

Bill No. SB 2042

Barcode 280252

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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The Committee on Transportation (Baker) recommended the following amendment:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause

and insert:

Section 1. Paragraphs (iii) and (jjj) are 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:

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

(jjj) Veterans Service Organization license plate, \$25.

Section 2. Subsection (28) of section 320.08058, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsections (61) and (62) are added to that section, to read:

320.08058 Specialty license plates.--

(28) FLORIDA WILDFLOWER LICENSE PLATES.--

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1           (a) The department shall develop a Florida Wildflower  
 2 license plate as provided in this section. The word "Florida"  
 3 must appear at the top of the plate, and the words "State  
 4 Wildflower" and "coreopsis" must appear at the bottom of the  
 5 plate.

6           (b) The annual use fees shall be distributed to the  
 7 Florida Wildflower Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit corporation  
 8 under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code ~~Account~~  
 9 ~~established by Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc., created by s.~~  
 10 ~~403.4131~~. The proceeds must be used to establish native  
 11 Florida wildflower research programs, wildflower educational  
 12 programs, and wildflower grant programs to municipal, county,  
 13 and community-based groups in this state:

14           1. The foundation shall develop operation procedures,  
 15 research contracts, education and marketing programs, and  
 16 wildflower-planting grants for Florida native wildflowers,  
 17 plants, and grasses.

18           2. A maximum of 15 ~~10~~ percent of the proceeds from the  
 19 sale of such plates may be used by the foundation for  
 20 administrative costs and marketing costs.

21           3. If the foundation ceases to be an active nonprofit  
 22 corporation under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code,  
 23 any unexpended use fees held by the foundation must be  
 24 promptly transferred to the General Inspection Trust Fund  
 25 within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and  
 26 all future fees collected shall be deposited to the same trust  
 27 fund in the department. The department shall use and  
 28 administer the proceeds from the annual use fee in the manner  
 29 specified in this paragraph.

30           (61) SUPPORT OUR TROOPS LICENSE PLATES.--

31           (a) The department shall develop a Support Our Troops

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1 license plate as provided in this section. The plate must bear  
2 the colors and design approved by the department and must  
3 contain the soldier and child emblem and "Support Our Troops"  
4 marks of Support Our Troops, Inc. The right to use the mark of  
5 an eagle head upon a United States flag field on a specialty  
6 license plate is reserved to Support Our Troops, Inc., and  
7 such mark may be used alternatively. The word "Florida" must  
8 appear at the top of the plate and the words "Support Our  
9 Troops" must appear at the bottom of the plate. Upon  
10 compliance with s. 320.08056(9), Support Our Troops, Inc., may  
11 alternate the phrase at the bottom of the plate to "Support  
12 Our Heroes" or "Salute Our Heroes." The field of the plate may  
13 be colored.

14 (b) The annual use fees from the plate shall be  
15 distributed to Support Our Troops, Inc., to be used for the  
16 benefit of Florida troops and their families in accordance  
17 with its articles of incorporation. Support Our Troops, Inc.,  
18 shall receive the first \$60,000 of the use fees to offset  
19 startup costs for developing and establishing the plate.  
20 Thereafter, the department shall distribute the annual use  
21 fees as follows:

22 1. Twenty-five percent shall be distributed to Support  
23 Our Troops, Inc., to offset marketing, administration, and  
24 promotion costs.

25 2. Of the remaining, 65 percent shall be distributed  
26 to Support Our Troops, Inc., and 35 percent shall be  
27 distributed to the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund within  
28 the Department of Veterans' Affairs State Homes.

29 (c) Due to the unique and special nature of the plate,  
30 s. 320.08056(8)(a) shall not apply to the Support Our Troops  
31 license plate and, notwithstanding s. 320.08053, the license

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1 plate shall also be issued in a related design in a size  
 2 appropriate for motorcycles. The department shall retain the  
 3 initial annual use fees from the motorcycle special license  
 4 plate in an amount sufficient to recover the department's  
 5 startup costs.

6 (62) VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION LICENSE PLATES.--

7 (a) Upon completion of the requirements under s.  
 8 320.08053, the department shall develop a series of Veterans  
 9 Service Organization license plates as provided in this  
 10 section. The plates must bear the colors and design approved  
 11 by the department. The word "Florida" must appear at the top  
 12 of the plate and the name of the respective veterans service  
 13 organization must appear at the bottom of the plate. The  
 14 appropriate emblem for the particular veterans service  
 15 organization, approximately 3 inches in diameter, must appear  
 16 on the left side of the plate. A Veterans Service Organization  
 17 license plate shall be developed for the following:

- 18 1. The American Legion.
- 19 2. The Disabled American Veterans.
- 20 3. The Veterans of Foreign Wars.
- 21 4. The AMVETS.
- 22 5. The Vietnam Veterans of America.

23 (b) The department shall retain 40 percent of annual  
 24 use fees until all startup costs for developing and issuing  
 25 the plates have been recovered. Thereafter, 40 percent of the  
 26 use fees shall be remitted to the appropriate organization to  
 27 support their veterans and military activities, programs, and  
 28 projects within the state. The remaining 60 percent of the  
 29 annual use fees collected shall be deposited into the State  
 30 Homes for Veterans Trust Fund within the Department of  
 31 Veterans' Affairs and used solely to construct, operate, and

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1 maintain domiciliary and nursing homes for veterans, subject  
2 to the requirements of chapter 216.

3 Section 3. Section 320.089, Florida Statutes, is  
4 amended to read:

5 320.089 ~~Members of National Guard and active United~~  
6 ~~States Armed Forces reservists; former prisoners of war;~~  
7 ~~survivors of Pearl Harbor; Purple Heart medal recipients;~~  
8 ~~Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom~~  
9 ~~Veterans;~~ Special military service license plates; fee.--

10 (1)(a) Each owner or lessee of an automobile or truck  
11 for private use or recreational vehicle as specified in s.  
12 320.08(9)(c) or (d), which is not used for hire or commercial  
13 use, who is a resident of the state and an active or retired  
14 member of the Florida National Guard; a survivor of the  
15 attack on Pearl Harbor; a recipient of the Purple Heart,  
16 Silver Star, or Bronze Star medal; or an active or retired  
17 member of any branch of the United States Armed Forces Reserve  
18 shall, upon application to the department, accompanied by  
19 proof of active membership or retired status in the Florida  
20 National Guard; proof of membership in the Pearl Harbor  
21 Survivors Association or proof of active military duty in  
22 Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941; proof of being a Purple  
23 Heart, Silver Star, or Bronze Star medal recipient; or proof  
24 of active or retired membership in any branch of the Armed  
25 Forces Reserve; and upon payment of the license tax for the  
26 vehicle as provided in s. 320.08, be issued a license plate as  
27 provided by s. 320.06, upon which, in lieu of the serial  
28 numbers prescribed by s. 320.06, shall be stamped the words  
29 "National Guard," "Pearl Harbor Survivor," "Combat-wounded  
30 veteran," "Silver Star," "Bronze Star," or "U.S. Reserve," as  
31 appropriate, followed by the serial number of the license

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1 plate. Additionally, the Purple Heart plate may have the words  
2 "Purple Heart" stamped on the plate and the likeness of the  
3 Purple Heart medal appearing on the plate.

4 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the  
5 contrary, ~~beginning with fiscal year 2002-2003 and annually~~  
6 ~~thereafter~~, the first \$100,000 in general revenue generated  
7 each year from the sale of license plates issued under this  
8 section ~~which are stamped with the words "National Guard,"~~  
9 ~~"Pearl Harbor Survivor," "Combat-wounded veteran," or "U.S.~~  
10 ~~Reserve"~~ shall be deposited into the Grants and Donations  
11 Trust Fund, as described in s. 296.38(2), and to be used for  
12 the purposes established by law for that trust fund. Up to  
13 \$100,000 in any additional general revenue generated each year  
14 shall be deposited into the State Homes for Veterans Trust  
15 Fund within the Department of Veterans' Affairs and used  
16 solely to construct, operate, and maintain domiciliary and  
17 nursing homes for veterans, subject to the requirements of  
18 chapter 216.

19 (c) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law ~~to the~~  
20 ~~contrary~~, an applicant for a Pearl Harbor Survivor license  
21 plate or a Purple Heart license plate who also qualifies for a  
22 disabled veteran's license plate under s. 320.084 shall be  
23 issued the appropriate special license plate without payment  
24 of the license tax imposed by s. 320.08.

25 (2) Each owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
26 private use, a truck weighing not more than 7,999 pounds, or a  
27 recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d),  
28 which is not used for hire or commercial use, who is a  
29 resident of the state and who is a former prisoner of war, or  
30 their unremarried surviving spouse, shall, upon application  
31 therefor to the department, be issued a license plate as

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1 provided in s. 320.06, on which license plate are stamped the  
 2 words "Ex-POW" followed by the serial number. Each application  
 3 ~~must shall~~ be accompanied by proof of the following: ~~that the~~  
 4 ~~applicant meets the qualifications specified in paragraph (a)~~  
 5 ~~or paragraph (b).~~

6 (a) A citizen of the United States who served as a  
 7 member of the Armed Forces of the United States or the armed  
 8 forces of a nation allied with the United States who was held  
 9 as a prisoner of war when ~~at such time as~~ the Armed Forces of  
 10 the United States were engaged in combat, or their unremarried  
 11 surviving spouse, may be issued the special license plate  
 12 provided for in this subsection without payment of the license  
 13 tax imposed by s. 320.08.

14 (b) A person who was serving as a civilian with the  
 15 consent of the United States Government, or a person who was a  
 16 member of the Armed Forces of the United States who was not a  
 17 United States citizen and was held as a prisoner of war when  
 18 the Armed Forces of the United States were engaged in combat,  
 19 or their unremarried surviving spouse, may be issued the  
 20 special license plate provided for in this subsection upon  
 21 payment of the license tax imposed by s. 320.08.

22 (3) Each owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
 23 private use, a truck weighing not more than 7,999 pounds, or a  
 24 recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d),  
 25 which is not used for hire or commercial use, who is a  
 26 resident of this state and who is the unremarried surviving  
 27 spouse of a recipient of the Purple Heart medal shall, upon  
 28 application ~~therefor~~ to the department, with the payment of  
 29 the required fees, be issued a license plate as provided in s.  
 30 320.06, on which license plate are stamped the words "Purple  
 31 Heart" and the likeness of the Purple Heart medal followed by

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1 the serial number. Each application shall be accompanied by  
2 proof that the applicant is the unremarried surviving spouse  
3 of a recipient of the Purple Heart medal.

4 (4) The owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
5 private use, a truck weighing not more than 7,999 pounds, or a  
6 recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d)  
7 which automobile, truck, or recreational vehicle is not used  
8 for hire or commercial use who is a resident of the state and  
9 a current or former member of the United States military who  
10 was deployed and served in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom  
11 or in Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom shall,  
12 upon application to the department, accompanied by proof of  
13 active membership or former active duty status during one of  
14 these operations, and upon payment of the license tax for the  
15 vehicle as provided in s. 320.08, be issued a license plate as  
16 provided by s. 320.06 upon which, in lieu of the registration  
17 license number prescribed by s. 320.06, shall be stamped the  
18 words "Operation Iraqi Freedom" or "Operation Enduring  
19 Freedom," as appropriate, followed by the registration license  
20 number of the plate.

21 Section 4. This act shall take effect October 1, 2007.

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24 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

25 And the title is amended as follows:

26 Delete everything before the enacting clause

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28 and insert:

29 A bill to be entitled

30 An act relating to specialty license plates;

31 amending s. 320.08056, F.S.; establishing

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1 annual use fees for the Support Our Troops  
2 license plate and the Veterans Service  
3 Organization license plate; amending s.  
4 320.08058, F.S.; revising provisions relating  
5 to the Florida Wildflower license plate;  
6 creating the Support Our Troops and Veterans  
7 Service license plates; providing for the  
8 design of the plates; providing that issuance  
9 of the Support Our Troops license plate shall  
10 not be discontinued if the number of  
11 registrations falls below a certain number;  
12 providing for a motorcycle Support Our Troops  
13 license plate; specifying the veterans' service  
14 organizations that qualify for a license plate;  
15 providing for the distribution of annual use  
16 fees received from the sale of such plates;  
17 amending s. 320.089, F.S.; creating a special  
18 military service license plate for recipients  
19 of the Bronze Star and Silver Star medals;  
20 providing that additional revenue received from  
21 the sale of the license plates shall be used  
22 for state veterans' domiciliary and nursing  
23 homes; providing an effective date.

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