

---

SENATE BILL 6467

---

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2012 Regular Session

By Senators Hobbs, Shin, Swecker, Haugen, Rolfes, Fraser, Prentice, Kohl-Welles, and McAuliffe

Read first time 01/25/12. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to making Japanese-Americans interned during World  
2 War II eligible for former prisoner of war license plates; and amending  
3 RCW 46.18.235.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.18.235 and 2011 c 332 s 6 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 (1) A registered owner who is a veteran, as defined in RCW  
8 41.04.007, may apply to the department for disabled American veteran or  
9 former prisoner of war license plates, for use on one personal use  
10 motor vehicle required to display one or two license plates, excluding  
11 vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW, upon terms and conditions  
12 established by the department. The veteran must be recorded as the  
13 registered owner of the motor vehicle on which the disabled American  
14 veteran or former prisoner of war license plate or plates will be  
15 displayed and:

16 (a) Provide certification from the veterans administration or the  
17 military service from which the veteran was discharged that the veteran  
18 has a service-connected disability rating;

19 (b) Have lost the use of both hands or one foot;

1 (c) Have been captured and incarcerated by an enemy of the United  
2 States during a period of war with the United States and have received  
3 a prisoner of war medal;

4 (d) Have become blind in both eyes as the result of military  
5 service; or

6 (e) Be rated by the veterans administration or the military service  
7 from which the veteran was discharged and be receiving service-  
8 connected compensation at the one hundred percent rate that is expected  
9 to exist for more than one year.

10 (2) A registered owner who is a Japanese-American who: (a) Was  
11 confined in a wartime relocation and internment of civilians center,  
12 under Executive Order No. 9066, between February 1942 and 1946; and (b)  
13 can provide documentation that he or she is listed in the "National  
14 Archives Record Group 210: Records of the War Relocation Authority,  
15 1941-1989," may apply to the department for former prisoner of war  
16 license plates described under this section, for use on one personal  
17 use motor vehicle required to display one or two license plates,  
18 excluding vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW, upon terms and  
19 conditions established by the department. The qualifying  
20 Japanese-American must be recorded as the registered owner of the motor  
21 vehicle on which the former prisoner of war license plate or plates  
22 will be displayed.

23 (3) The special license plates under this section must:

24 (a) Display distinguishing marks, letters, or numerals indicating  
25 that the registered owner is a disabled American veteran or former  
26 prisoner of war; and

27 (b) Be issued for one personal use vehicle without the payment of  
28 any vehicle license fees, license plate fees, or excise taxes.

29 ~~((+3))~~ (4) A registered owner who is a veteran, as defined in RCW  
30 41.04.007, may, in lieu of applying for the special license plates  
31 under this section, apply for regular issue or any qualifying special  
32 license plate and receive the full benefit of the vehicle license fee  
33 and excise tax exemption provided in subsection ~~((+2))~~ (3)(b) of this  
34 section.

35 ~~((+4))~~ (5) The department may periodically verify the one hundred  
36 percent rate as described in subsection (1)(e) of this section.

37 ~~((+5))~~ (6) A veteran who has been issued disabled American veteran  
38 or former prisoner of war license plates under this section before July

1 1, 1983, continues to be eligible for the vehicle license fee and  
2 excise tax exemption described in subsection ~~((+2+))~~ (3)(b) of this  
3 section.

4 ~~((+6+))~~ (7) A disabled American veteran and former prisoner of war  
5 license plate or plates may be transferred from one motor vehicle to  
6 another motor vehicle owned by the veteran upon application to the  
7 department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the  
8 director.

9 ~~((+7+))~~ (8) For the purposes of this section:

10 (a) "Blind" means the definition of "blind" used by the state of  
11 Washington in determining eligibility for financial assistance to the  
12 blind under Title 74 RCW; and

13 (b) "Special license plates" does not include any plate from the  
14 armed forces license plate collection established in RCW  
15 46.18.200~~((+3+))~~ (2).

16 ~~((+8+))~~ (9) Any unauthorized use of a special license plate under  
17 this section is a gross misdemeanor.

--- END ---