

House Study Bill 614 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS AFFAIRS BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON ALONS)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the fees for special registration plates
2 associated with military service.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 35A.11, Code 2014, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 **35A.11 Veterans license fee fund.**

4 1. A veterans license fee fund is created in the state
5 treasury under the control of the commission. Notwithstanding
6 section 12C.7, interest or earnings on moneys in the veterans
7 license fee fund shall be credited to the veterans license fee
8 fund. Moneys in the fund are appropriated to the commission to
9 be used to fulfill the responsibilities of the commission.

10 2. The fund created in this section shall include the
11 fees credited by the treasurer of state from the sale annual
12 validation of the following special motor vehicle registration
13 plates:

14 ~~1. Veteran special plates issued pursuant to section~~
15 ~~321.34, subsection 13, paragraph "d".~~

16 ~~2. a. National guard special plates issued pursuant to~~
17 ~~section 321.34, subsection 16.~~

18 ~~3. b. Pearl Harbor special plates issued pursuant to~~
19 ~~section 321.34, subsection 17.~~

20 ~~4. c. Purple heart special plates issued pursuant to~~
21 ~~section 321.34, subsection 18.~~

22 ~~5. d. United States armed forces retired special plates~~
23 ~~issued pursuant to section 321.34, subsection 19.~~

24 ~~6. e. Silver star and bronze star special plates issued~~
25 ~~pursuant to section 321.34, subsection 20.~~

26 ~~7. f. Distinguished service cross, navy cross, and air~~
27 ~~force cross special plates issued pursuant to section 321.34,~~
28 ~~subsection 20A.~~

29 ~~8. g. Soldier's medal, navy and marine corps medal, and~~
30 ~~airman's medal special plates issued pursuant to section~~
31 ~~321.34, subsection 20B.~~

32 ~~9. h. Combat infantryman badge, combat action badge,~~
33 ~~combat action ribbon, air force combat action medal, and~~
34 ~~combat medical badge plates issued pursuant to section 321.34,~~
35 ~~subsection 20C.~~

1 ~~10.~~ i. Gold star special plates issued pursuant to section
2 321.34, subsection 24.

3 j. United States veteran special plates issued pursuant to
4 section 321.34, subsection 27.

5 Sec. 2. Section 321.34, subsection 16, paragraph a, Code
6 2014, is amended to read as follows:

7 a. An owner referred to in subsection 12 who is a member
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 emblem designed by the department in cooperation with
12 the adjutant general which emblem signifies that the applicant
13 is a member of the national guard. The application shall be
14 approved by the department in consultation with the adjutant
15 general. The special plate fees collected by the director
16 under subsection 12, ~~paragraphs~~ paragraph "a" and "e", from
17 the ~~issuance and~~ annual validation of letter-number designated
18 national guard plates, and subsection 12, paragraph "c", from
19 the issuance and annual validation of personalized national
20 guard plates shall be paid monthly to the treasurer of state
21 and deposited in the road use tax fund. The treasurer of state
22 shall transfer monthly from the statutory allocations fund
23 created under section 321.145, subsection 2, to the veterans
24 license fee fund created in section 35A.11 the amount of the
25 special fees collected under subsection 12, paragraph "a",
26 in the previous month for national guard plates. Special
27 registration plates with a national guard processed emblem
28 shall be surrendered, as provided in subsection 12, in exchange
29 for regular registration plates upon termination of the owner's
30 membership in the active national guard.

31 Sec. 3. Section 321.34, subsection 16, Code 2014, is amended
32 by adding the following new paragraph:

33 NEW PARAGRAPH. *Ob.* Notwithstanding subsection 12, paragraph
34 "a", an owner who is approved for special registration plates
35 under this subsection shall be issued one set of special

1 registration plates with a national guard processed emblem at
2 no charge.

3 Sec. 4. Section 321.34, subsection 17, paragraph a, Code
4 2014, is amended to read as follows:

5 a. An owner referred to in subsection 12 who was at Pearl
6 Harbor, Hawaii, as a member of the armed services of the United
7 States on December 7, 1941, may, upon written application to
8 the department, order special registration plates with a Pearl
9 Harbor processed emblem. The emblem shall be designed by the
10 department in consultation with service organizations. The
11 application is subject to approval by the department. The
12 special plate fees collected by the director under subsection
13 12, ~~paragraphs~~ paragraph "a" and "c", from the ~~issuance and~~
14 annual validation of letter-number designated Pearl Harbor
15 plates, and subsection 12, paragraph "c", from the issuance and
16 annual validation of personalized Pearl Harbor plates shall
17 be paid monthly to the treasurer of state and deposited in
18 the road use tax fund. The treasurer of state shall transfer
19 monthly from the statutory allocations fund created under
20 section 321.145, subsection 2, to the veterans license fee
21 fund created in section 35A.11 the amount of the special fees
22 collected under subsection 12, paragraph "a", in the previous
23 month for Pearl Harbor plates.

24 Sec. 5. Section 321.34, subsection 17, Code 2014, is amended
25 by adding the following new paragraph:

26 NEW PARAGRAPH. *Ob.* Notwithstanding subsection 12, paragraph
27 "a", an owner who is approved for special registration plates
28 under this subsection shall be issued one set of special
29 registration plates with a Pearl Harbor processed emblem at no
30 charge.

31 Sec. 6. Section 321.34, subsection 18, paragraph a, Code
32 2014, is amended to read as follows:

33 a. An owner referred to in subsection 12 who was awarded
34 a purple heart medal by the United States government for
35 wounds received in military or naval combat against an armed

1 enemy of the United States may, upon written application to
2 the department and presentation of satisfactory proof of the
3 award of the purple heart medal, order special registration
4 plates with a purple heart processed emblem. The design of
5 the emblem shall include a representation of a purple heart
6 medal and ribbon. The application is subject to approval by
7 the department in consultation with the adjutant general. The
8 special plate fees collected by the director under subsection
9 12, ~~paragraphs paragraph~~ paragraph "a" and "c", from the ~~issuance and~~
10 annual validation of letter-number designated purple heart
11 plates, and subsection 12, paragraph "c", from the issuance and
12 annual validation of personalized purple heart plates shall
13 be paid monthly to the treasurer of state and deposited in
14 the road use tax fund. The treasurer of state shall transfer
15 monthly from the statutory allocations fund created under
16 section 321.145, subsection 2, to the veterans license fee
17 fund created in section 35A.11 the amount of the special fees
18 collected under subsection 12, paragraph "a", in the previous
19 month for purple heart plates.

20 Sec. 7. Section 321.34, subsection 18, Code 2014, is amended
21 by adding the following new paragraph:

22 NEW PARAGRAPH. *Ob.* Notwithstanding subsection 12, paragraph
23 "a", an owner who is approved for special registration plates
24 under this subsection shall be issued one set of special
25 registration plates with a purple heart processed emblem at no
26 charge.

27 Sec. 8. Section 321.34, subsection 19, paragraph a, Code
28 2014, is amended to read as follows:

29 *a.* An owner referred to in subsection 12 who is a retired
30 member of the United States armed forces may, upon written
31 application to the department and upon presentation of
32 satisfactory proof of membership, order special registration
33 plates with a United States armed forces retired processed
34 emblem. The emblem shall be designed by the department in
35 consultation with service organizations. The application is

1 subject to approval by the department. For purposes of this
2 subsection, a person is considered to be retired if the person
3 is recognized by the United States armed forces as retired
4 from the United States armed forces. The special plate fees
5 collected by the director under subsection 12, ~~paragraphs~~
6 paragraph "a" and "c", from the ~~issuance and~~ annual validation
7 of letter-number designated armed forces retired plates, and
8 subsection 12, paragraph "c", from the issuance and annual
9 validation of personalized armed forces retired plates shall
10 be paid monthly to the treasurer of state and deposited in
11 the road use tax fund. The treasurer of state shall transfer
12 monthly from the statutory allocations fund created under
13 section 321.145, subsection 2, to the veterans license fee
14 fund created in section 35A.11 the amount of the special fees
15 collected under subsection 12, paragraph "a", in the previous
16 month for armed forces retired plates.

17 Sec. 9. Section 321.34, subsection 19, Code 2014, is amended
18 by adding the following new paragraph:

19 NEW PARAGRAPH. *Ob.* Notwithstanding subsection 12, paragraph
20 "a", an owner who is approved for special registration plates
21 under this subsection shall be issued one set of special
22 registration plates with an armed forces retired processed
23 emblem at no charge.

24 Sec. 10. Section 321.34, subsection 20, paragraph a, Code
25 2014, is amended to read as follows:

26 *a.* An owner referred to in subsection 12 who was awarded a
27 silver or a bronze star by the United States government, may,
28 upon written application to the department and presentation
29 of satisfactory proof of the award of the silver or bronze
30 star, order special registration plates with a silver or bronze
31 star processed emblem. The emblem shall be designed by the
32 department in consultation with the adjutant general. The
33 special plate fees collected by the director under subsection
34 12, ~~paragraphs~~ paragraph "a" and "c", from the ~~issuance and~~
35 annual validation of letter-number designated silver star and

1 bronze star plates, and subsection 12, paragraph "c", from the
2 issuance and annual validation of personalized silver star and
3 bronze star plates shall be paid monthly to the treasurer of
4 state and deposited in the road use tax fund. The treasurer
5 of state shall transfer monthly from the statutory allocations
6 fund created under section 321.145, subsection 2, to the
7 veterans license fee fund created in section 35A.11 the amount
8 of the special fees collected under subsection 12, paragraph
9 "a", in the previous month for silver star and bronze star
10 plates.

11 Sec. 11. Section 321.34, subsection 20, Code 2014, is
12 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

13 NEW PARAGRAPH. *Ob.* Notwithstanding subsection 12, paragraph
14 "a", an owner who is approved for special registration plates
15 under this subsection shall be issued one set of special
16 registration plates with a silver star or bronze star processed
17 emblem at no charge.

18 Sec. 12. Section 321.34, subsection 20A, paragraph a, Code
19 2014, is amended to read as follows:

20 *a.* An owner referred to in subsection 12 who was awarded
21 a distinguished service cross, a navy cross, or an air force
22 cross by the United States government may, upon written
23 application to the department and presentation of satisfactory
24 proof of the award, order special registration plates with
25 a distinguished service cross, navy cross, or air force
26 cross processed emblem. The emblem shall be designed by the
27 department in consultation with the adjutant general. The
28 special plate fees collected by the director under subsection
29 12, paragraphs paragraph "a" and "e", from the issuance and
30 annual validation of letter-number designated distinguished
31 service cross, navy cross, and air force cross plates, and
32 subsection 12, paragraph "c", from the issuance and annual
33 validation of personalized distinguished service cross, navy
34 cross, and air force cross plates shall be paid monthly to the
35 treasurer of state and deposited in the road use tax fund. The

1 treasurer of state shall transfer monthly from the statutory
2 allocations fund created under section 321.145, subsection 2,
3 to the veterans license fee fund created in section 35A.11
4 the amount of the special fees collected under subsection 12,
5 paragraph "a", in the previous month for distinguished service
6 cross, navy cross, and air force cross plates.

7 Sec. 13. Section 321.34, subsection 20A, Code 2014, is
8 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

9 NEW PARAGRAPH. *Ob.* Notwithstanding subsection 12, paragraph
10 "a", an owner who is approved for special registration plates
11 under this subsection shall be issued one set of special
12 registration plates with a distinguished service cross, navy
13 cross, or air force cross processed emblem at no charge.

14 Sec. 14. Section 321.34, subsection 20B, paragraph a, Code
15 2014, is amended to read as follows:

16 *a.* An owner referred to in subsection 12 who was awarded a
17 soldier's medal, a navy and marine corps medal, or an airman's
18 medal by the United States government may, upon written
19 application to the department and presentation of satisfactory
20 proof of the award, order special registration plates with
21 a soldier's medal, navy and marine corps medal, or airman's
22 medal processed emblem. The emblem shall be designed by the
23 department in consultation with the adjutant general. The
24 special plate fees collected by the director under subsection
25 12, ~~paragraphs~~ paragraph "a" and "c", from the issuance and
26 annual validation of letter-number designated soldier's medal,
27 navy and marine corps medal, and airman's medal plates, and
28 subsection 12, paragraph "c", from the issuance and annual
29 validation of personalized soldier's medal, navy and marine
30 corps medal, and airman's medal plates shall be paid monthly
31 to the treasurer of state and deposited in the road use tax
32 fund. The treasurer of state shall transfer monthly from the
33 statutory allocations fund created under section 321.145,
34 subsection 2, to the veterans license fee fund created in
35 section 35A.11 the amount of the special fees collected

1 under subsection 12, paragraph "a", in the previous month for
2 soldier's medal, navy and marine corps medal, and airman's
3 medal plates.

4 Sec. 15. Section 321.34, subsection 20B, Code 2014, is
5 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

6 NEW PARAGRAPH. *Ob.* Notwithstanding subsection 12, paragraph
7 "a", an owner who is approved for special registration plates
8 under this subsection shall be issued one set of special
9 registration plates with a soldier's medal, navy and marine
10 corps medal, or airman's medal processed emblem at no charge.

11 Sec. 16. Section 321.34, subsection 20C, paragraph b, Code
12 2014, is amended to read as follows:

13 *b.* An owner referred to in subsection 12 who was awarded a
14 combat infantryman badge, combat action badge, combat action
15 ribbon, air force combat action medal, or combat medical
16 badge by the United States government may, upon written
17 application to the department and presentation of satisfactory
18 proof of the award, order special registration plates with a
19 combat infantryman badge, combat action badge, combat action
20 ribbon, air force combat action medal, or combat medical badge
21 processed emblem. The special plate fees collected by the
22 director under subsection 12, ~~paragraphs~~ paragraph "a" and
23 "c", from the issuance and annual validation of letter-number
24 designated combat infantryman badge, combat action badge,
25 combat action ribbon, air force combat action medal, and
26 combat medical badge plates, and subsection 12, paragraph
27 "c", from the issuance and annual validation of personalized
28 combat infantryman badge, combat action badge, combat action
29 ribbon, air force combat action medal, and combat medical badge
30 plates shall be paid monthly to the treasurer of state and
31 deposited in the road use tax fund. The treasurer of state
32 shall transfer monthly from the statutory allocations fund
33 created under section 321.145, subsection 2, to the veterans
34 license fee fund created in section 35A.11 the amount of the
35 special fees collected under subsection 12, paragraph "a", in

1 the previous month for combat infantryman badge, combat action
2 badge, combat action ribbon, air force combat action medal, and
3 combat medical badge plates.

4 Sec. 17. Section 321.34, subsection 20C, Code 2014, is
5 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

6 NEW PARAGRAPH. *0c.* Notwithstanding subsection 12, paragraph
7 "a", an owner who is approved for special registration plates
8 under this subsection shall be issued one set of special
9 registration plates with a combat infantryman badge, combat
10 action badge, combat action ribbon, air force combat action
11 medal, and combat medical badge distinguishing processed emblem
12 at no charge.

13 Sec. 18. Section 321.34, subsection 24, Code 2014, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 24. *Gold star plates.*

16 a. An owner referred to in subsection 12 who is the
17 surviving spouse, parent, child, or sibling of a deceased
18 member of the United States armed forces who died while serving
19 on active duty during a time of military conflict or who died
20 as a result of such service may order special registration
21 plates bearing a gold star emblem upon written application
22 to the department accompanied by satisfactory supporting
23 documentation as determined by the department. The gold star
24 emblem shall be designed by the department in cooperation with
25 the commission of veterans affairs. The special plate fees
26 collected by the director under subsection 12, ~~paragraphs~~
27 paragraph "a" and "c", from the issuance and annual validation
28 of letter-number designated gold star plates, and subsection
29 12, paragraph "c", from the issuance and annual validation of
30 personalized gold star plates shall be paid monthly to the
31 treasurer of state and deposited in the road use tax fund. The
32 treasurer of state shall transfer monthly from the statutory
33 allocations fund created under section 321.145, subsection 2,
34 to the veterans license fee fund created in section 35A.11
35 the amount of the special fees collected under subsection 12,

1 paragraph "a", in the previous month for gold star plates.

2 b. Notwithstanding subsection 12, paragraph "a", an owner
3 who is approved for special registration plates under this
4 subsection shall be issued one set of special registration
5 plates bearing a gold star emblem at no charge.

6 Sec. 19. Section 321.34, Code 2014, is amended by adding the
7 following new subsection:

8 NEW SUBSECTION. 27. *United States veteran plates.*

9 a. An owner referred to in subsection 12 who served in the
10 armed forces of the United States and was discharged under
11 honorable conditions may, upon written application to the
12 department and upon presentation of satisfactory proof of
13 military service and discharge under honorable conditions,
14 order special registration plates bearing a distinguishing
15 processed emblem depicting the word "veteran" below an image
16 of the American flag. The application is subject to approval
17 by the department. The special plate fees collected by the
18 director under subsection 12, paragraph "a", from the annual
19 validation of letter-number designated United States veteran
20 plates, and subsection 12, paragraph "c", from the issuance
21 and annual validation of personalized United States veteran
22 plates, shall be paid monthly to the treasurer of state and
23 deposited in the road use tax fund. The treasurer of state
24 shall transfer monthly from the statutory allocations fund
25 created under section 321.145, subsection 2, to the veterans
26 license fee fund created in section 35A.11 the amount of the
27 special fees collected under subsection 12, paragraph "a", in
28 the previous month for United States veteran plates.

29 b. Notwithstanding subsection 12, paragraph "a", an owner
30 who is approved for a special registration plate under this
31 subsection shall be issued one set of special registration
32 plates bearing a distinguishing processed emblem depicting
33 the word "veteran" below an image of the American flag at no
34 charge.

35

EXPLANATION

1 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
2 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

3 This bill relates to fees charged for special registration
4 plates associated with military service.

5 The bill eliminates the special plate issuance fees charged
6 for issuance of certain special motor vehicle registration
7 plates associated with military service which are established
8 statutorily. The affected plates are national guard plates;
9 Pearl Harbor plates; purple heart plates; United States armed
10 forces retired plates; silver star and bronze star plates;
11 distinguished service cross, navy cross, and air force cross
12 special plates; soldier's medal, navy and marine corps medal,
13 and airman's medal special plates; and gold star plates. The
14 bill also eliminates special plate issuance fees for United
15 States veteran plates which were established by the department
16 of transportation, in cooperation with the commission of
17 veterans affairs, by administrative process. Under current
18 law, the fee for issuance of the special plates named in Code
19 is \$25. The issuance fee for United States veteran plates is
20 \$35. The bill adds the United States armed forces veteran
21 plate, which is currently established administratively, to the
22 list of special motor vehicle registration plates established
23 in Code section 321.34. The bill maintains transfers to the
24 veterans license fee fund from the annual validation fees for
25 special plates related to military service. The bill also
26 makes additional corresponding changes.