HB 553 2006

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to specialty license plates; amending ss. 320.08056 and 320.08058, F.S.; creating the Support Our Troops license plate; establishing the annual use fee for the plate; providing for the distribution of annual use fees received from the sale of the plates; providing for the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to provide the name and address of the buyer of the plate to the sponsoring organization; providing a conditional effective date.

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WHEREAS, to create a concrete statement of thanks to our troops for their service, civilians have stepped forward and founded Support Our Troops, Inc., a national nonprofit organization based in Florida that is dedicated to permanently supporting the troops and their families, and

WHEREAS, through a comprehensive program that enables individuals to offer support through multiple charitable methodologies, Support Our Troops, Inc., provides the means through which individuals may take direct personal financial responsibility for their troops and engage in direct financial support for the troops and their families, and

WHEREAS, Support Our Troops, Inc., also provides the means through which people may publicly display support for their troops, and

WHEREAS, the Support Our Troops license plate will serve these very important functions and will, by example, encourage others to do the same, NOW, THEREFORE,

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Paragraph (eee) is added to subsection (4) of section 320.08056, Florida Statutes, to read:

320.08056 Specialty license plates.--

(4) The following license plate annual use fees shall be collected for the appropriate specialty license plates:

(eee) Support Our Troops license plate, \$25.

Section 2. Subsection (57) is added to section 320.08058, Florida Statutes, to read:

320.08058 Specialty license plates.--

- (57) SUPPORT OUR TROOPS LICENSE PLATES.--
- (a) The department shall develop a Support Our Troops
 license plate as provided in this section. Support Our Troops
 license plates must bear the colors and design approved by the
 department and must contain an emblem or logo of a soldier and a
 child. The word "Florida" must appear at the top of the plate,
 and the words "Support Our Troops" must appear at the bottom of
 the plate.
- (b) The proceeds of the annual use fee shall be distributed to Support Our Troops, Inc., which shall use the proceeds according to its articles of incorporation.
- (c) Application for the Support Our Troops specialty

 license plate by a motor vehicle owner or lessee shall

 constitute prior written consent and instruction by the

 applicant to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

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to provide his or her name and address to the sponsoring organization.

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Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006, if Support Our Troops, Inc., has met the requirements of s. 320.08053(1)(b), Florida Statutes, for approval of the Support Our Troops specialty license plate prior to that date, except that this section shall take effect upon this act becoming a law.