

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Transportation Committee

BILL: CS/SB 1298

INTRODUCER: Transportation Committee and Senator Detert

SUBJECT: Identification Cards and Drivers Licenses

DATE: February 7, 2012 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Willar	Carter	MS	Favorable
2.	Akhavein	Buford	TR	Fav/CS
3.			BC	
4.				
5.				
6.				

Please see Section VIII. for Additional Information:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| A. COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE..... | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Statement of Substantial Changes |
| B. AMENDMENTS..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Technical amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Significant amendments were recommended |

I. Summary:

To recognize and honor Florida veterans, the law currently allows a veteran of the United States Armed Forces to obtain a veteran designation on an identification card or driver license issued by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. This committee substitute provides that until a veteran renews his or her identification card or driver license, the veteran may pay a \$2 fee and present proof of veteran status to have a temporary capital "V" displayed on the identification card or driver license. Allowing a temporary capital "V" sticker to be affixed to an identification card or driver license would provide veterans an alternative method to display their veteran status prior to their normal renewal period rather than paying the \$25 fee to obtain a replacement credential with the permanent capital "V".

This committee substitute amends sections 322.051 and 322.14 of the Florida Statutes.

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.¹ 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.² 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.³

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.⁴

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 322.051, F.S., to allow a veteran the option to have a temporary capital “V” sticker affixed to his or her identification card 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. It specifies that an additional fee for the “V” designation will not be charged if the veteran previously paid a designation fee.

Section 2 amends s. 322.14, F.S., to allow a veteran the option to have a temporary capital “V” sticker affixed to his or her driver license card upon the payment of a \$2 fee and presentation of a copy of his or her DD Form 214 or another acceptable form stipulated by the Department of Veterans’ Affairs. It specifies that an additional fee for the “V” designation will not be charged if the veteran previously paid a designation fee.

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

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

¹ 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.

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

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

⁴ Email correspondence with DHSMV staff January 25, 2012.

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 temporary capital “V” sticker to indicate veteran status on his or her identification card or driver license will be charged a \$2 fee. The committee substitute would allow a temporary capital “V” sticker to be affixed to a veteran’s identification card or driver license prior to the veteran’s normal renewal period.

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 temporary capital “V” stickers. The number of veterans who will elect to obtain a temporary capital “V” sticker 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 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.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.
