- 1 HB17
- 2 165814-2
- 3 By Representatives Shedd and Standridge
- 4 RFD: Military and Veterans Affairs
- 5 First Read: 03-MAR-15
- 6 PFD: 02/18/2015

1	ENGROSSED
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4	A BILL
5	TO BE ENTITLED
6	AN ACT
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8	Relating to distinctive license tags for disabled
9	veterans; to amend Sections 32-6-130, 32-6-131, and 32-6-133,
10	40-12-244, and 40-12-254, Code of Alabama 1975, to provide for
11	a distinctive disabled veteran license tag for motorcycles.
12	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
13	Section 1. Sections 32-6-130, 32-6-131, and
14	32-6-133, 40-12-244, and 40-12-254, Code of Alabama 1975, are
15	amended to read as follows:
16	"§32-6-130.
17	"Any veteran, as defined in Section 31-5-1, who is a
18	resident of this state and who is suffering a physical
19	disability which requires that any motor vehicle he or she
20	operates be equipped with special mechanical control devices
21	or whose physical disability exceeds 50 percent, upon
22	application accompanied by proof of eligibility to the judge
23	of probate of the county for the special license plates
24	provided herein, as may be prescribed by the State Department
25	of Revenue, and upon payment of five dollars (\$5), unless
26	exempted from the payment of such fee by law, shall be issued
27	license plates, by the judge of probate as provided by law,

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1 for private or pleasure motor vehicles or motorcycles, upon 2 which, in lieu of the number now prescribed by law shall be inscribed in legible letters the words, "Disabled Veteran," 3 4 and shall designate the branch of service and an identifying number as prescribed by the State Department of Revenue. The 5 6 plates shall not be transferable. The fee established by this 7 section shall be in lieu of the regular license fee now required for motor vehicles and motorcycles and shall be used 8 to defray the cost of issuing the distinctive license plates. 9

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"§32-6-131.

11 "The Commissioner of Revenue shall make such 12 reasonable rules and regulations as may be necessary to 13 administer the provisions of this division, including rules 14 and regulations necessary to insure compliance with all state 15 license laws relating to the use and operation of a private or pleasure motor vehicle or motorcycle and to provide for the 16 17 application for and issuance of such special tags. Whoever wrongfully obtains or secures the issuance of a motor vehicle 18 or motorcycle license tag or plate under this division, or 19 whoever affixes such a tag or plate to a motor vehicle or 20 21 motorcycle other than the one for which it was issued is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished as prescribed by 22 23 Section 15-18-3. Whoever willfully uses a motor vehicle or 24 motorcycle equipped with such a tag or plate for any unlawful 25 or deceptive purpose is guilty of a felony and shall be imprisoned for not less than two years. 26

27 "\$32-6-133.

"The design of motor vehicle tags <u>and motorcycle</u>
 tags for disabled veterans shall be as follows:

3 "The Department of Revenue shall design, or have
4 designed, the "Disabled Veteran" license plate in compliance
5 with all laws and regulations. The plate design shall contain
6 the language "Heart of Dixie."

7 "Any additional regulations or design specifications
8 needed to implement the provisions of this section shall be
9 prescribed by the Commissioner of Revenue.

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"§40-12-244.

"There shall be exempt from the operation of the privilege or license tax and registration fee now or hereinafter to be levied on automobiles and motor vehicles by the State of Alabama one passenger vehicle owned by any of the following:

"(1)a. An active member of the Alabama National 16 17 Guard or the Alabama State Guard, when organized in lieu of the National Guard or for any service-connected disabled 18 veteran. The exemption for only one vehicle extends only to 19 distinctive National Guard or service-connected disabled 20 21 veterans' license tags and shall be claimed upon presentation 22 of proper identification on forms prescribed by the Adjutant 23 General. Active members of the National Guard may obtain additional distinctive license tags for other passenger 24 vehicles which they own by paying the regular privilege or 25 26 license tax provided by law.

1 "b. A retired member of the Alabama National Guard 2 with 20 years or more service. The exemption for only one vehicle extends only to distinctive National Guard license 3 4 tags and shall be claimed upon presentation of proper identification on forms prescribed by the Adjutant General. 5 6 Retired members of the Alabama National Guard may obtain 7 additional distinctive license tags for passenger vehicles which they own upon presentation and proper identification on 8 forms prescribed by the Adjutant General and by paying the 9 10 regular privilege or license tax and registration fee as 11 provided by law.

"(2) An officer, warrant officer, or enlisted person 12 13 serving as an active member of any United States armed forces 14 reserve organization or any service-connected disabled 15 veterans who were residents of Alabama at the time of entering the service and who are still residents of Alabama at the time 16 17 the exemption is claimed. The exemption shall be claimed by presentation of proper identification and proof of residence 18 requirements on forms prescribed by the state Department of 19 20 Revenue.

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"(3) A member of a volunteer rescue squad.

"(4) The Civil Air Patrol; including those vehicles
owned by the national headquarters and those owned by the
Alabama wing of the Civil Air Patrol.

"(5) A volunteer firefighter who is a resident of
Alabama and who is entitled to the distinctive firefighter tag
issued pursuant to Section 32-6-272. The exemption for one

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- vehicle extends only to the firefighter distinctive license
 plate.
- 3 "(6) One disabled veteran motorcycle license plate
 4 for a service connected disabled veteran.
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"§40-12-254.

"Any disabled veteran of World War II or of any 6 7 other hostilities in which the United States was, is, or shall be engaged against any foreign state, whether as a result of a 8 declared war or not, who owns an automobile or motorcycle 9 10 which has been, is or shall hereafter be all or partly paid for with funds furnished for such purpose by the Administrator 11 12 of Veterans' Affairs under authority of any act of the 13 Congress of the United States, is exempt from all license fees 14 and ad valorem taxes required by or prescribed in this 15 article; provided, that the veteran keeps such motor vehicle only for private use. Application for an exemption may be made 16 17 to the probate judge of the county in which such veteran resides. The state Department of Revenue shall prescribe and 18 furnish application forms to be used and may require the 19 20 applicant to supply such information as may be necessary to 21 enable the probate judge to determine the veteran's 22 eligibility for the exemption. The application shall be sworn 23 to or affirmed by the veteran and shall be accompanied by the 24 document or instrument, or a certified copy thereof, which 25 evidences the veteran's ownership of the vehicle. Upon 26 determination of eligibility and grant of the exemption, the 27 probate judge shall issue a license tag or stamp, to be

provided by the state Department of Revenue, permitting the operation of the motor vehicle."

3 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the 4 first day of the third month following its passage and 5 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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3	House of Representatives
4 5	Read for the first time and re-
5	ferred to the House of Representa-
6 7	tives committee on Military and
	Veterans Affairs
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9	Read for the second time and placed
10	on the calendar 1 amendment 05-MAR-15
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12	Read for the third time and passed
13	as amended
14	Yeas 98, Nays 0, Abstains 0

Jeff Woodard Clerk