

SENATE BILL NO. 319

INTRODUCED BY D. KARY

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING A VETERAN WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR A SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE FEE WAIVER TO WAIVE THE FEE FOR ANY OF THE SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES FOR WHICH THE VETERAN QUALIFIES; AMENDING SECTION 61-3-460, MCA; AND PROVIDING A DELAYED EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

Section 1. Section 61-3-460, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-3-460. Motor vehicle registration fee and veterans' cemetery fee waivers. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person eligible under subsection (2) is exempt from the veterans' cemetery fee provided in 61-3-459 for two sets of special veteran license plates and all motor vehicle registration fees imposed by this chapter for two motor vehicles that are not used for commercial purposes.

(2) The following persons are eligible for the waiver provided in subsection (1):

(a) a veteran who was a prisoner of war who presents official documentation from the U.S. department of defense verifying the veteran's status, or the veteran's surviving spouse, if the spouse has not remarried;

(b) a veteran who is currently rated 100% disabled or is paid at the 100% disabled rate by the U.S. department of veterans affairs for a service-connected disability, as verified by official documentation from the U.S. department of veterans affairs, or the veteran's surviving spouse, if the spouse has not remarried;

(c) a veteran determined by the U.S. department of veterans affairs to be 50% or more disabled because of a service-connected injury and who has been awarded the purple heart, as verified by official documentation from the U.S. department of veterans affairs and the veteran's military service record issued by the U.S. department of defense, or the veteran's surviving spouse, if the spouse has not remarried, except that the veteran or the surviving spouse shall pay the veterans' cemetery fee as provided for in 61-3-459;

(d) the surviving spouse, if the spouse has not remarried, of a military service member killed while on active duty as verified in official documentation issued by the U.S. department of defense; and

(e) the surviving spouse, if the spouse has not remarried, of a military service member or veteran who died of a service-connected injury or disability as determined by and verified in official documentation from the

1 U.S. department of veterans affairs.

2 (3) A veteran who meets the eligibility criteria in subsections (2)(a) through (2)(c) may apply the fee
3 waiver provided in subsection (1) to any of the special license plates provided for in 61-3-458(4) as long as the
4 veteran also meets the eligibility criteria for the specific special license plate the veteran requests."

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6 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Effective date. [This act] is effective January 1, 2020.

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