

Alaska State Legislature

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Disabled Vets License Plates Bill Passes Senate **McGuire's HB 438 Honors Veterans' Sacrifices with Special Plates**

(JUNEAU) - Disabled veterans in Alaska will receive a new specially designed license plates at no charge in recognition and appreciation of their service to the nation. [House Bill 438](#), sponsored by Rep. Lesil McGuire (R-Anchorage) unanimously passed the Senate today and now goes to the governor for his signature.

"I'm honored to sponsor a piece of legislation that recognizes the valiant service of Alaskan men and women who gave of themselves to preserve our freedoms," McGuire said. "With 72,000 veterans in Alaska, more than 27,000 of them classified as disabled, Alaska owes a special debt of gratitude to disabled veterans."

HB 438 passed unanimously out of the House and was supported by the Department of Motor Vehicles. The bill authorizes the state to issue special red, white and blue license plates, bearing the legend "Disabled Veteran" and graphic depiction of a crossed U.S. and Alaska flag. The plate will only be issued to qualified Alaska residents who are veterans of the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard or the Alaska Territorial Guard, and who are 50 percent disabled, McGuire said.

The plates will carry special registration numbers, starting with the letters DAV and followed by three numbers. For those veterans whose disabilities render them legally handicapped under state statutes, the plates will include the international wheelchair symbol, which will afford them all special parking privileges afforded other handicapped motorists, McGuire said.

"Those who took time from their life as private citizens to serve their country in uniform, and who suffer permanent disability or injury as a result of that service, deserve the recognition and thanks of all Alaskans," McGuire said. "These license plates are both an important symbol of our appreciation, and a real, if modest, financial benefit to our disabled veterans."

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ATTACHMENT: Graphic showing design of special Disabled Veteran license plate.