

1 HB17
2 164157-1
3 By Representatives Shedd and Standridge
4 RFD: Military and Veterans Affairs
5 First Read: 03-MAR-15
6 PFD: 02/18/2015

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, a disabled veteran may
9 receive a distinctive disabled veteran license tag
10 for his or her motor vehicle upon application
11 accompanied by proof of eligibility to the official
12 in the county responsible for issuing license tags.

13 This bill would provide for a distinctive
14 disabled veteran license tag for motorcycles.

15 This bill would provide that a disabled
16 veteran could receive a distinctive disabled
17 veteran license tag for a motorcycle upon
18 application accompanied by proof of eligibility to
19 the official in the county responsible for issuing
20 license tags.

21 This bill would provide that a veteran
22 receiving the distinctive disabled veteran
23 motorcycle tag would be exempt from license taxes
24 and registration fees and ad valorem taxes on the
25 motorcycle.

26
27 A BILL

1 TO BE ENTITLED

2 AN ACT

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4 Relating to distinctive license tags for disabled
5 veterans; to amend Sections 32-6-130, 32-6-131, and 32-6-133,
6 40-12-244, and 40-12-254, Code of Alabama 1975, to provide for
7 a distinctive disabled veteran license tag for motorcycles;
8 and to provide an exemption from license taxes and
9 registration fees and ad valorem taxes on the motorcycle.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

11 Section 1. Sections 32-6-130, 32-6-131, and
12 32-6-133, 40-12-244, and 40-12-254, Code of Alabama 1975, are
13 amended to read as follows:

14 "§32-6-130.

15 "Any veteran, as defined in Section 31-5-1, who is a
16 resident of this state and who is suffering a physical
17 disability which requires that any motor vehicle he or she
18 operates be equipped with special mechanical control devices
19 or whose physical disability exceeds 50 percent, upon
20 application accompanied by proof of eligibility to the judge
21 of probate of the county for the special license plates
22 provided herein, as may be prescribed by the State Department
23 of Revenue, and upon payment of five dollars (\$5), unless
24 exempted from the payment of such fee by law, shall be issued
25 license plates, by the judge of probate as provided by law,
26 for private or pleasure motor vehicles or motorcycles, upon
27 which, in lieu of the number now prescribed by law shall be

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

8 "§32-6-131.

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

25 "§32-6-133.

26 "The design of motor vehicle tags and motorcycle
27 tags for disabled veterans shall be as follows:

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

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

8 "§40-12-244.

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

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

25 "b. A retired member of the Alabama National Guard
26 with 20 years or more service. The exemption for only one
27 vehicle extends only to distinctive National Guard license

1 tags and shall be claimed upon presentation of proper
2 identification on forms prescribed by the Adjutant General.
3 Retired members of the Alabama National Guard may obtain
4 additional distinctive license tags for passenger vehicles
5 which they own upon presentation and proper identification on
6 forms prescribed by the Adjutant General and by paying the
7 regular privilege or license tax and registration fee as
8 provided by law.

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

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

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

22 "(5) A volunteer firefighter who is a resident of
23 Alabama and who is entitled to the distinctive firefighter tag
24 issued pursuant to Section 32-6-272. The exemption for one
25 vehicle extends only to the firefighter distinctive license
26 plate.

1 "(6) One disabled veteran motorcycle license plate
2 for a service connected disabled veteran.

3 "§40-12-254.

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

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