257.803i Special registration plate for member of national guard, military reserve, or armed services; display of vignette; inscription; application form; proof; fee; issuance; tab for persons with disabilities; tax; misdemeanor; expiration; renewal.

Sec. 803i. (1) A person who was or is a member of the national guard may apply to the secretary of state for a special registration plate that shall display an appropriate vignette preceding the registration numbers and shall have the words "national guard" inscribed beneath the registration numbers for passenger vehicles only.

(2) A person who was or is a member of the military reserve may apply to the secretary of state for a special registration plate that shall display an appropriate vignette preceding the registration numbers.

(3) A person who was a member of any branch of the armed services of the United States, who has retired or been granted an honorable discharge from that branch of the armed forces, and who is not otherwise eligible for a special registration plate under this act may apply to the secretary of state for a special registration plate that shall display an appropriate vignette preceding the registration numbers.

(4) Application for a special registration plate shall be on a form prescribed by the secretary of state and shall be accompanied by any proof of the applicant being or having been a member of the national guard or military reserve or a member of any branch of the armed services of the United States as described in subsection (3) that the secretary of state may require. The application for a special registration plate shall also be accompanied with payment of a $5.00 service fee.

(5) Upon proper application and payment of the $5.00 service fee, the secretary of state shall issue 1 or more special registration plates for each applicant for use on a passenger vehicle or, for the purposes of subsection (1) or (3), for use on a motorcycle. A person who is disabled who applies for a special registration plate under this section and who pays the $5.00 service fee shall be issued a tab for persons with disabilities as provided in section 803f for his or her special registration plate. The secretary of state shall require the same proof that the applicant is a disabled person as is required for issuance of a permanent windshield placard under section 675. A person issued 1 or more special registration plates under subsection (1), (2), or (3) shall be assessed the applicable tax provided in section 801.

(6) The use of a special registration plate on a vehicle other than the vehicle for which the plate is issued, or by a person who does not qualify under this section, is a misdemeanor.

(7) The special registration plate issued under this section shall expire on the birthday of the vehicle owner. When new plates are issued by the secretary of state, application for renewal of the special registration plate shall be accompanied by a $5.00 service fee. The applicant shall not be required to furnish the proof provided in subsection (4).