

**Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed
prior to this session of the General Assembly.
Act 632 of the Regular Session**

1 State of Arkansas
2 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1843

5 By: Representatives Stewart, Cook, Pierce, J. Edwards, English, J. Roebuck, Pennartz
6 By: Senator Teague
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO AMEND THE SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE ACT OF
11 2005 TO ALLOW RETIRED MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES
12 OF THE UNITED STATES TO OBTAIN SPECIAL LICENSE
13 PLATES FOR NOMINAL FEES; TO AMEND PROVISIONS
14 RELATED TO SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES FOR MILITARY
15 SERVICE AND VETERANS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
16

Subtitle

17
18
19 TO AMEND THE SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE ACT
20 OF 2005 TO ALLOW RETIRED MEMBERS OF THE
21 ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES TO
22 OBTAIN SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES FOR
23 NOMINAL FEES.
24

25
26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
27

28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 27-24-203 is amended to read as follows:
29 27-24-203. Definitions.

30 As used in this chapter:

31 (1) "Aid and attendance" means veterans benefits paid to a
32 veteran who because of physical disability cannot take care of himself or
33 herself and must be assisted by another person;

34 (2) "Disabled veteran" means any American veteran who:

35 (A) Is a citizen and resident of the State of Arkansas;



1 (B) Has been determined by the United States Department of
2 Veterans Affairs to be a totally and permanently disabled service-connected
3 veteran; and

4 (C) Is either:

5 (i) The owner of a motor vehicle that is used by or
6 for the totally and permanently disabled veteran; or

7 (ii) Issued a motor vehicle by the United States
8 Department of Veterans Affairs under any public law;

9 (3) "Disabled veteran – Nonservice injury" means any American
10 veteran who:

11 (A) Is a citizen and resident of the State of Arkansas;

12 (B) Uses a wheelchair as a result of a nonservice-
13 connected catastrophic injury;

14 (C) Receives aid and attendance by the department; and

15 (D) Is either:

16 (i) The owner of a motor vehicle that is used by or
17 for the totally and permanently disabled veteran; or

18 (ii) Furnished a motor vehicle by the United States
19 Department of Veterans Affairs;

20 (4) "Disabled veteran – World War I" means a World War I veteran
21 who:

22 (A) Received a disabling injury while serving in the armed
23 forces of the United States during World War I; and

24 (B) Is either:

25 (i) The owner of a motor vehicle that is used by or
26 for the totally and permanently disabled veteran; or

27 (ii) Furnished a motor vehicle by the United States
28 Department of Veterans Affairs; ~~and~~

29 (5)(A) "Merchant Marine" means a person who establishes that he
30 or she:

31 (i) Served in the United States Merchant Marine
32 during the period of October 1, 1940, through December 31, 1945; and

33 (ii) Is qualified to receive all applicable
34 veteran's benefits.

35 (B) A person shall establish that he or she is a Merchant
36 Marine under this subchapter by presenting a copy of the certificate of

1 release or Form DD 214 with his or her application; and

2 (6) "Retired member of the armed forces" means a person who
3 presents proof of retirement in the form of retirement orders issued by one
4 (1) of the following services of the armed forces of the United States:

- 5 (A) The United States Army;
- 6 (B) The United States Navy;
- 7 (C) The United States Marine Corps;
- 8 (D) The United States Air Force;
- 9 (E) The United States Coast Guard;
- 10 (F) The Army National Guard;
- 11 (G) The Air National Guard; or
- 12 (H) The Reserves Forces of the United States.

13
14 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 27-24-206(c), regarding fees and
15 limitations for military service and veterans special license plates, is
16 amended to read as follows:.

17 ~~(c)(1) An eligible applicant, including a surviving spouse under § 27-~~
18 ~~24-208, for the issuance or renewal of any one (1) of the following special~~
19 ~~license plates that existed before April 13, 2005, may obtain one (1)~~
20 ~~additional special license plate under this subchapter upon payment of the~~
21 ~~fee for licensing a motor vehicle as provided under § 27-14-601.~~

- 22 ~~(A) [Repealed.]~~
- 23 ~~(B) [Repealed.]~~
- 24 ~~(C) [Repealed.]~~
- 25 ~~(D) [Repealed.]~~
- 26 ~~(E) [Repealed.]~~

27 ~~(2) The Adjutant General of the State of Arkansas or the~~
28 ~~Director of the Department of Veterans' Affairs may submit a written request~~
29 ~~to the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration to allow a~~
30 ~~qualified applicant for a special license plate not stated in subdivision~~
31 ~~(c)(1) of this section to obtain one (1) additional special license plate~~
32 ~~upon payment of the fee for licensing a motor vehicle as provided under § 27-~~
33 ~~14-601.~~

34 ~~(3) An eligible applicant for the issuance or renewal of any of the~~
35 ~~following special license plate plates may obtain one (1) additional special~~
36 ~~license plate under this subchapter upon payment of a fee not to exceed one~~

1 dollar (\$1.00):

- 2 ~~(A)~~(1) Ex-prisoner of War;
- 3 ~~(B)~~(2) Pearl Harbor Survivor;
- 4 ~~(C)~~(3) Medal of Honor Recipient;
- 5 ~~(D)~~(4) Disabled Veteran;
- 6 ~~(E)~~(5) Disabled Veteran – World War I; or
- 7 ~~(F)~~(6) Purple Heart Recipient.

8

9 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 27, Chapter 24, Subchapter 2 is amended
10 to add an additional section to read as follows:

11 27-24-209. Retired members of the armed forces.

12 (a) The Department of Finance and Administration shall continue the
13 special license plate for retired members of the armed forces that existed
14 before the effective date of this act.

15 (b)(1) The department shall design the special license plates issued
16 under this section.

17 (2) In lieu of the legend, “The Natural State”, or any
18 succeeding legend, there shall be placed across the bottom of the license
19 plate a permanent decal bearing the words “U.S. Armed Forces Retired”.

20 (c) A retired member of the armed forces may apply for and annually
21 renew a special license plate issued under this section as provided under 27-
22 24-206 (a) and (b).

23 (d) Upon the initial application of a special license plate issued
24 under this section, a retired member of the armed forces shall provide
25 adequate proof to the department that he or she is a retired member of the
26 armed forces.

27 (e) The registration of a special license plate under this section may
28 continue from year to year as long as it is renewed each year within the time
29 and manner required by law.

30

31 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1301 is amended to read as follows:
32 27-24-1301. Purpose.

33 The purpose of this subchapter is to continue the special license
34 plates for the certain public service employees, or public service retirees,
35 ~~or military service retirees~~ that existed before April 13, 2005, and to
36 establish a procedure for other public service employees or retirees to

1 obtain special license plates.

2

3 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1302 is amended to read as follows:

4 27-24-1302. Definitions.

5 As used in this subchapter:

6 (1) "Firefighter" means a person who is certified by the
7 Arkansas Fire Protection Services Board as a certified firefighter or who has
8 retired as a firefighter;

9 (2) "Professional firefighter" means a person who is in good
10 standing with the Arkansas Professional Fire Fighters Association;

11 (3) "Public service" means a service provided by a city, a
12 county, or the state government that requires licensure or certification by
13 the person who is providing the service; and

14 ~~(4) "Retired member of the armed forces of the United States"~~
15 ~~means a person who presents proof of retirement in the form of retirement~~
16 ~~orders issued by one (1) of the following services of the armed forces of the~~
17 ~~United States:~~

- 18 ~~(A) The United States Army;~~
- 19 ~~(B) The United States Navy;~~
- 20 ~~(C) The United States Marine Corps;~~
- 21 ~~(D) The United States Air Force;~~
- 22 ~~(E) The United States Coast Guard; or~~
- 23 ~~(F) The National Guard; and~~

24 ~~(5)~~(4) "Retired state trooper" means a former employee of the
25 Department of Arkansas State Police who is eligible for and is receiving
26 retirement benefits related to the retiree's employment as a state trooper.

27

28 SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1305 is repealed.

29 ~~27-24-1305. United States Armed Forces retired.~~

30 ~~(a) The Department of Finance and Administration shall continue the~~
31 ~~special license plate for retired members of the armed forces of the United~~
32 ~~States that existed before April 13, 2005.~~

33 ~~(b)(1) The department shall design the special license plates issued~~
34 ~~under this section.~~

35 ~~(2) In lieu of the legend, "The Natural State" or any succeeding~~
36 ~~legend, there shall be placed across the bottom of the license plate a~~

1 permanent decal bearing the words "U.S. Armed Forces Retired".

2 (c)(1) A retired member of the armed forces may apply for and annually
3 renew a special license plate issued under this section.

4 (2) The fee for the initial application for a special license
5 plate under this section is the fee required by law for the registration and
6 licensing of the motor vehicle.

7 (3) The fee for the renewal of a special license plate under
8 this section is the fee required by law for the registration and licensing of
9 the motor vehicle.

10 (4) The replacement fee for a special license plate issued under
11 this section is ten dollars (\$10.00).

12 (d) Upon the initial application of a special license plate issued
13 under this section, the retired member of the armed forces shall provide
14 adequate proof to the department that he or she is a retired member of the
15 armed forces.

16 (e) The registration of a special license plate under this section
17 may:

18 (1) Continue from year to year as long as it is renewed each
19 year within the time and manner required by law; and

20 (2) Be renewed as provided under §§ 27-14-1012 and 27-14-1013.

21
22 APPROVED: 3/27/2009
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36