

1 HB195
2 209158-3
3 By Representative Brown (K)
4 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security
5 First Read: 02-FEB-21
6 PFD: 01/28/2021

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ENROLLED, An Act,

To amend Sections 32-6-350 and 32-6-350.1, Code of Alabama 1975, relating to the issuance of a distinctive license tag pursuant to the Alabama Veteran Tag Program; to expand eligibility for a distinctive license tag to include certain honorably discharged veterans of the Cold War.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Sections 32-6-350 and 32-6-350.1, Code of Alabama 1975, are 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) The owner of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state and who is an eligible veteran pursuant to subsection (c) of this section may be issued a distinctive license tag pursuant to this division. The veteran shall make application to the judge of probate or commissioner of licenses, comply with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, pay the regular license fee for a tag as provided by law for a private passenger or pleasure motor vehicle, and pay an additional fee of three dollars (\$3) for the initial issuance of the tag except a Vietnam veteran's tag. In the case of a Vietnam

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

10 "(c) The distinctive license tags in the Alabama
11 Veteran Tag Program shall include veterans of the United
12 States Armed Forces exposed to dangerous levels of radiation
13 due to the atomic bomb and weapon testing from 1944 to 1962,
14 Vietnam veterans, Korean War veterans, World War II veterans,
15 veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, veterans of Desert
16 Shield/Desert Storm, veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom, ~~and~~
17 veterans of Operation Enduring Freedom-Afghanistan, and
18 veterans of the Cold War serving at any time between September
19 2, 1945, and December 26, 1991. The distinctive tags shall be
20 issued, printed, and processed in the same manner as other
21 distinctive tags as provided in this chapter. The payment of
22 the required motor vehicle license fees and taxes when
23 required by this section for a year during which a new vehicle
24 license plate is not issued shall be evidenced as provided in
25 Section 32-6-63.

1 "(d) The Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA), Alabama
2 State Council for the Vietnam veterans distinctive tag, and
3 the Department of Veterans' Affairs for the other distinctive
4 veteran tags shall each respectively design or have designed
5 the distinctive veteran tags, subject to approval by the
6 Commissioner of Revenue and compliance with all laws and
7 regulations. An applicant for a Vietnam veteran tag shall be a
8 Vietnam era veteran and the local veteran's affairs officer in
9 the county in which application is made for the distinctive
10 tag shall certify all Vietnam veterans eligible for a Vietnam
11 veteran distinctive tag. An applicant for other veteran
12 distinctive tags shall be a veteran of the appropriate
13 conflict or otherwise qualify for a veteran tag as authorized
14 by this section, and shall be certified as eligible by the
15 Department of Veterans' Affairs.

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

22 "§32-6-350.1.

23 "(a) Upon payment of an annual fee of fifty dollars
24 (\$50), which shall not be prorated, any Vietnam veteran, Pearl
25 Harbor survivor veteran, World War II veteran, Korean War

1 veteran, Battle of the Bulge veteran, Desert Shield/Desert
2 Storm veteran, veteran of the Armed Forces exposed to
3 dangerous levels of radiation due to the atomic bomb and
4 weapons testing from 1944 to 1962, Operation Iraqi Freedom
5 veteran, ~~or~~ Operation Enduring Freedom-Afghanistan veteran, or
6 veteran of the Cold War serving at any time between September
7 2, 1945, and December 26, 1991, eligible to be issued
8 distinctive license tags pursuant to law, shall be issued
9 personalized license tags upon which, in lieu of the numbers
10 and symbols on the distinctive veteran license tags or plates,
11 shall be inscribed with special letters, figures, numbers, or
12 other marks, emblems, symbols, or badges of distinction or
13 personal prestige, or a combination of these, as are approved
14 for and assigned to the application by the Department of
15 Revenue.

16 "(b) The personalized license tags provided for in
17 this section shall be issued, printed, processed, and renewed
18 in the same manner as other personalized tags in Section
19 32-6-150.

20 "(c) Fees collected pursuant to this section shall
21 be transmitted timely to the state Comptroller. After payment
22 to the Department of Corrections for its costs for
23 manufacturing and the administration of the personalized
24 veteran license plates provided for by subsection (a), with
25 the exception of fees collected for Vietnam veteran

1 personalized plates, the entire balance of fees shall be
2 transferred by the state Comptroller into the Alabama
3 Veteran's Assistance Fund in the State Treasury. For each
4 Vietnam veteran personalized plate, after payment to the
5 Department of Corrections for its costs for manufacturing and
6 the administration of the personalized Vietnam veteran license
7 plates, twenty dollars (\$20) for each plate sold shall be
8 distributed to the Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc., Alabama
9 State Council, to be used to assist Vietnam veterans, and the
10 remaining balance shall be transferred by the state
11 Comptroller into the Alabama Veteran's Assistance Fund in the
12 State Treasury.

13 "(d) Fees paid pursuant to this section are a
14 charitable contribution from the purchaser to the Alabama
15 Veteran's Assistance Fund.

16 "(e) This section shall not affect the purchase of
17 any veteran's tag that is not personalized.

18 "(f) License tags issued pursuant to this section
19 shall be subject to the legislative oversight committee
20 pursuant to Section 32-6-67."

21 Section 2. This act shall become effective on ~~the~~
22 ~~first day of the third month~~ January 1, 2022, following its
23 passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise
24 becoming law.

