

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE  
FISCAL NOTE**

**BILL NO.** House Bill 1294

**PRINTER NO.** 2647

**AMOUNT**

See Fiscal Impact

**FUND**

General Fund  
Motor License Fund  
Philadelphia Parking Authority Funds

**DATE INTRODUCED**

April 27, 2017

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Representative Ward

**DESCRIPTION**

House Bill 1294 amends Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes to allow for the issuance of special motorcycle registration plates for recipients of the Purple Heart for motorcycles and special registration plates for recipients of the Legion of Merit and to enable a Transportation Network Company (TNC) driver to display an illuminated sign.

§ 1346 (relating to special plates for recipients of Purple Heart) is amended to allow these special plates to be used by motorcycles. Currently, issuance is limited to passenger cars and trucks with a registered gross weight of not more than 14,000 pounds.

A new § 1368.1 (relating to special plates for recipients of Legion of Merit) is added to establish special registration plates for recipients of the Legion of Merit. The legislation provides that the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (department) shall issue a special registration plate designating the vehicle licensed as belonging to a person who is a recipient of the Legion of Merit. Applicants shall pay a fee of \$20 in addition to the registration fee and provide such documentation as the department requires. This special registration plate may be used only on a passenger car or truck with a registered gross weight of not more than 14,000 pounds.

§ 4307 (relating to use and display of illuminated signs) is amended by adding a new subsection (c.1) (relating to transportation network company driver). This subsection permits a TNC driver to display an illuminated sign provided by a TNC within the interior of his or her vehicle so long as the sign is approved by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) or the Philadelphia Parking Authority (PPA), as applicable.

The TNC is required to file the illuminated sign with the PUC for review and approval. If the PUC does not approve the illuminated sign, the PPA may approve the illuminated sign within its jurisdiction after the TNC files the illuminated sign with the PPA for review and approval. The PUC and the PPA shall each have 15 business days to review the illuminated sign, as applicable.

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The new subsection to § 4307, providing for illuminated signs to be displayed by TNC drivers shall take effect in 60 days. The remainder of the act shall take effect in 120 days.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The Department of Transportation (department) estimates that it will cost \$20,000 for the necessary computer system changes to allow the department to issue special registration plates for motorcycles to recipients of the Purple Heart. The cost includes the creation of special plates for recipients of the Legion of Merit to be used only on a passenger car or truck with a registered gross weight of not more than 14,000 pounds. These costs are minimal and capable of being accommodated within the agency's current workload and budget.

According to the PUC and the Philadelphia Parking Authority there would be no adverse fiscal impact to the agencies' funds.