HOUSE FILE 335 BY KAJTAZOVIC

A BILL FOR

An Act relating to fees charged for special motor vehicle
 registration plates associated with military service.
 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 35A.11, Code 2013, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 35A.11 Veterans license fee fund.

A veterans license fee fund is created in the state treasury 4 5 under the control of the commission. Notwithstanding section 6 12C.7, interest or earnings on moneys in the veterans license 7 fee fund shall be credited to the veterans license fee fund. 8 Moneys in the fund are appropriated to the commission to be 9 used to fulfill the responsibilities of the commission. The 10 fund shall include the fees credited by the treasurer of state 11 pursuant to section 321.145, subsection 2, paragraph "b", 12 subparagraph (3), Code 2013, from the sale of the following 13 special motor vehicle registration plates: as provided in 14 section 321.34, Code 2013. 1. Veteran special plates issued pursuant to section 15 16 321.34, subsection 13, paragraph "d". 17 2. National guard special plates issued pursuant to section 18 321.34, subsection 16. 19 3. Pearl Harbor special plates issued pursuant to section 20 321.34, subsection 17. 21 4. Purple heart special plates issued pursuant to section 22 321.34, subsection 18. 23 5. United States armed forces retired special plates issued 24 pursuant to section 321.34, subsection 19. 25 6. Silver star and bronze star special plates issued 26 pursuant to section 321.34, subsection 20. 27 7. Distinguished service cross, navy cross, and air force 28 cross special plates issued pursuant to section 321.34, 29 subsection 20A. 30 8. Soldier's medal, navy and marine corps medal, and 31 airman's medal special plates issued pursuant to section 32 321.34, subsection 20B. 33 9. Combat infantryman badge, combat action badge, combat 34 action ribbon, air force combat action medal, and combat 35 medical badge plates issued pursuant to section 321.34,

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1 subsection 20C.

2 10. Gold star special plates issued pursuant to section
3 321.34, subsection 24.

Sec. 2. Section 321.34, subsections 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 20A,
5 20B, 20C, and 24, Code 2013, are amended to read as follows:
6 16. National guard special plates.

7 An owner referred to in subsection 12 who is a member а. 8 of the national guard, as defined in chapter 29A, may, 9 upon written application to the department, order special 10 registration plates with a national guard processed emblem 11 with the. The emblem shall be designed by the department in 12 cooperation with the adjutant general which emblem signifies 13 and shall signify that the applicant is a member of the 14 national guard. The application shall be approved by the 15 department in consultation with the adjutant general. The 16 special plate fees collected by the director under subsection 17 12, paragraphs "a" and "c", from the issuance and annual 18 validation of letter-number designated and personalized 19 national guard plates shall be paid monthly to the treasurer 20 of state and deposited in the road use tax fund. The treasurer 21 of state shall transfer monthly from the statutory allocations 22 fund created under section 321.145, subsection 2, to the 23 veterans license fee fund created in section 35A.ll the amount 24 of the special fees collected under subsection 12, paragraph 25 "a", in the previous month for national guard plates. An 26 applicant shall not be charged a fee in addition to the annual 27 registration fee for issuance of letter-number designated 28 national guard plates. The department shall validate the 29 special plates in the same manner as regular registration 30 plates are validated under this section upon payment of the 31 regular annual registration fee. An applicant may obtain 32 personalized national guard plates upon payment of the 33 additional twenty-five-dollar fee for personalized plates as 34 provided in subsection 5. The annual fee for personalized 35 national guard plates is five dollars in addition to the

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1 regular annual registration fee. Special registration plates
2 with a national guard processed emblem shall be surrendered, as
3 provided in subsection 12, in exchange for regular registration
4 plates upon termination of the owner's membership in the active
5 national guard.

6 b. The surviving spouse of a person who was issued special 7 plates under this subsection may continue to use or apply for 8 and use the special plates subject to registration of the 9 special plates in the surviving spouse's name and upon payment 10 of the annual five-dollar special plate fee and the regular 11 annual registration fee for the vehicle. If the surviving 12 spouse remarries, the surviving spouse shall return the special 13 plates to the department and the department shall issue regular 14 registration plates to the surviving spouse.

15 17. Pearl Harbor special plates.

16 а. An owner referred to in subsection 12 who was at Pearl 17 Harbor, Hawaii, as a member of the armed services of the United 18 States on December 7, 1941, may, upon written application to 19 the department, order special registration plates with a Pearl 20 Harbor processed emblem. The emblem shall be designed by the 21 department in consultation with service organizations. The 22 application is subject to approval by the department. The 23 special plate fees collected by the director under subsection 24 12, paragraphs "a" and "c", from the issuance and annual 25 validation of letter-number designated and personalized Pearl 26 Harbor plates shall be paid monthly to the treasurer of state 27 and deposited in the road use tax fund. The treasurer of state 28 shall transfer monthly from the statutory allocations fund 29 created under section 321.145, subsection 2, to the veterans 30 license fee fund created in section 35A.11 the amount of the 31 special fees collected under subsection 12, paragraph "a", in 32 the previous month for Pearl Harbor plates. An applicant shall 33 not be charged a fee in addition to the annual registration fee 34 for issuance of letter-number designated Pearl Harbor plates. 35 The department shall validate the special plates in the same

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1 manner as regular registration plates are validated under 2 this section upon payment of the regular annual registration 3 fee. An applicant may obtain personalized Pearl Harbor plates 4 upon payment of the additional twenty-five-dollar fee for 5 personalized plates as provided in subsection 5. The annual 6 fee for personalized Pearl Harbor plates is five dollars in 7 addition to the regular annual registration fee.

8 b. The surviving spouse of a person who was issued special 9 plates under this subsection may continue to use or apply for 10 and use the special plates subject to registration of the 11 special plates in the surviving spouse's name and upon payment 12 of the annual five-dollar special plate fee and the regular 13 annual registration fee for the vehicle. If the surviving 14 spouse remarries, the surviving spouse shall return the special 15 plates to the department and the department shall issue regular 16 registration plates to the surviving spouse.

17 18. Purple heart special plates.

An owner referred to in subsection 12 who was awarded 18 а. 19 a purple heart medal by the United States government for 20 wounds received in military or naval combat against an armed 21 enemy of the United States may, upon written application to 22 the department and presentation of satisfactory proof of the 23 award of the purple heart medal, order special registration 24 plates with a purple heart processed emblem. The design of 25 the emblem shall include a representation of a purple heart 26 medal and ribbon. The application is subject to approval by 27 the department in consultation with the adjutant general. The 28 special plate fees collected by the director under subsection 29 12, paragraphs a^{a} and c^{a} , from the issuance and annual 30 validation of letter-number designated and personalized purple 31 heart plates shall be paid monthly to the treasurer of state 32 and deposited in the road use tax fund. The treasurer of state 33 shall transfer monthly from the statutory allocations fund 34 created under section 321.145, subsection 2, to the veterans 35 license fee fund created in section 35A.11 the amount of the

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1 special fees collected under subsection 12, paragraph ~a", in 2 the previous month for purple heart plates. An applicant shall 3 not be charged a fee in addition to the annual registration fee 4 for issuance of letter-number designated purple heart plates. 5 The department shall validate the special plates in the same 6 manner as regular registration plates are validated under 7 this section upon payment of the regular annual registration 8 fee. An applicant may obtain personalized purple heart plates 9 upon payment of the additional twenty-five-dollar fee for 10 personalized plates as provided in subsection 5. The annual 11 fee for personalized purple heart plates is five dollars in 12 addition to the regular annual registration fee.

b. The surviving spouse of a person who was issued special plates under this subsection may continue to use or apply for and use the special plates subject to registration of the special plates in the surviving spouse's name and upon payment of the annual five-dollar special plate fee and the regular annual registration fee for the vehicle. If the surviving spouse remarries, the surviving spouse shall return the special plates to the department and the department shall issue regular registration plates to the surviving spouse.

19. United States armed forces retired special plates. 22 An owner referred to in subsection 12 who is a retired 23 a. 24 member of the United States armed forces may, upon written 25 application to the department and upon presentation of 26 satisfactory proof of membership, order special registration 27 plates with a United States armed forces retired processed The emblem shall be designed by the department in 28 emblem. 29 consultation with service organizations. The application is 30 subject to approval by the department. For purposes of this 31 subsection, a person is considered to be retired if the person 32 is recognized by the United States armed forces as retired 33 from the United States armed forces. The special plate fees 34 collected by the director under subsection 12, paragraphs 35 "a" and "c", from the issuance and annual validation of

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1 letter-number designated and personalized armed forces retired 2 plates shall be paid monthly to the treasurer of state and 3 deposited in the road use tax fund. The treasurer of state 4 shall transfer monthly from the statutory allocations fund 5 created under section 321.145, subsection 2, to the veterans 6 license fee fund created in section 35A.11 the amount of the 7 special fees collected under subsection 12, paragraph "a", 8 in the previous month for armed forces retired plates. An 9 applicant shall not be charged a fee in addition to the annual 10 registration fee for issuance of letter-number designated 11 armed forces retired plates. The department shall validate 12 the special plates in the same manner as regular registration 13 plates are validated under this section upon payment of the 14 regular annual registration fee. An applicant may obtain 15 personalized armed forces retired plates upon payment of the 16 additional twenty-five-dollar fee for personalized plates as 17 provided in subsection 5. The annual fee for personalized 18 armed forces retired plates is five dollars in addition to the 19 regular annual registration fee.

20 b. The surviving spouse of a person who was issued special 21 plates under this subsection may continue to use or apply for 22 and use the special plates subject to registration of the 23 special plates in the surviving spouse's name and upon payment 24 of the annual five-dollar special plate fee and the regular 25 annual registration fee for the vehicle. If the surviving 26 spouse remarries, the surviving spouse shall return the special 27 plates to the department and the department shall issue regular 28 registration plates to the surviving spouse.

29 20. Silver or bronze star plates.

30 a. An owner referred to in subsection 12 who was awarded a 31 silver or a bronze star by the United States government, may, 32 upon written application to the department and presentation 33 of satisfactory proof of the award of the silver or bronze 34 star, order special registration plates with a silver or bronze 35 star processed emblem. The emblem shall be designed by the

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1 department in consultation with the adjutant general. The 2 special plate fees collected by the director under subsection 3 12, paragraphs "a'' and "c'', from the issuance and annual 4 validation of letter-number designated and personalized silver 5 star and bronze star plates shall be paid monthly to the 6 treasurer of state and deposited in the road use tax fund. The 7 treasurer of state shall transfer monthly from the statutory 8 allocations fund created under section 321.145, subsection 2, 9 to the veterans license fee fund created in section 35A.11 10 the amount of the special fees collected under subsection 11 12, paragraph "a", in the previous month for silver star and 12 bronze star plates. An applicant shall not be charged a fee 13 in addition to the annual registration fee for issuance of 14 letter-number designated silver star or bronze star plates. 15 The department shall validate the special plates in the same 16 manner as regular registration plates are validated under this 17 section upon payment of the regular annual registration fee. 18 An applicant may obtain personalized silver star or bronze 19 star plates upon payment of the additional twenty-five-dollar 20 fee for personalized plates as provided in subsection 5. The 21 annual fee for personalized silver star or bronze star plates 22 is five dollars in addition to the regular annual registration 23 fee.

b. The surviving spouse of a person who was issued special plates under this subsection may continue to use or apply for and use the special plates subject to registration of the special plates in the surviving spouse's name and upon payment of the annual five-dollar special plate fee and the regular annual registration fee for the vehicle. If the surviving spouse remarries, the surviving spouse shall return the special plates to the department and the department shall issue regular registration plates to the surviving spouse.

20A. Distinguished service, navy, or air force cross plates.
34 a. An owner referred to in subsection 12 who was awarded
35 a distinguished service cross, a navy cross, or an air force

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1 cross by the United States government may, upon written 2 application to the department and presentation of satisfactory 3 proof of the award, order special registration plates with 4 a distinguished service cross, navy cross, or air force The emblem shall be designed by the 5 cross processed emblem. 6 department in consultation with the adjutant general. The 7 special plate fees collected by the director under subsection 8 12, paragraphs a'' and c'', from the issuance and annual 9 validation of letter-number designated and personalized 10 distinguished service cross, navy cross, and air force cross 11 plates shall be paid monthly to the treasurer of state and 12 deposited in the road use tax fund. The treasurer of state 13 shall transfer monthly from the statutory allocations fund 14 created under section 321.145, subsection 2, to the veterans 15 license fee fund created in section 35A.11 the amount of the 16 special fees collected under subsection 12, paragraph "a", 17 in the previous month for distinguished service cross, navy 18 cross, and air force cross plates. An applicant shall not be 19 charged a fee in addition to the annual registration fee for 20 issuance of letter-number designated distinguished service 21 cross, navy cross, or air force cross plates. The department 22 shall validate the special plates in the same manner as regular 23 registration plates are validated under this section upon 24 payment of the regular annual registration fee. An applicant 25 may obtain personalized distinguished service cross, navy 26 cross, or air force cross plates upon payment of the additional 27 twenty-five-dollar fee for personalized plates as provided in 28 subsection 5. The annual fee for personalized distinguished 29 service cross, navy cross, or air force cross plates is five 30 dollars in addition to the regular annual registration fee. The surviving spouse of a person who was issued special 31 b. 32 plates under this subsection may continue to use or apply for 33 and use the special plates subject to registration of the 34 special plates in the surviving spouse's name and upon payment 35 of the annual five-dollar special plate fee and the regular

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annual registration fee for the vehicle. If the surviving
 spouse remarries, the surviving spouse shall return the special
 plates to the department and the department shall issue regular
 registration plates to the surviving spouse.

5 20B. Soldier's, navy and marine corps, or airman's medal 6 plates.

An owner referred to in subsection 12 who was awarded a 7 а. 8 soldier's medal, a navy and marine corps medal, or an airman's 9 medal by the United States government may, upon written 10 application to the department and presentation of satisfactory 11 proof of the award, order special registration plates with 12 a soldier's medal, navy and marine corps medal, or airman's 13 medal processed emblem. The emblem shall be designed by the 14 department in consultation with the adjutant general. The 15 special plate fees collected by the director under subsection 16 12, paragraphs "a" and "c", from the issuance and annual 17 validation of letter-number designated and personalized 18 soldier's medal, navy and marine corps medal, and airman's 19 medal plates shall be paid monthly to the treasurer of state 20 and deposited in the road use tax fund. The treasurer of state 21 shall transfer monthly from the statutory allocations fund 22 created under section 321.145, subsection 2, to the veterans 23 license fee fund created in section 35A.11 the amount of the 24 special fees collected under subsection 12, paragraph "a", in 25 the previous month for soldier's medal, navy and marine corps 26 medal, and airman's medal plates. An applicant shall not be 27 charged a fee in addition to the annual registration fee for 28 issuance of letter-number designated soldier's medal, navy and 29 marine corps medal, or airman's medal plates. The department 30 shall validate the special plates in the same manner as regular 31 registration plates are validated under this section upon 32 payment of the regular annual registration fee. An applicant 33 may obtain personalized soldier's medal, navy and marine corps 34 medal, or airman's medal plates upon payment of the additional 35 twenty-five-dollar fee for personalized plates as provided in

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subsection 5. The annual fee for personalized soldier's medal,
 <u>navy and marine corps medal, or airman's medal plates is five</u>
 dollars in addition to the regular annual registration fee.

b. The surviving spouse of a person who was issued special plates under this subsection may continue to use or apply for and use the special plates subject to registration of the special plates in the surviving spouse's name and upon payment of the annual five-dollar special plate fee and the regular annual registration fee for the vehicle. If the surviving spouse remarries, the surviving spouse shall return the special plates to the department and the department shall issue regular registration plates to the surviving spouse.

13 20C. Combat infantryman badge, combat action badge, combat 14 action ribbon, air force combat action medal, and combat medical 15 badge plates.

16 The department, in consultation with the adjutant а. 17 general, shall design combat infantryman badge, combat 18 action badge, combat action ribbon, air force combat action 19 medal, and combat medical badge distinguishing processed 20 emblems. Upon receipt of two hundred fifty orders for combat 21 infantryman badge, combat action badge, combat action ribbon, 22 air force combat action medal, or combat medical badge special 23 registration plates, accompanied by a start-up fee of twenty 24 dollars per order, the department shall begin issuing special 25 registration plates with the applicable distinguishing 26 processed emblem as provided in paragraphs "b'' and "c''. The 27 minimum order requirement shall apply separately to each of the 28 special registration plates created under this subsection. 29 b. An owner referred to in subsection 12 who was awarded a 30 combat infantryman badge, combat action badge, combat action 31 ribbon, air force combat action medal, or combat medical 32 badge by the United States government may, upon written 33 application to the department and presentation of satisfactory 34 proof of the award, order special registration plates with a 35 combat infantryman badge, combat action badge, combat action

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1 ribbon, air force combat action medal, or combat medical badge 2 processed emblem. The special plate fees collected by the 3 director under subsection 12, paragraphs a^{a} and c^{a} , from the 4 issuance and annual validation of letter-number designated and 5 personalized combat infantryman badge, combat action badge, 6 combat action ribbon, air force combat action medal, and combat 7 medical badge plates shall be paid monthly to the treasurer of 8 state and deposited in the road use tax fund. The treasurer 9 of state shall transfer monthly from the statutory allocations 10 fund created under section 321.145, subsection 2, to the 11 veterans license fee fund created in section 35A.11 the amount 12 of the special fees collected under subsection 12, paragraph 13 *"a"*, in the previous month for combat infantryman badge, combat 14 action badge, combat action ribbon, air force combat action 15 medal, and combat medical badge plates. An applicant shall not 16 be charged a fee in addition to the annual registration fee for 17 issuance of letter-number designated combat infantryman badge, 18 combat action badge, combat action ribbon, air force combat 19 action medal, or combat medical badge plates. The department 20 shall validate the special plates in the same manner as regular 21 registration plates are validated under this section upon 22 payment of the regular annual registration fee. An applicant 23 may obtain personalized combat infantryman badge, combat action 24 badge, combat action ribbon, air force combat action medal, 25 or combat medical badge plates upon payment of the additional 26 twenty-five-dollar fee for personalized plates as provided 27 in subsection 5. The annual fee for personalized combat 28 infantryman badge, combat action badge, combat action ribbon, 29 air force combat action medal, or combat medical badge plates 30 is five dollars in addition to the regular annual registration 31 fee.

32 *e. b.* The surviving spouse of a person who was issued 33 special plates under this subsection may continue to use or 34 apply for and use the special plates subject to registration 35 of the special plates in the surviving spouse's name and

1 upon payment of the annual five-dollar special plate fee and 2 the regular annual registration fee for the vehicle. If the 3 surviving spouse remarries, the surviving spouse shall return 4 the special plates to the department and the department shall 5 issue regular registration plates to the surviving spouse. 24. Gold star plates. An owner referred to in subsection 6 7 12 who is the surviving spouse, parent, child, or sibling of 8 a deceased member of the United States armed forces who died 9 while serving on active duty during a time of military conflict 10 or who died as a result of such service may order special 11 registration plates bearing a gold star emblem upon written 12 application to the department accompanied by satisfactory 13 supporting documentation as determined by the department. 14 The gold star emblem shall be designed by the department in 15 cooperation with the commission of veterans affairs. The 16 special plate fees collected by the director under subsection 17 12, paragraphs "a" and "c", from the issuance and annual 18 validation of letter-number designated and personalized gold 19 star plates shall be paid monthly to the treasurer of state and 20 deposited in the road use tax fund. The treasurer of state 21 shall transfer monthly from the statutory allocations fund 22 created under section 321.145, subsection 2, to the veterans 23 license fee fund created in section 35A.11 the amount of the 24 special fees collected under subsection 12, paragraph "a", in 25 the previous month for gold star plates. An applicant shall 26 not be charged a fee in addition to the annual registration 27 fee for issuance of letter-number designated gold star plates. 28 The department shall validate the special plates in the same 29 manner as regular registration plates are validated under 30 this section upon payment of the regular annual registration 31 fee. An applicant may obtain personalized gold star plates 32 upon payment of the additional twenty-five-dollar fee for 33 personalized plates as provided in subsection 5. The annual 34 fee for personalized gold star plates is five dollars in 35 addition to the regular annual registration fee.

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1 Sec. 3. Section 321.34, Code 2013, is amended by adding the 2 following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 27. United States veteran plates. 3 An 4 owner referred to in subsection 12 who served in the armed 5 forces of the United States and was discharged under honorable 6 conditions may, upon written application to the department and 7 presentation of satisfactory proof of military service and 8 honorable discharge, order special registration plates with a 9 distinguishing processed emblem depicting the word "veteran" 10 below an image of the American flag. An applicant shall 11 not be charged a fee in addition to the annual registration 12 fee for issuance of letter-number designated veteran plates. 13 The department shall validate the special plates in the same 14 manner as regular registration plates are validated under 15 this section upon payment of the regular annual registration 16 fee. An applicant may obtain personalized veteran plates 17 upon payment of the additional twenty-five-dollar fee for 18 personalized plates as provided in subsection 5. The annual 19 fee for personalized veteran plates is five dollars in addition 20 to the regular annual registration fee.

21 Sec. 4. Section 321.145, subsection 2, paragraph b, 22 subparagraph (3), Code 2013, is amended to read as follows: 23 (3) The amounts required to be transferred pursuant to 24 section 321.34 from revenues available under this subsection 25 shall be transferred and credited as provided in section 26 321.34, subsections 7, 10, 10A, 11, 11A, 11B, 13, 16, 17, 27 18, 19, 20, 20A, 20B, 20C, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26 for the 28 various purposes specified in those subsections. 29

EXPLANATION

30 This bill eliminates the special plate fees charged for 31 special motor vehicle registration plates associated with 32 military service which are established statutorily. The 33 affected plates are national guard plates; Pearl Harbor 34 plates; purple heart plates; United States armed forces retired 35 plates; silver star and bronze star plates; distinguished

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1 service cross, navy cross, and air force cross special plates; 2 soldier's medal, navy and marine corps medal, and airman's 3 medal special plates; and gold star plates. The bill also 4 eliminates special plate fees for United States veteran plates, 5 which were established by the department of transportation, 6 in cooperation with the commission of veterans affairs, by 7 administrative process.

Under current law, the fees for the affected military plates 8 9 which are established by statute are the standard special plate 10 fees established in Code section 321.34. The fee for issuance 11 of the special plates is \$25, and the annual validation fee 12 is \$5, both in addition to the regular annual registration 13 fee. The issuance fee for United States veteran plates is \$35, 14 and the annual validation fee is \$10. The amount of revenue 15 from the special plate issuance fees and the special plate 16 validation fees is credited to the veterans license fee fund 17 administered by the commission of veterans affairs. The bill 18 eliminates the special plate fees that accrue to the veterans 19 license fee fund from the special military plates. The bill 20 adds the United States armed forces veteran plate, which is 21 currently established administratively, to the list of special 22 motor vehicle registration plates established in Code section 23 321.34.

Personalized plate fees and annual registration fees for 5 special military plates are credited to the road use tax fund 26 and are not affected under the bill.

The bill amends Code section 35A.11 to reflect that new moneys will not be credited to the veterans license fee fund upon the elimination of special plate fees for motor vehicle registration plates associated with military service.

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