

1 HB358
2 205115-1
3 By Representatives Drake, Standridge, Hill, Carns, Wilcox,
4 Whorton and Oliver
5 RFD: Military and Veterans Affairs
6 First Read: 27-FEB-20

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, a resident veteran who
9 is the recipient of a specified military award may
10 receive a distinctive permanent motor vehicle
11 license plate under certain conditions if the
12 veteran presents evidence of receipt of the award.

13 This bill would add the Air Medal to the
14 list of military awards eligible to be commemorated
15 on a permanent distinctive license plate.

16
17 A BILL
18 TO BE ENTITLED
19 AN ACT

20
21 To amend Sections 32-6-250 and 32-6-251, Code of
22 Alabama 1975, relating to the issuance of military veteran
23 distinctive permanent license plates; to add the Air Medal to
24 the list of military awards eligible to be commemorated on a
25 permanent distinctive license plate.

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

1 Section 1. Sections 32-6-250 and 32-6-251 of the
2 Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

3 "§32-6-250.

4 "(a) A distinctive permanent license plate shall be
5 issued to any resident of the state who is a recipient of the
6 Medal of Honor or the widow of a recipient of the Medal of
7 Honor, to any resident who is a recipient of the Purple Heart
8 Medal, to any resident who is a member of the Legion of Valor
9 with positive proof of membership and the award of the Medal
10 of Honor, the Army Distinguished Service Cross, the Navy
11 Cross, or the Air Force Cross, to any resident who is a
12 recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross, to any resident
13 who is a recipient of the Silver Star, to any resident who is
14 a recipient of the Bronze Star, to any resident who is a
15 recipient of the Air Medal, or to any resident who shows by
16 satisfactory proof that he or she was a duly recognized former
17 prisoner of war, for use on a private motor vehicle registered
18 in the name of the resident. There shall be no fee or tax for
19 the license plate, except Purple Heart Medal recipients shall
20 pay ad valorem taxes on vehicles for which the distinctive
21 plates are issued, Distinguished Flying Cross, Silver Star,
22 ~~and~~ Bronze Star, and Air Medal recipients shall pay the
23 regular registration fee and ad valorem taxes and an annual
24 additional fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25), and no recipient
25 shall receive a plate for more than one vehicle except as
26 provided in subsection (c).

1 "(b) A former prisoner of war for purposes of this
2 section is a person who, as a member of the United States
3 Armed Forces, or while serving with a formal United States
4 ally force, or as a United States civilian, was held as a
5 prisoner of war during any armed conflict by forces hostile to
6 the United States.

7 "(c) A person eligible to be issued a distinctive
8 license plate under this section may be issued additional
9 distinctive license plates, under any of the above license
10 plate categories, if the person otherwise qualifies to receive
11 the distinctive license plate, upon payment of all license tax
12 and registration fees, including ad valorem taxes, for the
13 vehicles and an annual additional fee of twenty-five dollars
14 (\$25) for the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Silver Star, ~~and~~
15 the Bronze Star, and the Air Medal distinctive license plates.
16 Annual renewal decals shall be provided after payment, if
17 required, of license fees and taxes for the years during which
18 a new tag or plate is not issued as provided in Section
19 32-6-63.

20 "§32-6-251.

21 "The special plates shall be of the same size as
22 regular motor vehicle license plates, distinguished by the
23 letters MOH, LOV, Distinguished Flying Cross, Silver Star,
24 Bronze Star, ~~or~~ PHM, or AM to be of a different color scheme
25 and design to any other vehicle plate in this state, or POW to
26 be of the same color scheme as other distinguished military
27 plates in this state, whichever distinctive design applies,

1 the nature of which shall be prescribed by a committee to be
2 appointed by the chief legislative sponsors of this division.
3 The net proceeds of the additional revenues from the sales of
4 the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Silver Star, ~~and~~ the
5 Bronze Star, and the Air Medal distinctive military plates,
6 less the administrative costs including the costs of
7 production incurred by the Department of Revenue in producing
8 the plates, shall be distributed by each judge of probate or
9 license commissioner to the state Comptroller. The state
10 Comptroller shall distribute the proceeds into the Alabama
11 Veterans' Assistance Fund in the State Treasury."

12 Section 2. This act shall become effective on
13 January 1, 2021, following its passage and approval by the
14 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.