

1 HB262
2 115526-2
3 By Representative Laird
4 RFD: Public Safety
5 First Read: 14-JAN-10

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8 SYNOPSIS: This bill would require the Alabama
9 Forestry Commission to prepare a list of members of
10 certified volunteer fire departments and to require
11 the Firefighters' Personnel Standards and Education
12 Commission to prepare a list of fire department
13 personnel eligible for distinctive motor vehicle
14 license plates.

15 This bill would authorize the widow or
16 widower of a firefighter who dies in the line of
17 duty to receive a free license plate and the widow
18 or widower of a volunteer firefighter to receive a
19 free license plate.

20
21 A BILL
22 TO BE ENTITLED
23 AN ACT
24

25 To amend Section 32-6-272, Code of Alabama 1975,
26 relating to the issuance of distinctive motor vehicle license
27 plates, to require the Alabama Forestry Commission and the

1 Firefighters' Personnel Standards and Education Commission to
2 prepare lists of persons eligible for distinctive motor
3 vehicle license plates; and to provide for the receipt of a
4 free license plate for a widow or widower of a volunteer
5 firefighter, or any firefighter who dies in the line of duty.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

7 Section 1. Section 32-6-272, Code of Alabama 1975,
8 is amended to read as follows:

9 "§32-6-272.

10 "(a) The distinctive license plates here provided
11 for shall be prepared by the Commissioner of Revenue and shall
12 be issued through the judge of probate, license commissioner,
13 or other license issuing official of the several counties of
14 the state in like manner as are other motor vehicle license
15 plates or tags and such officers shall be entitled to their
16 regular fees for such service. ~~An applicant for a distinctive
17 plate shall present to the license issuing official proof of
18 his or her membership in a fire department by means of
19 certificate signed by the chief officer of the applicant on a
20 form prescribed by the Alabama Forestry Commission. The
21 Alabama Forestry Commission shall prepare a list of certified
22 volunteer fire departments and federal fire departments and
23 the Firefighters' Personnel Standards and Education Commission
24 shall prepare a list of all paid or part-paid fire
25 departments. The Forestry Commission and the Firefighters'
26 Personnel Standards and Education Commission shall submit to
27 the judge of probate, license commissioner, or other license~~

1 ~~issuing official of each county by December 1 of each year the~~
2 ~~lists of the eligible fire departments.~~

3 "(b) The Alabama Forestry Commission shall prepare a
4 list of all members of certified volunteer fire departments
5 and the Firefighters' Personnel Standards and Education
6 Commission shall prepare a list of all members of paid or
7 part-paid fire departments. The Forestry Commission and the
8 Firefighters' Personnel Standards and Education Commission
9 shall submit to the judge of probate, license commissioner, or
10 other license issuing official of each county by December 1 of
11 each year the lists of members of fire departments.

12 "(c) An applicant for a distinctive plate shall
13 present to the issuing official proof of his or her
14 identification, and the firefighter shall be issued the
15 requested number of distinctive license plates or tags upon
16 the payment of the regular license fee for tags, as provided
17 by law, but shall not be required to pay the three dollar (\$3)
18 fee. The distinctive license plates or tags so issued shall be
19 used only upon and for personally-owned, private, passenger
20 vehicles, to include station wagons and pick-up trucks,
21 registered in the name of the firefighter making application
22 therefor, and when so issued to the applicant shall be used
23 upon the vehicle for which issued in lieu of the standard
24 license plates or license tags normally issued for such
25 vehicle.

26 "(d) Any person who joins a volunteer, paid, or
27 part-paid fire department after December 1 of any year or any

1 person who is mistakenly omitted from the lists prepared as
2 described above may obtain a distinctive plate by presenting
3 to the license issuing official proof of his or her membership
4 in a fire department by means of a certificate signed by the
5 chief of the department on a form prescribed by the Alabama
6 Forestry Commission.

7 "(e) Anyone who is proven to have either falsely
8 obtained or certified an individual to obtain a distinctive
9 firefighter license plate shall be guilty of a Class C
10 misdemeanor, and upon conviction, shall be punished according
11 to law.

12 "(f) A distinctive license plate shall be provided,
13 upon written request, to a widow or widower of either of a
14 paid or a volunteer firefighter who dies in the line of duty.
15 For purposes of this subsection, a death in the line of duty
16 is determined by a circumstance in which a municipal
17 firefighter's death would result in a death benefit under
18 Section 11-43-144."

19 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
20 first day of the third month following its passage and
21 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.