

39:3-27.67

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST
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(Battleship New Jersey License Plates)

NJSA: 39:3-27.67

LAWS OF: 1995 CHAPTER: 252

BILL NO: A2834

SPONSOR(S): Azzolina and others

DATE INTRODUCED: May 1, 1995

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY Economic Development
SENATE: ---

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: June 12, 1995
SENATE: June 26, 1995

DATE OF APPROVAL: September 12, 1995

FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

SPONSOR STATEMENT: Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: Yes
SENATE: No

FISCAL NOTE: No

VETO MESSAGE:

MESSAGE ON SIGNING: No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

See newspaper clipping--attached:

"New law puts battleship on license plates in NJ," 9-18-95, Philadelphia Inquirer.

"License plates will help raise battleship money," 9-13-95, Asbury Park Press.

KBG:pp

§§1-5
C.39:3-27.67
To
39:3-27.71
§6
Note To §§1-5

P.L.1995, CHAPTER 252, approved September 12, 1995
1995 Assembly No. 2834

1 AN ACT providing for the issuance of Battleship U.S.S. New
2 Jersey license plates and supplementing chapter 3 of Title 39
3 of the Revised Statutes.
4

5 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the
6 State of New Jersey:

7 1. The Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles shall, upon
8 proper application therefor, issue Battleship U.S.S. New Jersey
9 license plates for any motor vehicle owned or leased and
10 registered in the State. In addition to the registration number
11 and other markings of identification otherwise prescribed by law,
12 the plate shall display a depiction of a battleship and wording
13 which either recognizes the U.S.S. New Jersey's role in U.S.
14 naval history or indicates support for the acquisition, restoration,
15 and maintenance of the U.S.S. New Jersey. The wording, design
16 and color scheme of the plate shall be chosen by the director, in
17 consultation with the U.S.S. New Jersey Battleship Commission.

18 2. Application for a Battleship U.S.S. New Jersey license plate
19 shall be made to the Division of Motor Vehicles on forms and in a
20 manner prescribed by the director and shall be accompanied by a
21 fee of \$50, which shall be in addition to all fees otherwise
22 required by law for the registration of the motor vehicle. The
23 annual renewal of a registration certificate of a motor vehicle
24 that has been issued a Battleship U.S.S. New Jersey license plate
25 shall be accompanied by an additional fee of \$15. The \$50
26 application fee and \$15 renewal fee shall be deposited by the
27 division in the Battleship New Jersey Memorial Fund created
28 pursuant to section 3 of this act.

29 3. There is created in the Department of the Treasury a
30 special non-lapsing fund to be known as the "Battleship New
31 Jersey Memorial Fund." There shall be deposited into the fund
32 the additional application and renewal fees collected pursuant to
33 section 2 of this act and any interest earned thereon, less the
34 amounts necessary to reimburse the department for
35 administrative costs pursuant to section 4 of this act. Monies
36 deposited in the fund shall be dedicated for the acquisition,
37 restoration and maintenance of the Battleship U.S.S. New Jersey
38 by the U.S.S. New Jersey Battleship Commission.

39 4. a. Prior to the deposit of license plate fees collected
40 pursuant to section 2 of this act into the fund, amounts thereof as
41 are necessary shall be used to reimburse the division for costs
42 reasonably and actually incurred as stipulated by the director
43 for producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing the availability of
44 Battleship U.S.S. New Jersey license plates, including the cost of
45 any initial computer programming changes.

1 b. The director annually shall certify to the State Treasurer
2 the average cost per license plate incurred in the immediately
3 preceding year by the division in producing, issuing, renewing, and
4 publicizing the availability of Battleship U.S.S. New Jersey
5 license plates. The annual certification of the average cost per
6 license plate shall be approved by the Joint Budget Oversight
7 Committee, or its successor.

8 c. In the event that the average cost per license plate as
9 certified by the director and approved by the Joint Budget
10 Oversight Committee, or its successor, is greater than the \$50
11 application fee established in section 2 of this act in two
12 consecutive fiscal years, the director may discontinue the
13 issuance of Battleship U.S.S. New Jersey license plates.

14 5. The director shall notify eligible motorists of the
15 opportunity to obtain Battleship U.S.S. New Jersey license plates
16 by including a notice with all motor vehicle registration renewals
17 and by posting appropriate posters or signs in all division
18 facilities and offices. The notices, posters, and signs shall be
19 designed by the division, after consultation with the U.S.S. New
20 Jersey Battleship Commission.

21 6. This act shall take effect on the first day of the seventh
22 month following enactment, but the director may take such
23 anticipatory administrative action in advance as shall be
24 necessary for the implementation of this act.

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STATEMENT

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29 This bill directs the Division of Motor Vehicles in the
30 Department of Law and Public Safety (DMV) to establish a
31 special license plate program to raise funds to enable the State to
32 acquire, restore and maintain the U.S.S. New Jersey. The special
33 license plates would display a depiction of a battleship and
34 wording which either recognizes the U.S.S. New Jersey's role in
35 U.S. naval history or support for the acquisition, restoration and
36 maintenance of the battleship. The wording, design and color
37 scheme for the plate would be determined by the DMV Director
38 in consultation with the U.S.S. New Jersey Battleship
39 Commission. The bill sets an application fee of \$50 for these
40 plates and provides for a \$15 annual renewal fee. The amounts
41 collected through these fees, less the amounts required to
42 reimburse the DMV for administrative costs, are to be deposited
43 in the Battleship New Jersey Memorial Fund. The moneys
44 deposited in the fund are dedicated for the purposes of acquiring,
45 restoring and maintaining the U.S.S. New Jersey by the U.S.S.
46 New Jersey Battleship Commission.

47 The U.S.S. New Jersey is one of the largest, fastest and most
48 powerful battleships ever to sail the seas. Known as "Big J," the
49 U.S.S. New Jersey is one of four Iowa class battleships. Only
50 three battleships have seen action in three different wars, and
51 the U.S.S. New Jersey is one of those that has that distinction.
52 When "Big J" completed her mission off the coast of Vietnam,
53 she had become the most decorated warship in the annals of the
54 U.S. Navy.

1 After a brief retirement following its service in Vietnam, the
2 U.S.S. New Jersey was refitted, modernized and recommission in
3 1982. For almost a decade, "Big J" once again patrolled the
4 globe, serving as a powerful deterrent to all enemies of freedom
5 and potential aggressors.

6 In February, 1991, "Big J" was decommissioned and now rests
7 at anchorage in Bremerton, Washington. It fulfilled its mission
8 with great honor and distinction. In World War II, in Korea, in
9 Vietnam, and wherever else the cause of freedom and peace
10 called, "Big J" was there, as her motto declared, to provide
11 "Firepower for Freedom."

12 The moneys raised from the fees for the special Battleship
13 U.S.S. New Jersey license plates authorized under this bill will
14 help raise the funds necessary to bring "Big J" home to New
15 Jersey. The moneys are needed to acquire and restore the
16 battleship, to bring her back to New Jersey, and to establish and
17 maintain the U.S.S. New Jersey as a memorial and museum.

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22 Authorizes special license plates to acquire, restore and maintain
23 Battleship U.S.S. New Jersey.

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ASSEMBLY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AGRICULTURE, AND
MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 2834

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 8, 1995

The Assembly Economic Development, Agriculture, and Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 2834.

As reported, this bill directs the Division of Motor Vehicles in the Department of Law and Public Safety (DMV) to establish a special license plate program to raise funds to enable the State to acquire, restore and maintain the U.S.S. New Jersey. The special license plates would display a depiction of a battleship and wording which either recognizes the U.S.S. New Jersey's role in U.S. naval history or indicates support for the acquisition, restoration and maintenance of the battleship. The wording, design and color scheme for the plate would be determined by the DMV Director in consultation with the U.S.S. New Jersey Battleship Commission. The bill sets an application fee of \$50 for these plates and provides for a \$15 annual renewal fee. The amounts collected through these fees, less the amounts required to reimburse the DMV for administrative costs, are to be deposited in the Battleship New Jersey Memorial Fund. The moneys deposited in the fund are dedicated for the purposes of acquiring, restoring and maintaining the U.S.S. New Jersey by the U.S.S. New Jersey Battleship Commission.

The U.S.S. New Jersey is one of the largest, fastest and most powerful battleships ever to sail the seas. Known as "Big J," the U.S.S. New Jersey is one of four Iowa class battleships. Only three battleships have seen action in three different wars, and the U.S.S. New Jersey is one of those that has that distinction. When "Big J" completed her mission off the coast of Vietnam, she had become the most decorated warship in the annals of the U.S. Navy.

After a brief retirement following its service in Vietnam, the U.S.S. New Jersey was refitted, modernized and recommissioned in 1982. For almost a decade, "Big J" once again patrolled the globe, serving as a powerful deterrent to all enemies of freedom and potential aggressors.

In February, 1991, "Big J" was decommissioned and now rests at anchorage in Bremerton, Washington. It fulfilled its mission with great honor and distinction. In World War II, in Korea, in Vietnam, and wherever else the cause of freedom and peace called, "Big J" was there, as her motto declared, to provide "Firepower for Freedom."

The moneys raised from the fees for the special Battleship U.S.S. New Jersey license plates authorized under this bill will help raise the funds necessary to bring "Big J" home to New Jersey. The moneys are needed to acquire and restore the battleship, to bring her back to New Jersey, and to establish and maintain the U.S.S. New Jersey as a memorial and museum.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 2834
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: June 21, 1995

Assembly Bill No. 2834 of 1995 permits the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) in the Department of Law and Public Safety to issue special Battleship U.S.S. New Jersey license plates.

Application for the plates would be made through DMV, accompanied by a fee of \$50. The annual renewal fee for the plates would be \$15. These fees would be in addition to the registration fees otherwise prescribed by law. After reimbursement of DMV for costs incurred in issuing the plates, fee revenues would be deposited into a non-lapsing "Battleship New Jersey Memorial Fund," created by the bill. Moneys in the fund would be administered by the U.S.S. New Jersey Battleship Commission and dedicated for the acquisition, restoration and maintenance of the Battleship U.S.S. New Jersey.

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) estimates the cost to implement the provisions of this bill at \$212,299 in the first year following enactment, based on information provided by DMV. Included in this estimate are \$30,500 for one-time computer programming, \$1,100 for one-time die costs, \$108,540 for plate material and production, and \$72,159 for administrative overhead. OLS estimates second and third year costs at \$60,233 each year, allowing for the deduction of certain start-up costs. This estimate assumes that existing staff within the motor vehicle agencies will administer this program.

OLS estimates that approximately 20,100 Battleship U.S.S. New Jersey license plates will be sold in the first year, based on the average sales of the Shore Protection and Animal Welfare license plates in calendar year 1994. OLS further assumes that 6,700 additional plates, approximately one-third of the first-year sales, will be sold in each of the second and third years after enactment of this bill, and that all plate holders will renew their plates. Based on these assumptions, this bill will yield \$1,005,000 in revenues in the first year following enactment and \$636,500 and \$737,000 in the next two years, respectively. These revenues would offset DMV's costs and produce net surpluses of \$792,701, \$576,267 and \$676,767 in the first three years, respectively, for deposit in the Battleship New Jersey Memorial Fund.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980,c.67.