

## 1999 ASSEMBLY BILL 517

October 5, 1999 – Introduced by Representatives PLOUFF, MUSSER, BERCEAU, BLACK, TURNER and TRAVIS, cosponsored by Senators CLAUSING, ROESSLER and ZIEN, by request of Wisconsin Chapter of Lao Veterans of America. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1     **AN ACT to amend** 341.14 (6r) (b) 2., 341.14 (6r) (c), 341.14 (6r) (e) and 341.14 (6r)  
2           (fm) 7.; and **to create** 341.14 (6r) (f) 54. of the statutes; **relating to:** special  
3           distinguishing license plates for veterans of the Laos War.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under current law, members of authorized special groups may obtain special distinguishing license plates for certain vehicles registered with the department of transportation (DOT). Special plates may be obtained for automobiles, station wagons, motor homes and certain dual purpose motor homes, farm trucks and dual purpose farm trucks owned or leased by special group members. A fee, in addition to the annual registration fee for the particular kind of vehicle, is assessed for the special plates. Currently, there are authorized special groups associated with veterans of the following wars: World War I, World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

This bill provides for the issuance of special distinguishing license plates to veterans of the Laos War in Southeast Asia who served after July 1, 1961, and before July 1, 1978. A fee of \$10, in addition to the annual vehicle registration fee, is assessed by DOT for issuance or reissuance of the special plates.

Current law also prohibits enumerating special group license plates by legislative action. Instead, members of special groups desiring a special group license plate must apply to DOT for designation. This bill creates an exception to this administrative process.

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For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

1           **SECTION 1.** 341.14 (6r) (b) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

2           341.14 **(6r)** (b) 2. An additional fee of \$10 shall be charged for the issuance or  
3 reissuance of the plates for special groups specified under par. (f) 1. to 34., 48., 49.  
4 and, 51, and 54.

5           **SECTION 2.** 341.14 (6r) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

6           341.14 **(6r)** (c) Special group plates shall display the word “Wisconsin”, the  
7 name of the applicable authorized special group, a symbol representing the special  
8 group, not exceeding one position, and identifying letters or numbers or both, not  
9 exceeding 6 positions and not less than one position. The department shall specify  
10 the design for special group plates, but the department shall consult the president  
11 of the ~~university~~ University of Wisconsin system System before specifying the design  
12 for the special group plates under par. (f) 35. to 47., the secretary of natural resources  
13 before specifying the design for the special group plate under par. (f) 50. ~~and,~~ the child  
14 abuse and neglect prevention board before specifying the design for the special group  
15 plate under par. (f) 53. and the president of the office in this state of Laos Veterans  
16 of America, Inc., before specifying the design for the special group plates under par.  
17 (f) 54. Special group plates under par. (f) 50. shall be as similar as possible to regular  
18 registration plates in color and design.

19           **SECTION 3.** 341.14 (6r) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

20           341.14 **(6r)** (e) The department shall specify one combination of colors for  
21 special group plates for groups or organizations which that are not military in nature

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1 and not special group plates under par. (f) 35. to 47. ~~and, 50. and 54.~~ The department,  
2 after consulting the president of the ~~university~~ University of Wisconsin system  
3 System, shall specify one combination of colors for special group plates under par. (f)  
4 35. to 47. The department shall specify the word or words comprising the special  
5 group name and the symbol to be displayed upon special group plates for a group or  
6 organization ~~which~~ that is not military in nature after consultation with the chief  
7 executive officer in this state of the group or organization, except that the  
8 department may not specify the word or words or the symbol for special group plates  
9 under par. (f) 35. to 47. unless the word or words or symbol is approved in writing by  
10 the president of the ~~university~~ University of Wisconsin system System or, with  
11 respect to endangered resources, specify the word or words or the symbol for special  
12 group plates under par. (f) 50. unless the word or words or symbol is approved in  
13 writing by the secretary of natural resources or, with respect to child abuse and  
14 neglect prevention, specify any word or words other than “Children First” or the  
15 symbol for special group plates under par. (f) 53. unless the word or words or symbol  
16 is approved in writing by the child abuse and neglect prevention board or, with  
17 respect to Laos War veterans, specify the word or words or the symbol for special  
18 group plates under par. (f) 54. unless the word or words or symbol is approved in  
19 writing by the president of the office in this state of Laos Veterans of America, Inc.  
20 The president may not approve the word or words or symbol for a university specified  
21 under par. (f) 35. to 47. unless the chancellor of the university approves in writing  
22 the word or words or symbol. The department shall require that the word or words  
23 and symbol for a university specified under par. (f) 35. to 47. be a registration decal  
24 or tag and affixed to the special group plate and be of the colors for a university

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1 specified under par. (f) 35. to 47. that the president of the ~~university~~ University of  
2 Wisconsin ~~system~~ System specifies.

3 **SECTION 4.** 341.14 (6r) (f) 54. of the statutes is created to read:

4 341.14 **(6r)** (f) 54. Veterans of the Laos War who served after July 1, 1961, and  
5 before July 1, 1978.

6 **SECTION 5.** 341.14 (6r) (fm) 7. of the statutes is amended to read:

7 341.14 **(6r)** (fm) 7. After October 1, 1998, additional authorized special groups  
8 may only be special groups designated by the department under this paragraph. The  
9 authorized special groups enumerated in par. (f) shall be limited solely to those  
10 special groups specified under par. (f) on October 1, 1998. This subdivision does not  
11 apply to the authorized special group enumerated under par. (f) 54.

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(END)