

State of Arkansas  
87th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2009

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1845

By: Representatives Stewart, Cook, Pierce, R. Green  
By: Senator Teague

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE REDESIGN AND  
SIMPLIFICATION OF MILITARY SERVICE AND VETERANS  
SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES; TO HELP WITH THE COSTS OF  
PROVIDING MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS AT VETERANS'  
FUNERALS; TO CREATE THE MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS  
FUND; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO AUTHORIZE THE REDESIGN AND  
SIMPLIFICATION OF MILITARY SERVICE AND  
VETERANS SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 27, Chapter 24, Subchapter 2 is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

27-24-209. Redesign and simplification of military service and veterans special license plates.

(a) The Office of Motor Vehicle of the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and Administration shall redesign and simplify all military service and veterans special license plates issued under this subchapter that are in existence on September 1, 2009.

(b)(1) In place of the legend "The Natural State" at the bottom of the special license plate, a decal for a veteran of each conflict authorized under this subchapter shall be created.

(2) The design of the special license plate shall include a



blank space that is sufficient for the branch decal under subsection (c) of this section or the medal decal under subsection (d) of this section.

(c)(1) The Office of Motor Vehicle shall design a branch decal based on the official emblem for each of the following:

- (A) The United States Army;
- (B) The Army Reserve;
- (C) The United States Navy;
- (D) The Navy Reserve;
- (E) The United States Marine Corps;
- (F) The Marine Corps Reserve;
- (G) The United States Air Force;
- (H) The Air Force Reserve;
- (I) The Coast Guard;
- (J) The Coast Guard Reserve;
- (K) The Army National Guard; and
- (L) The Air National Guard.

(2)(A) The Office of Motor Vehicle is to seek the advice and input of the Director of the Department of Veterans' Affairs and the Adjutant General for the State of Arkansas on the design of the branch decal.

(B) The Office of Motor Vehicle shall comply with the provisions of 10 U.S.C. § 1057 and 10 U.S.C. § 7881.

(3) The branch decal shall be of a size to fit on the license plate next to the officially designated license plate number.

(4) The applicant shall establish that he or she served in the branch before the Office of Motor Vehicle issues the branch decal.

(5) If the applicant does not purchase a medal decal under subsection (d) of this section, an employee of the Office of Motor Vehicle shall affix the branch decal to the special license plate at the time of issuance to the applicant,

(6) There is no additional charge for a branch decal under this subsection.

(d)(1)(A) The Office of Motor Vehicle shall design and make available for issuance medal decals for no more than five (5) medals awarded by a branch of the armed services of the United States by January 1, 2010.

(B) Every two (2) years following the effective date of this act, the Office of Motor Vehicle shall design and make available for

1 issuance no more than five (5) additional medal decals awarded by a branch of  
2 the armed services of the United States.

3 (2) The medal decal is to be designed based on the official  
4 medal that it represents.

5 (3) The Office of Motor Vehicle is to seek the advice and input  
6 of the Director of the Department of Veterans' Affairs and the Adjutant  
7 General for the State of Arkansas on the design of the medal decal, which  
8 medal decals should be issued, and the timing of the issuance of the medal  
9 decals.

10 (4) The medal decal shall be of a size to fit on the license  
11 plate next to the officially designated license plate number.

12 (5) The applicant shall establish that he or she was awarded the  
13 medal before the Office of Motor Vehicle issues the medal decal.

14 (6) If an applicant purchases a medal decal under this  
15 subsection, an employee of the Office of Motor Vehicle shall affix the medal  
16 decal to the special license plate at the time of issuance to the applicant.

17 (7)(A) A fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) shall be charged for the  
18 medal decal under this subsection to be deposited to the credit of the  
19 Military Funeral Honors Fund, § 19-6-811.

20 (B) An additional handling and administrative fee of one  
21 dollar (\$1.00) shall be added to the cost of the medal decal under this  
22 subsection for administrative costs.

23 (8) The medal decal under this subsection is optional and if it  
24 is not purchased, the applicant will receive a branch decal as provided under  
25 subsection (c) of this section.

26 (e) An applicant for a redesigned special license plate under this  
27 section shall meet the requirements of this subchapter.

28 (f) Except as provided under subdivision (d)(7)(A) of this section,  
29 the fee for issuance and renewal of a redesigned special license plate under  
30 this section shall be as provided in § 27-24-206.

31 (g) Military service special license plates issued under this  
32 subchapter before the effective date of this act shall be valid and are not  
33 required to be exchanged until requested by the Office of Motor Vehicle.

34 (h) The Office of Motor Vehicle may use special license plates that  
35 were created and purchased under this subchapter before the effective date of  
36 this act.

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2 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 19, Chapter 6, Subchapter 8 is amended  
3 to add an additional section to read as follows:

4 19-6-811. Military Funeral Honors Fund.

5 (a) There is created on the books of the Treasurer of State, the  
6 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a special revenue  
7 fund to be known as the "Military Funeral Honors Fund".

8 (b)(1) All moneys collected under § 27-24-209(d)(5)(A) shall be  
9 deposited into the State Treasury to the credit of the fund as special  
10 revenues.

11 (2) The fund shall also consist of any other revenues authorized  
12 by law.

13 (c) The fund shall be used by the Department of Veterans' Affairs to  
14 assist with the cost of providing military funeral honors at veterans'  
15 funerals.