# 102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY <br> State of Illinois <br> 2021 and 2022 <br> SB2307 

Introduced 2/26/2021, by Sen. Sue Rezin

## SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 5/3-609
from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 3-609
625 ILCS 5/3-609.3

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that veterans with nonservice-connected disabilities, along with those with service-connected disabilities, are eligible for plates for veterans with disabilities. Provides that, in lieu of receiving registration plates without the payment of a fee under Section 3-609, any veteran who holds proof of a $50 \%$ or greater service-connected or nonservice-connected disability from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs may apply for a military series registration plate in the manner prescribed by the Secretary of State.

AN ACT concerning transportation.

# Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly: 

Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by changing Sections 3-609 and 3-609.3 as follows:
(625 ILCS 5/3-609) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 3-609)
Sec. 3-609. Plates for veterans with disabilities.
(a) Any veteran who holds proof of a service-connected disability from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or proof of a nonservice-connected disability, and who has obtained certification from a licensed physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse that the disability qualifies the veteran for issuance of registration plates or digital registration plates or decals to a person with disabilities in accordance with Section 3-616, may, without the payment of any registration fee, make application to the Secretary of State for license plates for veterans with disabilities displaying the international symbol of access, for the registration of one motor vehicle of the first division, one motorcycle, or one motor vehicle of the second division weighing not more than 8,000 pounds.
(b) Any veteran who holds proof of a service-connected
disability from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or proof of a nonservice-connected disability, and whose degree of disability has been declared to be $50 \%$ or more, but whose disability does not qualify the veteran for a plate or decal for persons with disabilities under Section 3-616, may, without the payment of any registration fee, make application to the Secretary for a special registration plate or digital registration plate without the international symbol of access for the registration of one motor vehicle of the first division, one motorcycle, or one motor vehicle of the second division weighing not more than 8,000 pounds.
(c) Renewal of such registration must be accompanied with documentation for eligibility of registration without fee unless the applicant has a permanent qualifying disability, and such registration plates or digital registration plates may not be issued to any person not eligible therefor. The Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs may assist in providing the documentation of disability.
(d) The design and color of the plates shall be within the discretion of the Secretary, except that the plates issued under subsection (b) of this Section shall not contain the international symbol of access. The Secretary may, in his or her discretion, allow the plates to be issued as vanity or personalized plates in accordance with Section 3-405.1 of this Code. Registration shall be for a multi-year period and may be issued staggered registration.
(e) Any person eligible to receive license plates under this Section who has been approved for benefits under the Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities Property Tax Relief Act, or who has claimed and received a grant under that Act, shall pay a fee of $\$ 24$ instead of the fee otherwise provided in this Code for passenger cars displaying standard multi-year registration plates or digital registration plates issued under Section 3-414.1, for motor vehicles registered at 8,000 pounds or less under Section 3-815(a), or for recreational vehicles registered at 8,000 pounds or less under Section 3-815(b), for a second set of plates under this Section.
(Source: P.A. 100-513, eff. 1-1-18; 101-395, eff. 8-16-19; 101-536, eff. 1-1-20; revised 9-24-19.)
(625 ILCS 5/3-609.3)
Sec. 3-609.3. Military series registration plates for veterans with disabilities. In lieu of receiving registration plates without the payment of a fee under Section 3-609, any veteran who holds proof of a $50 \%$ or greater service-connected disability from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or proof of a nonservice-connected disability may apply for a military series registration plate in the manner prescribed by the Secretary of State. Upon the veteran showing proof of the disability, a military series registration plate may be issued to the veteran without fee for the registration
of one motor vehicle of the first division or one motor vehicle of the second division weighing not more than 8,000 pounds. (Source: P.A. 101-262, eff. 1-1-20.)

