



**WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
AMENDMENT MEMO**

2003 Senate Bill 109	Senate Substitute Amendment 1
<i>Memo published:</i> May 30, 2003	<i>Contact:</i> Mary Offerdahl, Staff Attorney (266-2230)

Current law specifies certain requirements for the design of vehicle registration plates issued by the Department of Transportation (DOT), including the special group vehicle registration plates issued to persons awarded the Purple Heart Medal under s. 341.14 (6r) (f) 32., Stats.

Senate Substitute Amendment 1 adds to these a requirement that the DOT specify, with written approval by the Department of Veterans Affairs, one combination of colors and design that includes display of the words "combat-wounded veteran" for the special group vehicle registration plate issued to persons awarded the Purple Heart Medal.

Legislative History

On May 23, 2003, the Senate Committee on Homeland Security, Veterans and Military Affairs and Government Reform introduced and recommended for adoption Senate Substitute Amendment 1 by a vote of Ayes, 5; Noes, 0, and recommended passage of the bill, as amended, by a vote of Ayes, 5; Noes, 0.

MO:rv;tlu



**WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
ACT MEMO**

2003 Wisconsin Act 71 [2003 Senate Bill 109]	Purple Heart Medal Designation on Vehicle Registration Plate
2003 Acts: www.legis.state.wi.us/2003/data/acts/	Act Memos: www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/act_memo/act_memo.htm

Current law specifies certain requirements for the design of vehicle registration plates issued by the Department of Transportation (DOT), including the special group vehicle registration plates issued to persons awarded the Purple Heart Medal under s. 341.14 (6r) (f) 32., Stats.

2003 Wisconsin Act 71 adds a requirement that the DOT specify, with written approval by the Department of Veterans Affairs, one combination of colors and design that includes display of the words "combat-wounded veteran" for the special group vehicle registration plates issued to persons awarded the Purple Heart Medal.

Effective Date: The Act takes effect on November 26, 2003.

Prepared by: Mary Offerdahl, Staff Attorney

November 14, 2003

MO:jal;rv

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information,
consult the text of the law and related legislative documents.



John T. O'Brien,
Legislative Officer/Judge Advocate
Wisconsin Department Military Order of the Purple Heart
26570 Fiddlers Green Road
Richland Center, WI 53581
(608) 647-8491

May 14, 2003

Members
Senate Committee on Homeland Security
Military Affairs and Government Reform

RE: Senate Bill 109

Greetings from the members and officers of the Wisconsin Department of the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

Our organization represents Combat Wounded Veterans and the families of those veterans who were awarded the Military Order of Merit (Purple Heart) for wounds or death resulting from injuries sustained during actions against a foreign enemy.

Our organization encourages you support Chairman Brown's Senate Bill 109, which will modify the designation decal for the "Purple Heart" License Plate.

When then Senator Brian Rude drafted the original Purple Heart license plate legislation, a portion of the language for the plate decal was inadvertently omitted. When our organization asked for this license plate, we requested that the plate say "Purple Heart" "Combat Wounded Veteran".

Because many people do not understand the significance of the "Purple Heart" medal, we asked Senator Brown to correct this mistake and add the term "Combat Wounded Veteran" to the license plate decal.

Please do honor to the combat wounded veterans and support Senate Bill 109. Senator Brown's office number is 266-8546.

Thank you,

John O'Brien
Legislative Officer/Judge Advocate
WI Dept. Military Order of the Purple Heart

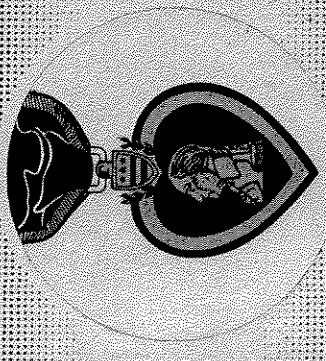
PURPLE HEART

COMBAT WOUNDED VETERAN

WOPHI

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WISCONSIN



SEP

Gilbert, Melissa

From: OBrien, John
Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2003 2:45 PM
To: Gilbert, Melissa
Subject: RE: Purple Heart License Plate

I had some input along the way.

I did prefer that the words Purple Heart appear above "Combat Wounded Veteran" but according to DOT the design of the plate does not allow that so we agreed to what this represents.

-----Original Message-----

From: Gilbert, Melissa
Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2003 12:43 PM
To: OBrien, John
Subject: RE: Purple Heart License Plate

Thanks. Printed for me as well. What do you think of the design?

-----Original Message-----

From: OBrien, John
Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2003 12:01 PM
To: Brown, Ronald; Gilbert, Melissa
Subject: FW: Purple Heart License Plate
Importance: High

For your files.

Despite the message, it printed fine for me.

-----Original Message-----

From: Barr, Dennis
Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2003 11:30 AM
To: OBrien, John
Subject: Purple Heart License Plate
Importance: High

John:

Attached is a copy of the proposed Purple Heart plate to be issued beginning in September 2004. Although you had recommended placing the words "Purple Heart" directly atop of "Combat Wounded Veteran", in reviewing this proposal we find that the wording would have to be extremely small so as not to impede on the stamped registration numbers/letters or the raised edge of the plate. Please review the attached copy of the plate and let me know if this is an acceptable alternative. We are limited to the allowable space for the medal and wording due to the physical characteristics of the plate when manufactured. By the way, the attached file is not printable.

Thank you in advance.

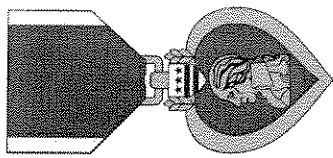
<< File: Purple Heart_plate-draft9.pdf >>

Dennis E. Barr
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12/15/03
RWB
File with the Bill



WISCONSIN



Purple Heart

45678N

Combat Wounded Veteran