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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO VETERANS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The military specialty license plates program  
2 was authorized in 1992, and since that time, the counties have  
3 issued thousands of plates to eligible applicants. This program  
4 serves as an important acknowledgement to our veterans,  
5 recognizing their sacrifice and service to our nation.

6           Veteran license plates identify individuals who have  
7 provided a service to this country and are a symbol of the  
8 gratitude of the general public. Accordingly, it is important  
9 that as many veterans categories as possible are included in the  
10 program. Currently, the license plate options are limited and  
11 various groups of veterans are not included.

12           The legislature finds that a number of states have military  
13 license plate programs that are far more inclusive than  
14 Hawaii's. For example, Idaho's selection of plates includes  
15 branch of service and the conflict that veterans served in.  
16 Idaho also offers license plates for families that have a  
17 deceased relative who died as a result of hostile action in a  
18 combat zone. Illinois, another state with an expansive military



1 license plate program, offers twenty-eight plate options,  
2 including selections for various medal recipients.

3 The purpose of this Act is to establish a working group on  
4 the expansion of the military license plates program to examine  
5 the State's policy on military specialty license plates.

6 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a working group on  
7 the expansion of the military license plates program, to be  
8 placed under the office of veterans services for administrative  
9 purposes.

10 (b) The purpose of the working group on the expansion of  
11 the military license plates program shall be to explore the  
12 feasibility of providing specialty license plates for all  
13 veterans. The working group shall meet a minimum of three  
14 times, include outreach to community veterans groups, and shall  
15 consider:

16 (1) Specific categories of veterans to be included in the  
17 program;

18 (2) Reasonable fees for the issuance of the plates, and  
19 whether certain categories of veterans should be  
20 exempt from the fees;



1 (3) Qualifications for being eligible for the program,  
2 including whether non-owners of vehicles and spouses  
3 of disabled veterans should qualify;

4 (4) Procedures for determining the design of the plates;  
5 and

6 (5) Any other relevant issues.

7 (c) The working group on the expansion of the military  
8 license plates program shall be comprised of the following  
9 members:

10 (1) The director of the office of veterans' services, or  
11 the director's designee;

12 (2) The chair of the advisory board on veterans' services,  
13 or the chair's designee;

14 (3) The chief of police, city and county of Honolulu, or  
15 the chief's designee;

16 (4) The chief of police, county of Hawaii, or the chief's  
17 designee;

18 (5) The chief of police, county of Maui, or the chief's  
19 designee;

20 (6) The chief of police, county of Kauai, or the chief's  
21 designee;



1 (7) The director of finance, county of Hawaii, or the  
2 director's designee;

3 (8) The director of finance, county of Maui, or the  
4 director's designee;

5 (9) The director of finance, county of Kauai, or the  
6 director's designee; and

7 (10) The director of budget and fiscal services, city and  
8 county of Honolulu, or the director's designee.

9 (d) The office of veterans' services shall convene the  
10 meetings of the working group on the expansion of the military  
11 license plates program; provide all administrative, technical,  
12 professional, and clerical support required by the working  
13 group; and draft and submit the report required under subsection  
14 (f).

15 (e) Members of the working group on the expansion of the  
16 military license plates program shall receive no compensation  
17 for their services, but may be reimbursed for incidental  
18 expenses, including travel costs, necessary for the performance  
19 of their duties under this Act.

20 (f) The working group on the expansion of the military  
21 license plates program shall report its findings and  
22 recommendations, including any suggested legislation, to the



1 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
2 the regular session of 2012.

3 (g) The working group on the expansion of the military  
4 license plates program shall cease to exist on May 15, 2012.

5 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.



**Report Title:**

Veterans; Specialty License Plates; Working Group

**Description:**

Establishes a working group to explore the feasibility of providing specialty license plates for all veterans. Effective July 1, 2020. (HB668 HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

