



## II. Present Situation:

In 2011, the Legislature amended ss. 322.051 and 322.14, F.S., to allow a veteran of the United States Armed Forces to be issued an identification card or a driver license by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV), which displays a permanent capital “V” to signify status as a veteran.<sup>1</sup> In order to receive a capital “V” on either of these credentials, a veteran must present his or her DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty issued by the United States Department of Defense) to the DHSMV, along with an additional \$1 fee.

A veteran who would like to obtain a capital “V” on an identification card or driver license can do so when the veteran’s credential is up for renewal.<sup>2</sup> The cost to renew an identification card and a driver license is \$25 and \$48, respectively. If a veteran would like to obtain a capital “V” on his or her credential before it is up for renewal, the veteran would need to purchase a replacement credential. The fee for a replacement identification card or driver license is \$25, plus an extra \$1 fee for the designation.<sup>3</sup>

According to the DHSMV, since the capital “V” was first offered to veterans in 2011, the DHSMV has issued 5,794 original, 15,898 renewal, and 7,061 replacement identification cards and driver licenses, with a total of 28,753 issuances.<sup>4</sup>

## III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

**Section 1** amends s. 322.051, F.S., to allow a veteran the option to have a replacement identification card issued with a capital “V” displayed upon the payment of a \$2 fee and presentation of a copy of his or her DD Form 214 or another acceptable form specified by the Department of Veterans’ Affairs, provided the veteran is not conducting any other transactions affecting the identification card.

**Section 2** amends s. 322.14, F.S., to allow a veteran the option to have a replacement driver license card issued with a capital “V” displayed upon the payment of a \$2 fee and presentation of a copy of his or her DD Form 214 or another acceptable form specified by the Department of Veterans’ Affairs, provided the veteran is not conducting any other transactions affecting the identification card.

**Section 3** provides that this committee substitute takes effect July 1, 2012.

## IV. Constitutional Issues:

### A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

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<sup>1</sup> Section 322.051(8)(b), F.S., permits a veteran to obtain a “V” on an identification card issued by the DHSMV. Section 322.14(1)(c), F.S., permits a veteran to obtain a “V” on a driver license issued by the DHSMV.

<sup>2</sup> Section 322.18 (2)(a), F.S., states that every identification card and driver license must be renewed every eight years.

<sup>3</sup> Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles Fee Schedule. Available at: <http://www.flhsmv.gov/DHSMVFEES.HTM>. Site last viewed January 20, 2012.

<sup>4</sup> Email correspondence with DHSMV staff January 25, 2012.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

**V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

A veteran who elects to obtain a replacement identification card or driver license with the capital “V” displayed will be charged a \$2 fee. The committee substitute would allow a replacement capital “V” identification card or driver license to be issued prior to regular renewal.

C. Government Sector Impact:

According to the DHSMV, the collection of the \$2 fee will offset additional administrative costs associated with the issuance of the replacement identification card or driver license with the capital “V” displayed. The number of veterans who will elect to obtain a replacement capital “V” identification card or driver license is indeterminate.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Additional Information:**

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

**CS by Budget Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development Appropriations on February 28, 2012:**

- Revises proof of veteran status requirements to also include other acceptable forms specified by the Department of Veteran Affairs for those veterans renewing their identification card or driver license.
- Allows veterans to receive a replacement identification card or driver license with the capital “V” displayed rather than a temporary sticker, provided the veteran provides proof of veteran status, is not renewing their identification card or driver

license, and is not conducting any other transactions affecting the identification card or driver license.

**CS by Transportation Committee on February 7, 2012:**

The committee substitute expands the acceptable forms for veterans to show that they have received an honorable discharge from active duty in order to have a temporary capital “V” designation on his or her driver license or identification card. It authorizes other forms specified by the Department of Veterans’ Affairs in addition to the DD Form 214.

The committee substitute also specifies that an additional fee for the “V” designation will not be charged if the veteran previously paid a designation fee.

**B. Amendments:**

None.