

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to veterans; amending s. 295.16, F.S.;
 3 revising an exemption from license or permit fees required
 4 for improvements to a dwelling owned by a disabled veteran
 5 if the improvements are for the purpose of making the
 6 dwelling safe; removing a provision limiting the exemption
 7 to veterans confined to wheelchairs; amending s. 320.089,
 8 F.S.; deleting the monetary limitation on the amount of
 9 general revenue deposited into the State Homes for
 10 Veterans Trust Fund within the Department of Veterans'
 11 Affairs; amending s. 1009.27, F.S.; authorizing an
 12 eligible student who receives benefits as a veteran who
 13 served on active duty in the Armed Forces after September
 14 11, 2001, to defer college tuition and fees under certain
 15 circumstances; providing effective dates.

16
 17 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

18
 19 Section 1. Section 295.16, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 20 read:

21 295.16 Disabled veterans exempt from certain license or
 22 permit fee.--A ~~No~~ totally and permanently disabled veteran who
 23 is a resident of Florida and honorably discharged from the Armed
 24 Forces, who has been issued a valid identification card by the
 25 Department of Veterans' Affairs in accordance with s. 295.17 or
 26 has been determined by the United States Department of Veterans
 27 Affairs or its predecessor to have a service-connected 100-
 28 percent disability rating for compensation, or who has been

29 | determined to have a service-connected disability rating of 100
 30 | percent and is in receipt of disability retirement pay from any
 31 | branch of the uniformed armed services is not ~~shall be~~ required
 32 | to pay any license or permit fee, by whatever name known, to any
 33 | county or municipality in order to make improvements upon a
 34 | dwelling owned by the veteran which is used as the veteran's
 35 | residence, if provided such improvements are limited to ramps,
 36 | widening of doors, and similar improvements for the purpose of
 37 | making the dwelling habitable or safe for the veteran ~~veterans~~
 38 | ~~confined to wheelchairs.~~

39 | Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
 40 | 320.089, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

41 | 320.089 Members of National Guard and active United States
 42 | Armed Forces reservists; former prisoners of war; survivors of
 43 | Pearl Harbor; Purple Heart medal recipients; Operation Iraqi
 44 | Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom Veterans; special license
 45 | plates; fee.--

46 | (1)

47 | (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the
 48 | contrary, beginning with fiscal year 2002-2003 and annually
 49 | thereafter, the first \$100,000 in general revenue generated from
 50 | the sale of license plates issued under this section shall be
 51 | deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund, as described
 52 | in s. 296.38(2), to be used for the purposes established by law
 53 | for that trust fund. Any additional general revenue generated
 54 | from the sale of such plates, ~~up to \$100,000,~~ shall be deposited
 55 | into the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund and used solely to
 56 | construct, operate, and maintain domiciliary and nursing homes

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57 | for veterans, subject to the requirements of chapter 216.

58 | Section 3. Effective August 1, 2009, subsection (2) of
59 | section 1009.27, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

60 | 1009.27 Deferral of fees.--

61 | (2) Any veteran or other eligible student who receives
62 | benefits under chapter 30, chapter 31, chapter 32, chapter 33,
63 | chapter 34, or chapter 35 of Title 38, U.S.C., or chapter 106 of
64 | Title 10, U.S.C., is entitled to one deferment each academic
65 | year and an additional deferment each time there is a delay in
66 | the receipt of benefits.

67 | Section 4. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this
68 | act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2009.