

STORAGE NAME: h3099.tr

DATE: March 27, 1998

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION
BILL RESEARCH & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT**

BILL #: HB 3099

RELATING TO: Veterans/Military Awards/Taglets

SPONSOR(S): Representative Greene, Prewitt, Fasano, and others

COMPANION BILL(S): SB 658 (i)

ORIGINATING COMMITTEE(S)/COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERENCE:

- (1) TRANSPORTATION
 - (2) COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
 - (3) FINANCE & TAXATION
 - (4) TRANSPORTATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS
 - (5)
-

I. SUMMARY:

There is currently no statutory authorization for the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHS&MV) to produce or issue any type of distinctive or honorary emblems, symbols, signs, or small tags (taglets) that may be attached to a motor vehicle license plate.

This bill requires DHS&MV, in cooperation with the Department of Veterans' Affairs, to develop a taglet honoring each military branch. These taglets will be issued to any military veteran who is the owner or lessee of a motor vehicle on payment of a \$2 fee. Proof of serving in the Armed Forces of the United States must be submitted with the application.

The taglets must be secured to a motor vehicle in the same manner as a license plate and must comply with the license plate visibility requirement in s. 316.605, F. S.

DHS&MV will collect a \$2 fee for each taglet issued and would retain an amount sufficient to defray its costs directly related to the taglets. The balance of the \$2 fee will be deposited in the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund.

The fiscal impact of the bill is indeterminate because the number of eligible veterans who would purchase the taglets is unknown. Therefore, annual revenue and expenditures related to the taglets cannot be determined.

II. SUBSTANTIVE RESEARCH:

A. PRESENT SITUATION:

There is currently no statutory authorization for DHS&MV to produce or issue any type of distinctive or honorary emblems, symbols, signs, or small tags (taglets) that may be attached to a motor vehicle license plate.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

This bill requires DHS&MV, in cooperation with the Department of Veterans' Affairs, to develop a taglet honoring each military branch. These taglets will be issued to any military veteran who is the owner or lessee of a motor vehicle upon payment of a \$2 fee. Proof of serving in the Armed Forces of the United States must be submitted with the application.

The taglets must be secured to a motor vehicle in the same manner as a license plate and must comply with the license plate visibility requirement in s. 316.605, F. S.

DHS&MV would collect a \$2 fee for each taglet issued and retain an amount sufficient to defray its costs directly related to the taglets. The balance of the \$2 fee will be deposited in the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund.

C. APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES:

1. Less Government:

a. Does the bill create, increase or reduce, either directly or indirectly:

(1) any authority to make rules or adjudicate disputes?

N/A

(2) any new responsibilities, obligations or work for other governmental or private organizations or individuals?

DHS&MV would be required to produce and issue taglets to veterans. Local tax collectors will be accountable for collecting and managing the additional funds.

(3) any entitlement to a government service or benefit?

N/A

b. If an agency or program is eliminated or reduced:

(1) what responsibilities, costs and powers are passed on to another program, agency, level of government, or private entity?

N/A

(2) what is the cost of such responsibility at the new level/agency?

N/A

(3) how is the new agency accountable to the people governed?

N/A

2. Lower Taxes:

a. Does the bill increase anyone's taxes?

N/A

b. Does the bill require or authorize an increase in any fees?

The fee for the taglet is voluntary.

c. Does the bill reduce total taxes, both rates and revenues?

N/A

d. Does the bill reduce total fees, both rates and revenues?

N/A

e. Does the bill authorize any fee or tax increase by any local government?

N/A

3. Personal Responsibility:

a. Does the bill reduce or eliminate an entitlement to government services or subsidy?

N/A

- b. Do the beneficiaries of the legislation directly pay any portion of the cost of implementation and operation?

4. Individual Freedom:

- a. Does the bill increase the allowable options of individuals or private organizations/associations to conduct their own affairs?

N/A

- b. Does the bill prohibit, or create new government interference with, any presently lawful activity?

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5. Family Empowerment:

- a. If the bill purports to provide services to families or children:

(1) Who evaluates the family's needs?

N/A

(2) Who makes the decisions?

N/A

(3) Are private alternatives permitted?

N/A

(4) Are families required to participate in a program?

N/A

(5) Are families penalized for not participating in a program?

N/A

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- b. Does the bill directly affect the legal rights and obligations between family members?

N/A

- c. If the bill creates or changes a program providing services to families or children, in which of the following does the bill vest control of the program, either through direct participation or appointment authority:

- (1) parents and guardians?

N/A

- (2) service providers?

N/A

- (3) government employees/agencies?

N/A

D. STATUTE(S) AFFECTED:

N/A

E. SECTION-BY-SECTION RESEARCH:

N/A

III. FISCAL RESEARCH & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE AGENCIES/STATE FUNDS:

1. Non-recurring Effects:

DHS&MV estimates that an initial inventory of taglets would cost approximately \$10,000 (50,000 @ \$0.20 each to manufacture). The bill also will require program changes to the current motor vehicle data base system; DHS&MV estimates 56 hours at \$31.20 per hour for approximately \$1,747.

2. Recurring Effects:

The number of eligible veterans who would purchase the taglets is unknown. Therefore, the annual revenue and expenditures related to the taglets cannot be determined. However, DHS&MV would collect a \$2 fee for each taglet issued and retain an amount sufficient to defray its costs directly related to the taglets. The balance of the \$2 fee will be deposited in the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund.

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

None

4. Total Revenues and Expenditures:

Indeterminate

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AS A WHOLE:

1. Non-recurring Effects:

N/A

2. Recurring Effects:

Tax collectors would be responsible issuing the taglets.

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

N/A

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

1. Direct Private Sector Costs:

N/A

2. Direct Private Sector Benefits:

N/A

3. Effects on Competition, Private Enterprise and Employment Markets:

N/A

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

N/A

IV. CONSEQUENCES OF ARTICLE VII, SECTION 18 OF THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION:

A. APPLICABILITY OF THE MANDATES PROVISION:

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This bill does not require counties and municipalities to expend funds. Therefore, the provisions of this bill are exempt from the mandate provisions of Article VII, Section 18 of the Florida Constitution.

B. REDUCTION OF REVENUE RAISING AUTHORITY:

The counties' and municipalities' authority to raise revenue is not affected by this bill. Therefore, the bill is exempt from the mandate provisions of Article VII, Section 18 of the Florida Constitution.

C. REDUCTION OF STATE TAX SHARED WITH COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES:

This bill would not reduce the percentage of a state tax that is shared with counties and municipalities. Therefore, the bill is exempt from the mandate provisions of Article VII, Section 18 of the Florida Constitution.

V. COMMENTS:

DHS&MV indicated that the bill does not require a specific configuration on the taglet to connect the vehicle owner/registrator to the taglet. DHS&MV also indicated that the bill does not state whether a taglet is to be issued permanently or renewed.

VI. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

N/A

VII. SIGNATURES:

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION:

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