

JAN 17 2025

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

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RELATING TO DISABLED VETERANS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1       SECTION 1. The legislature finds that greater consistency  
2 is needed between the vehicle-based tax and fee exemptions  
3 offered to active duty military members and the tax and fee  
4 exemptions offered to disabled veterans. Accordingly, the  
5 purpose of this Act is to:

6       (1) Exempt disabled veterans from the State's vehicle  
7 weight tax; and

8       (2) Repeal the exemption for disabled veterans from the  
9 State's annual vehicle registration fee.

10       SECTION 2. Section 249-6.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12       "~~[+]§249-6.5[+]~~ **Exemption for National Guard, military**  
13 **reserves, and other active duty military personnel, and for**  
14 **disabled veterans claiming Hawaii as their residence of record.**

15       (a) One noncommercial motor vehicle registered to [a]:

16       (1) A member of the National Guard, military reserve, or  
17 armed service, including the Coast Guard, who is:



1     ~~[(1)]~~ (A) Assigned to a unit in the State; and

2     ~~[(2)]~~ (B) A member in good standing~~[7]~~; or

3         (2) A disabled veteran;

4 shall be exempt from the vehicle weight tax provided for in this  
5 chapter.

6         (b) For purposes of this section, "disabled veteran" means  
7 a person who:

8             (1) Is a resident of Hawaii;

9             (2) Has served in, and been honorably discharged from, any  
10             branch of the United States armed forces; and

11             (3) Has been determined by the United States Department of  
12             Veterans Affairs or its predecessor to have a  
13             service-connected disability rating of one hundred per  
14             cent."

15         SECTION 3. Section 249-31, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
16 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

17         "(a) All vehicles and motor vehicles in the State as  
18 defined in section 249-1, including antique motor vehicles,  
19 except as otherwise provided in sections 249-4~~[7]~~ and 249-6~~[7]~~  
20 ~~and 249-31.5]~~, shall be subject to a \$46 annual vehicle  
21 registration fee; provided that alternative fuel vehicles shall



1 pay an annual vehicle registration surcharge of \$50, which shall  
2 be assessed and collected beginning with the first registration  
3 renewal for every alternative fuel vehicle and shall be  
4 deposited into the state highway fund established under section  
5 248-8. The surcharge shall be paid each year together with all  
6 other taxes and fees levied by this chapter on a staggered basis  
7 as established by each county as authorized by section 286-51,  
8 and the state registration for that county shall likewise be  
9 staggered so that the state registration fee is due and payable  
10 at the same time and shall be collected together with the county  
11 fee. The state registration fee shall be deemed delinquent if  
12 not paid with the county registration fee. The respective  
13 counties shall collect this fee together with the vehicle  
14 registration tax collected for the county and shall transfer the  
15 moneys collected under this section to the State.

16 For the purposes of this subsection, "alternative fuel  
17 vehicle" means a vehicle powered by a non-petroleum-based fuel,  
18 but excludes an electric vehicle as defined in section 249-36(g)."

19 SECTION 4. Section 249-31.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
20 repealed.



1       ~~[ "§249-31.5 Exemptions from registration fees for certain~~  
2 ~~vehicles; disabled veterans. (a) A disabled veteran who:~~  
3       ~~(1) Is a resident of Hawaii;~~  
4       ~~(2) Has been other than dishonorably discharged from the~~  
5       ~~United States uniformed armed forces; and~~  
6       ~~(3) Is determined by the United States Department of~~  
7       ~~Veterans Affairs or its predecessor to have a~~  
8       ~~service connected one hundred per cent disability~~  
9       ~~rating for compensation or a service connected~~  
10       ~~disability rating of one hundred per cent,~~  
11 ~~shall be exempt from payment of all annual vehicle registration~~  
12 ~~fees as required by section 249-31; provided that this exemption~~  
13 ~~shall not extend to any vehicle used for commercial purposes or~~  
14 ~~to more than one vehicle owned by the disabled veteran.~~  
15       ~~(b) The director of the office of veterans' services, in~~  
16 ~~consultation with the policy advisory board on [veterans']~~  
17 ~~services, shall submit a report to the legislature and the~~  
18 ~~department of taxation no later than twenty days prior to the~~  
19 ~~convening of each regular session providing the legislature and~~  
20 ~~the department of taxation with the total number of disabled~~



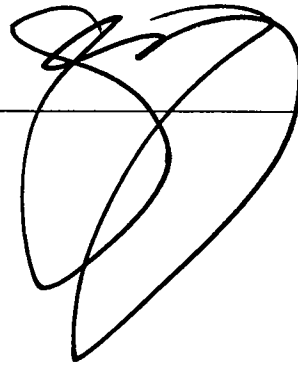
1 ~~veterans who qualify under this section for the exemption from~~  
2 ~~annual vehicle registration fees." ]~~

3 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

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INTRODUCED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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# S.B. NO. 607

**Report Title:**

Vehicle Weight Tax; Annual Vehicle Registration Fee; Disabled Veterans; Exemption

**Description:**

Exempts disabled veterans from the State's vehicle weight tax and repeals the exemption for disabled veterans from the State's annual vehicle registration fee.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

