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A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CAR REGISTRATION FEE EXEMPTION FOR DISABLED  
VETERANS.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 249-31.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 " ~~[§249-31.5]~~ Exemptions ~~[from registration fees]~~

4 for certain vehicles; disabled veterans. (a) A disabled

5 veteran who:

6 (1) Is a resident of Hawaii;

7 (2) Has been other than dishonorably discharged from the  
8 United States uniformed armed forces; and

9 (3) Is determined by the United States Department of  
10 Veterans Affairs or its predecessor to have a service-connected  
11 one hundred per cent disability rating for compensation or a  
12 service-connected disability rating of one hundred per cent; and

13 (4) Is in receipt of disability retirement pay from any  
14 branch of the uniformed armed forces,

15 shall be exempt from payment of all annual vehicle registration  
16 fees as required by section 249-31 ~~[ ]~~ and the tax imposed under  
17 this chapter. This exemption shall not extend to vehicles used

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1 for commercial purposes, nor to more than one vehicle owned by  
2 the disabled veteran.

3 (b) The director of the office of veterans' services, in  
4 consultation with the policy advisory board on [†]veterans' [†]  
5 services, shall submit a report to the legislature and the  
6 department of taxation no later than twenty days prior to the  
7 convening of each regular session providing the legislature and  
8 the department of taxation with the total number of disabled  
9 veterans who qualify under this section for the exemption from  
10 annual vehicle registration fees[-] and the tax imposed under  
11 this chapter."

12 SECTION 2. This Act shall apply to motor vehicle  
13 registrations issued or renewed after July 1, 2019.

14 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
15 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

16 SECTION 4. This Act upon its approval, shall take effect  
17 on July 1, 2019.

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INTRODUCED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



21

BY REQUEST

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**JAN 22 2019**

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**Report Title:**

Car Registration Fee Exemption For Disabled Veterans

**Description:**

Repeals requirement that a disabled veteran be in receipt of disability retirement pay in order to be exempt from the payment of annual vehicle registration fees.

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

## JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Defense

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CAR  
REGISTRATION FEE EXEMPTION FOR  
DISABLED VETERANS

PURPOSE: Repeal requirement that a disabled  
veteran be in receipt of disability  
retirement pay in order to be exempt from  
the payment of annual vehicle  
registration fees.

MEANS: Amend section 249-31.5, Hawaii  
Revised Statutes (HRS).

JUSTIFICATION: Current section 249-31.5, Hawaii  
Revised Statutes, allows exemption  
from registration fees for those who  
(1) are residents of Hawaii, (2)  
received an other than dishonorable  
discharge characterization from the  
US Armed Forces, (3) are determined  
to have a disability rating of 100  
percent determined by the Department  
of Veterans Affairs, and (4) are in  
receipt of disability retirement pay  
from any branch of the uniformed  
armed forces. If the legislative  
intent was to offer this exemption  
to 100 percent eligible disabled  
Veterans, because of the restrictive  
language with the "disability  
retirement pay" clause, only 120  
eligible Veterans (4%) have  
qualified out of 3,075 VA 100  
percent disabled rated in Hawaii.  
Striking the "disability retirement  
pay" clause from the current statute  
will allow more Veterans to receive  
this \$45-dollar registration fee  
exemption on their car registration  
for one vehicle and will better  
align with the Legislature's intent.

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Impact on the public: None.

Impact on the department and other agencies: None.

GENERAL FUND: None.

OTHER FUND: None.

PPBS PROGRAM  
DESIGNATION:

OTHER AFFECTED  
AGENCIES: None.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon adoption.