

# Veterans' and Military Affairs Committee

## JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** SB-1131

AN ACT CONCERNING VETERANS' SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATES AND  
DRIVER'S LICENSES FOR CERTAIN FORMER MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL

**Title:** GUARD.

**Vote Date:** 3/7/2023

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable Substitute

**PH Date:** 2/28/2023

**File No.:**

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### SPONSORS OF BILL:

Veterans' & Military Affairs Committee

### REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill authorizes members of the National Guard discharged under conditions other than dishonorable, or their spouses, to qualify for a veterans' designation on his or her identification and a veterans' license plate.

### RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

[Thomas J. Saadi, Commissioner, Department of Veterans' Affairs](#): Supports this bill with suggestion to add additional parties

The Department has for many years supported the concept of expanding limited recognition of a "Veteran" status to members of the National Guard and Reserve Components of the Armed Forces. While this bill extends such recognition to members of the National Guard, it does not address members of the other Reserve components of the Armed Forces who are similarly situated to those in the National Guard that do not have federally qualifying active duty, beyond initial duty training. I ask that you include members of all Reserve components of the Armed Forces. Also, to avoid confusion as to eligibility for benefits limited to those Veterans with qualifying Active-Duty service, I urge you to include language that expressly states that Veteran status on driver's licenses and license plates do not qualify as proof of eligibility for any other Veterans benefit.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

None submitted

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

None submitted

**Reported by: Robert Mayne**

**Date: March 14, 2023**