

By Representatives Brown, Murman, Fasano, Frankel, Casey,  
Crist and Starks

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to veterans; amending s.  
3           295.17, F.S.; eliminating the requirement of  
4           renewing identification cards; eliminating a  
5           service charge; providing an effective date.  
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7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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9           Section 1. Section 295.17, Florida Statutes, is  
10 amended to read:

11           295.17 Identification cards.--

12           (1)(a) The Department of Veterans' Affairs may issue  
13 an identification card to any veteran who is a permanent  
14 resident of the state and who has been adjudged by the United  
15 States Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor to  
16 have a 100-percent, service-connected permanent and total  
17 disability rating for compensation, or who has been determined  
18 to have a service-connected total and permanent disability  
19 rating of 100 percent and is in receipt of disability  
20 retirement pay from any branch of the United States Armed  
21 Services, upon the written request of such veteran. Such card  
22 may be used by the veteran as proof of eligibility for any  
23 benefit provided by state law for 100-percent,  
24 service-connected permanently and totally disabled veterans  
25 except those benefits provided by ss. 196.081, 196.091, and  
26 196.24. The identification card shall bear a statement that it  
27 is unlawful for any person other than the veteran to whom it  
28 was issued to use the card.

29           (b) The department is responsible for design and  
30 content of the identification card and shall adopt rules and  
31 procedures relating to the eligibility and application for and

1 issuance and control of identification cards. ~~There shall be a~~  
2 ~~service charge of \$1 for each identification card issued by~~  
3 ~~the department.~~

4 ~~(2) Such identification card shall be valid for 4~~  
5 ~~years after the date of issuance; however, the department may,~~  
6 ~~if necessary, issue an identification card which is valid for~~  
7 ~~less than 4 years. Each veteran who holds an identification~~  
8 ~~card issued by the department may apply to the department to~~  
9 ~~renew such card.~~

10 (2)~~(3)~~ It is unlawful for any person to:

11 (a) Display, cause or permit to be displayed, or have  
12 in his or her possession any fictitious, fraudulently altered,  
13 or fraudulently obtained identification card.

14 (b) Lend his or her identification card to any person  
15 or knowingly permit the use thereof by another.

16 (c) Display or represent any identification card which  
17 has not been issued to the person as being his or her card.

18 (d) Permit any unlawful use of an identification card  
19 issued to him or her.

20 (e) Photograph, photostat, duplicate, or in any way  
21 reproduce any identification card or facsimile thereof in such  
22 a manner that the photograph, photostat, duplicate,  
23 reproduction, or facsimile could be mistaken for a valid  
24 identification card or display or have in his or her  
25 possession any such photograph, photostat, duplicate,  
26 reproduction, or facsimile.

27 (f) Display or cause or permit to be displayed his or  
28 her identification card after such card has expired.

29 (3)~~(4)~~ Any person who violates any provision of  
30 subsection(2)~~(3)~~ is guilty of a noncriminal violation and  
31 shall be punished by a fine of \$200.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1997.

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HOUSE SUMMARY

Eliminates the requirement that veterans renew their Florida Department of Veterans Affairs identification cards every four years. Eliminates the \$1 service charge for the issuance of identification cards.