2021 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

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VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY - CHAPTER

2 An Act to amend and reenact §§ 46.2-742.1, 46.2-742.2, 46.2-745.1, and 46.2-745.2 of the Code of 3 Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding sections numbered 46.2-725.3, 46.2-745.4, 4 and 46.2-745.5, relating to special license plates; military decorations.

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Approved

[H 2069]

7 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 46.2-742.1, 46.2-742.2, 46.2-745.1, and 46.2-745.2 of the Code of Virginia are amended 8 9 and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding sections numbered 46.2-725.3,

10 46.2-745.4, and 46.2-745.5 as follows:

§ 46.2-725.3. Special license plates for recipients of certain military decorations.

12 A. No special license plate for recipients of a military decoration shall be considered by the General 13 Assembly unless and until the person or entity seeking the authorization of such special plate has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the General Assembly the order of precedence of such military 14 15 decoration as determined by the federal Department of Defense or other relevant federal agency.

B. Any special license plate for recipients of a military decoration falling below the Medal of Honor 16 and above the Purple Heart in order of precedence shall be authorized for issuance by the Department 17 with a \$10 one-time fee in addition to the prescribed cost of state license plates. Any special license 18 plate for recipients of a military decoration falling below the Purple Heart in the order of precedence 19 20 shall be authorized for issuance by the Department with a \$10 annual special license plate fee in addition to the prescribed cost of state license plates. Special license plates for recipients of the Purple 21 22 Heart shall be issued as provided in § 46.2-742. The Department is authorized to issue an additional plate reflecting the "V" for Valor for any plate currently issued by the Department reflecting a military 23 decoration that the federal Department of Defense or other relevant federal agency has determined is eligible for the "V" for Valor Device. The Department shall charge only the prescribed cost of state 24 25 license plates for any plate design reflecting the "V" for Valor Device. 26

27 C. Notwithstanding § 46.2-725, special license plates for the recipients of a military decoration are 28 exempt from subdivisions B 1 and 2 of § 46.2-725. Unremarried surviving spouses of individuals eligible 29 to receive such special license plates are also authorized to receive such special license plates.

30 § 46.2-742.1. Special license plates for persons awarded the Bronze Star, Bronze Star with a "V" for valor, or the Silver Star; fee. 31

32 On receipt of an application and written evidence that the applicant has been awarded a Bronze Star, Bronze Star with a "V" for valor, or Silver Star Medal, the Commissioner shall issue to the applicant 33 34 special license plates.

35 For each set of license plates issued under this section, other than those that reflect the Bronze Star, 36 the Commissioner shall charge the prescribed cost of state license plates. For Bronze Star license plates, 37 the Commissioner shall charge, in addition to the prescribed cost of state license plates, a one-time fee 38 of \$10 at the time the plates are issued.

39 The provisions of subdivisions B 1 and 2 of subsection B of § 46.2-725 shall not apply to license 40 plates issued under this section.

41 The design of license plates issued under this section to persons who have been awarded multiple 42 decorations shall reflect the number of such decorations.

43 Unremarried surviving spouses of persons eligible to receive special license plates under this section may also be issued special license plates under this section. 44

45 § 46.2-742.2. Special license plates for persons awarded the Navy Cross, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Air Force Cross, the Distinguished Flying Cross, or the Distinguished Flying 46 Cross with a "V" for Valor. 47

On receipt of an application and written evidence that the applicant has been awarded the Navy **48** 49 Cross, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Air Force Cross, or the Distinguished Flying Cross, or the Distinguished Flying Cross with a "V" for Valor, the Commissioner shall issue to the applicant special 50 51 license plates.

The provisions of subdivisions B 1 and 2 of subsection B of § 46.2-725 shall not apply to license 52 53 plates issued under this section.

54 Unremarried surviving spouses of persons eligible to receive special license plates under this section 55 may also be issued special license plates under this section.

56 The design of license plates issued under this section to persons who have been awarded multiple ENROLLED

57 decorations shall reflect the number of such decorations.

58 For each set of license plates issued under this section, other than those that reflect the Distinguished 59

Flying Cross, the Commissioner shall charge the prescribed cost of state license plates. For Distinguished Flying Cross license plates, the Commissioner shall charge, in addition to the prescribed 60 61 cost of state license plates, a one-time fee of \$10 at the time the plates are issued.

§ 46.2-745.1. Special license plates for persons awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, the 62 Airman's Medal, the Army Soldier's Medal, or the Coast Guard Medal. 63

64 On receipt of an application and written confirmation from one of the armed services of the United 65 States that the applicant has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, the Airman's Medal, the Army Soldier's Medal, or the Coast Guard Medal, the Commissioner shall issue special license plates to 66 67 such persons. No fee shall be charged for the issuance of these license plates under this section to any one motor vehicle owned and used personally by any applicant. For each additional set of license plates 68 issued to an applicant under this section, the Commissioner shall charge the prescribed fee for state 69 license plates. For each set of license plates issued under this section, the Commissioner shall charge, in 70 71 addition to the prescribed cost of state license plates, a one-time fee of \$10 at the time the plates are 72 issued.

73 It shall be unlawful for any person who is not a person described in this section to willfully and 74 falsely represent himself as having the qualifications to obtain the special license plates herein provided 75 for.

76 The provisions of subdivisions B 1 and 2 of § 46.2-725 shall not apply to license plates issued under 77 this section.

78 Unremarried surviving spouses of persons eligible to receive special license plates under this section 79 may also be issued special license plates under this section. 80

§ 46.2-745.2. Special license plates for persons awarded the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

81 On receipt of an application and written confirmation from one of the armed services that the applicant has been awarded the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Commissioner shall issue 82 83 special license plates to such persons and to unremarried surviving spouses of such persons.

For each set of plates issued under this section, the Commissioner shall charge, in addition to the 84 85 prescribed cost of state license plates, a one-time an annual fee of \$10 at the time the plates are issued.

86 It shall be unlawful for any person who is not a person described in this section to willfully and 87 falsely represent himself as having the qualifications to obtain the special license plates herein provided 88 for.

89 The provisions of subdivisions B 1 and 2 of § 46.2-725 shall not apply to license plates issued under 90 this section.

91 Unremarried surviving spouses of persons eligible to receive special license plates under this section 92 may also be issued special license plates under this section.

§ 46.2-745.4. Special license plates for persons awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, the Navy 93 Distinguished Service Medal, the Marine Corps Distinguished Service Medal, or the Air Force 94 95 Distinguished Service Medal.

On receipt of an application and written confirmation from one of the armed services that the 96 97 applicant has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, the Marine Corps Distinguished Service Medal, or the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal, the 98 99 Commissioner shall issue special license plates to such persons.

100 For each set of plates issued under this section, the Commissioner shall charge, in addition to the 101 prescribed cost of state license plates, a one-time fee of \$10 at the time the plates are issued.

102 It shall be unlawful for any person who is not a person described in this section to willfully and 103 falsely represent himself as having the qualifications to obtain the special license plates herein provided 104 for.

105 The provisions of subdivisions B 1 and 2 of § 46.2-725 shall not apply to license plates issued under 106 this section.

107 Unremarried surviving spouses of persons eligible to receive special license plates under this section may also be issued special license plates under this section. 108

109 § 46.2-745.5. Special license plates for persons awarded the Defense Distinguished Service Medal 110 or the Defense Superior Service Medal.

On receipt of an application and written confirmation from one of the armed services that the 111 applicant has been awarded the Defense Distinguished Service Medal or the Defense Superior Service 112 Medal, the Commissioner shall issue special license plates to such persons. 113

For each set of plates issued under this section, the Commissioner shall charge, in addition to the 114 115 prescribed cost of state license plates, a one-time fee of \$10 at the time the plates are issued.

116 It shall be unlawful for any person who is not a person described in this section to willfully and falsely represent himself as having the qualifications to obtain the special license plates herein provided 117

118 for.

- **119** The provisions of subdivisions B 1 and 2 of § 46.2-725 shall not apply to license plates issued under **120** this section.
- 121 Unremarried surviving spouses of persons eligible to receive special license plates under this section 122 may also be issued special license plates under this section.
- 123 2. That all license plates issued pursuant to § 46.2-745.1 or 46.2-745.2 of the Code of Virginia prior
- 124 to July 1, 2021, shall remain valid until their expiration and shall be renewed under the provisions
- 125 of § 46.2-745.1 or 46.2-745.2 of the Code of Virginia as they existed prior to July 1, 2021.