred or assigned, the registration shall expire, but the purple heart  
22 recipient may transfer his plates to another vehicle upon payment of the re-  
23 quired transfer fees. He may ~~only~~ display the plates only after receipt of  
24 new registration from the department. A purple heart recipient shall not  
25 register more than two (2) vehicles under the provisions of this section.  
26 The provisions of this section shall not apply to any vehicle with a regis-  
27 tered maximum gross weight over twenty-six thousand (26,000) pounds, nor to  
28 any vehicle registered under section 49-434(5), Idaho Code.

29 (3) Purple heart recipient license plates may be retained and displayed  
30 on vehicles owned by the surviving spouse of a deceased purple heart recipi-  
31 ent. In addition, the surviving spouse of a deceased purple heart recipient  
32 is eligible to reapply for and shall be issued purple heart recipient license  
33 plates if the deceased purple heart recipient died on or after January 1 of  
34 the five (5) years preceding the date of reapplication for the plates. Such  
35 plates shall be used on a vehicle owned by the surviving spouse.

36 (4) The purple heart recipient license plates shall be of a color and  
37 design acceptable to the military order of the purple heart association and  
38 approved by the department, utilizing a numbering system as determined by  
39 the department.

40 (5) Effective January 1, 2015, for those purple heart recipients who  
41 are listed as an owner of the vehicle who also qualify as disabled pursuant  
42 to section 49-410, Idaho Code, the international accessible symbol will also

1 appear on the purple heart license plates. Such requirements must be met  
2 upon application for the license plates. Those plates with the disability  
3 symbol shall be nontransferable to a surviving spouse, unless the require-  
4 ments of section 49-410, Idaho Code, can be met by the spouse.

5 (6) A purple heart recipient who qualifies for a disabled veteran fee  
6 exemption under section 49-403, Idaho Code, shall have a choice between a  
7 purple heart recipient license plate or a disabled veteran license plate and  
8 shall not be charged a plate fee or a fee for registration or reregistration  
9 of the motor vehicle. The provisions of this subsection shall apply to the  
10 vehicle originally purchased under this authorization and also to any ve-  
11 hicle subsequently purchased and owned by the same veteran. The privilege  
12 shall not extend to more than one (1) vehicle owned by the veteran at a time.