



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

Amanda M. Ferguson

S.B. 81

131st General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Sens. Williams, Brown, Cafaro, Jones, Tavares, Yuko

BILL SUMMARY

- Creates the "Women Veterans" license plate, which may be issued to any woman who is a retired or honorably discharged veteran of any branch of the armed forces of the United States.
- Prohibits any person from falsifying an application for "Women Veterans" license plates or displaying such license plates if the person is ineligible to receive the plates.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

The "Women Veterans" license plate

The bill creates the "Women Veterans" license plate, to which all of the following apply:

(1) It is available to any woman who is a retired or honorably discharged veteran of any branch of the armed forces of the United States;¹

(2) It may be combined with a special reserved license plate provided in current law;²

¹ R.C. 4503.581(B).

² R.C. 4503.581(B).

(3) It must be inscribed with the words "Women Veterans" and one of the following inscriptions, as appropriate: "U.S. ARMED FORCES RETIRED--(BRANCH OF SERVICE)" or "U.S. ARMED FORCES VETERAN--(BRANCH OF SERVICE);³ and

(4) It is issued by the Registrar upon: receipt of an application; presentation of satisfactory evidence documenting that the applicant is a retired or honorably discharged veteran of a branch of the armed forces of the United States; payment of the regular tax, any applicable local motor vehicle tax, any applicable special reserved license plate fee; and compliance with all other applicable laws relating to motor vehicle registration.⁴

The bill specifies that the provisions of current law pertaining to the termination of a nonstandard license plate do not apply to "Women Veterans" license plates.⁵

Falsifying an application for the "Women Veterans" license plate

The bill prohibits any person who is not a woman and is not a retired or honorably discharged veteran of any branch of the armed forces from willfully and falsely representing that the person is such a veteran for the purpose of obtaining the license plates. The bill also prohibits any person from permitting a motor vehicle owned or leased by the person to bear such license plates unless the person is eligible to be issued such license plates. Under the bill, any person who commits a violation of either prohibition is guilty of falsification.⁶ Generally, falsification is a first-degree misdemeanor.⁷

HISTORY

ACTION

DATE

Introduced

02-23-15

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³ R.C. 4503.581(D).

⁴ R.C. 4503.581(C).

⁵ R.C. 4503.581(E).

⁶ R.C. 4503.581(F).

⁷ R.C. 2921.13(F), not in the bill.

