

## HB131 INTRODUCED



1 HB131  
2 I3YFNZW-1  
3 By Representative Ross  
4 RFD: Military and Veterans' Affairs  
5 First Read: 13-Jan-26  
6 PFD: 07-Jan-26



SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, veterans who were exposed to dangerous levels of radiation due to the atomic bomb and weapon testing from 1944 to 1962 may be issued a distinctive license tag for a motor vehicle.

This bill would expand the list of veterans eligible to receive a distinctive license tag based on exposure to dangerous levels of radiation.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to license tags; to amend Section 32-6-350, Code of Alabama 1975, to include additional veterans who were exposed to dangerous levels of radiation due to their service to those eligible to receive a distinctive license tag.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 32-6-350, Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§32-6-350

(a) It is the intent of the Legislature to establish an Alabama Veteran Tag Program to recognize certain veterans.

(b) [\(1\)](#) The owner of a motor vehicle who is a resident



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of this state and who is an eligible veteran pursuant to subsection (c) may be issued a distinctive license tag pursuant to this division. The veteran shall: (i) make application to the judge of probate or commissioner of licenses; (ii) comply with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles; (iii) pay the regular license fee for a tag as provided by law for a private passenger or pleasure motor vehicle; and (iv) pay an additional fee of three dollars (\$3) for the initial issuance of the tag except a Vietnam veteran's tag.

(2) In the case of a Vietnam veteran's tag, the additional fee for the initial issuance of the tag shall be six dollars (\$6), three dollars (\$3) of which shall be distributed to the Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc., Alabama State Council, to be used to assist Vietnam veterans. For each renewal year, an additional fee of three dollars (\$3) shall be paid for the Vietnam veterans tag. The additional fee of three dollars (\$3) shall be distributed to the Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc., Alabama State Council, to be used to assist Vietnam veterans.

(c) The distinctive license tags in the Alabama Veteran Tag Program shall include all of the following:

(1) ~~veterans~~ Veterans of the United States Armed Forces ~~exposed to dangerous levels of radiation due to the atomic bomb and weapon testing from 1944 to 1962,~~ who:

a. Directly participated in the detonation of an atomic weapon or device;

b. Directly participated in the cleanup of radioactive



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material resulting from any atmospheric detonation of or  
accident associated with an atomic weapon; or

c. Were exposed to ionizing radiation resulting from  
the operational use of atomic weapons during World War II.

(2) Vietnam veterans.

(3) Korean War veterans.

(4) World War II veterans.

(5) ~~veterans~~ Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge.

(6) ~~veterans~~ Veterans of ~~Desert Shield/Desert Storm,~~  
Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm.

(7) ~~veterans~~ Veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

(8) ~~veterans~~ Veterans of Operation Enduring  
Freedom-Afghanistan.

(9) ~~veterans~~ Veterans of the Cold War serving at any  
time between September 2, 1945, and December 26, 1991, and.

(10) ~~veterans~~ Veterans of Operation Inherent Resolve.

(d) The distinctive tags shall be issued, printed, and  
processed in the same manner as other distinctive tags as  
provided in this chapter. The payment of the required motor  
vehicle license fees and taxes when required by this section  
for a year during which a new vehicle license plate is not  
issued shall be evidenced as provided in Section 32-6-63.

~~(d)~~ (e) The Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc., Alabama  
State Council, for the Vietnam veterans distinctive tag, and  
the Department of ~~Veterans'~~ Veterans Affairs for the other  
distinctive veteran tags shall each respectively design or  
have designed the distinctive veteran tags, subject to  
approval by the Commissioner of Revenue and compliance with



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all laws and rules. An applicant for a Vietnam veteran tag shall be a Vietnam era veteran, and the local veteran's affairs officer in the county in which application is made for the distinctive tag shall certify all Vietnam veterans eligible for a Vietnam veteran distinctive tag. An applicant for other veteran distinctive tags shall be a veteran of the appropriate conflict or otherwise qualify for a veteran tag as authorized by this section, and shall be certified as eligible by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

~~(e)~~ (f) The distinctive license tags shall not be transferable between motor vehicle owners and shall be subject to the same provisions of law related to the transferring of distinctive motor vehicle tags provided in Section 32-6-154 or as otherwise provided by law or rule of the Department of Revenue."

Section 2. This act shall become effective on October 1, 2026.