

By Senator Perry

8-01145B-17

20171374\_\_

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to transportation; directing the  
3           Department of Transportation to erect signage in  
4           specified counties to commemorate certain conflicts  
5           involving the United States Armed Forces; amending s.  
6           320.08056, F.S.; establishing annual use fees for  
7           certain specialty license plates; revising conditions  
8           for discontinuing issuance of a specialty license  
9           plate; providing exceptions; amending s. 320.08058,  
10          F.S.; directing the Department of Highway Safety and  
11          Motor Vehicles to develop certain specialty license  
12          plates; providing for distribution and use of fees  
13          collected from the sale of the plates; amending s.  
14          320.089, F.S.; creating a special license plate for  
15          recipients of the Bronze Star medal; requiring any  
16          revenue generated from the sale of Woman Veteran  
17          license plates to be deposited into the Grants and  
18          Donations Trust Fund instead of the Operations and  
19          Maintenance Trust Fund; conforming a cross-reference;  
20          authorizing the likeness of the Prisoner of War Medal  
21          to be on the Ex-POW license plate; providing effective  
22          dates.

23  
24 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

25  
26           Section 1. United States Armed Forces commemoration;  
27 Department of Transportation to erect appropriate signage.-

28           (1) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect  
29 appropriate signage as described in subsection (2), at intervals

8-01145B-17

20171374\_\_

30 determined by the department, along that portion of S.R.  
 31 589/Veterans Expressway between S.R. 60 in Hillsborough County  
 32 and U.S. 98 in Hernando County.

33 (2) The department shall erect an appropriate sign to  
 34 commemorate each of the following conflicts involving the United  
 35 States Armed Forces:

- 36 (a) World War I.
- 37 (b) World War II.
- 38 (c) The Korean War.
- 39 (d) The Vietnam War.
- 40 (e) Operation Desert Shield.
- 41 (f) Operation Desert Storm.
- 42 (g) Operation Enduring Freedom.
- 43 (h) Operation Iraqi Freedom.

44 Section 2. Effective October 1, 2017, paragraphs (ffff) and  
 45 (gggg) are added to subsection (4) of section 320.08056, Florida  
 46 Statutes, to read:

47 320.08056 Specialty license plates.—

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

- 50 (ffff) Auburn University license plate, \$25.
- 51 (gggg) Ethical Ecotourism license plate, \$25.

52 Section 3. Effective July 1, 2019, paragraph (a) of  
 53 subsection (8) of section 320.08056, Florida Statutes, is  
 54 amended to read:

55 320.08056 Specialty license plates.—

56 (8) (a) The department must discontinue the issuance of an  
 57 approved specialty license plate if the revenue generated from  
 58 the sale of the ~~number of valid specialty plate registrations~~

8-01145B-17

20171374\_\_

59 falls below the actual cost the department incurs to maintain  
60 that plate in circulation ~~1,000 plates~~ for at least 12  
61 consecutive months. A warning letter shall be mailed to the  
62 sponsoring organization following the first month in which the  
63 revenue generated from the sale of the ~~total number of valid~~  
64 specialty plate registrations is below the actual cost the  
65 department incurs to maintain that plate in circulation for at  
66 least 12 consecutive months ~~1,000 plates~~. This paragraph does  
67 not apply to collegiate license plates established under s.  
68 320.08058(3) or specialty license plates the purchase of which  
69 is limited by statutory eligibility requirements.

70 Section 4. Effective October 1, 2017, subsections (84) and  
71 (85) are added to section 320.08058, Florida Statutes, to read:  
72 320.08058 Specialty license plates.—

73 (84) AUBURN UNIVERSITY LICENSE PLATES.—

74 (a) Notwithstanding s. 320.08053, the department shall  
75 develop an Auburn University license plate as provided in this  
76 subsection. Auburn University license plates must bear the  
77 colors and design approved by the department. The word "Florida"  
78 must appear at the top of the plate, and the words "Auburn  
79 Tigers" or "War Eagles" must appear at the bottom of the plate.

80 (b) The department shall retain all annual use fees from  
81 the sale of the plate until all startup costs for developing and  
82 issuing the plate have been recovered. Thereafter, the annual  
83 use fees from sale of the plate shall be remitted to the  
84 Department of Revenue for deposit into the Educational  
85 Enhancement Trust Fund and distributed by the Department of  
86 Education as scholarships to Florida residents attending Auburn  
87 University. Students receiving such scholarship funds shall use

8-01145B-17

20171374\_\_

88 the funds to pay tuition and other expenses related to attending  
89 Auburn University.

90 (85) ETHICAL ECOTOURISM LICENSE PLATES.—

91 (a) The department shall develop an Ethical Ecotourism  
92 license plate as provided in this section and s. 320.08053. The  
93 word "Florida" must appear at the top of the plate, and words  
94 that are approved by the department must appear at the bottom of  
95 the plate.

96 (b) The annual use fees from the sale of the plate shall be  
97 distributed equally between the Florida Society for Ethical  
98 Ecotourism and Paddle Florida, Inc., which may use up to 10  
99 percent of the proceeds for administrative costs and marketing  
100 of the plate.

101 Section 5. Section 320.089, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
102 read:

103 320.089 Veterans of the United States Armed Forces; members  
104 of National Guard; survivors of Pearl Harbor; Purple Heart and  
105 Bronze Star medal recipients; active or retired United States  
106 Armed Forces reservists; Combat Infantry Badge, Combat Medical  
107 Badge, or Combat Action Badge recipients; Combat Action Ribbon  
108 recipients; Air Force Combat Action Medal recipients;  
109 Distinguished Flying Cross recipients; former prisoners of war;  
110 Korean War Veterans; Vietnam War Veterans; Operation Desert  
111 Shield Veterans; Operation Desert Storm Veterans; Operation  
112 Enduring Freedom Veterans; Operation Iraqi Freedom Veterans;  
113 Women Veterans; World War II Veterans; and Navy Submariners;  
114 special license plates; fee.—

115 (1) (a) Each owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
116 private use or recreational vehicle as specified in s.

8-01145B-17

20171374\_\_

117 320.08(9)(c) or (d), which is not used for hire or commercial  
118 use, who is a resident of the state and a veteran of the United  
119 States Armed Forces, a Woman Veteran, a World War II Veteran, a  
120 Navy Submariner, an active or retired member of the Florida  
121 National Guard, a survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor, a  
122 recipient of the Purple Heart medal, a recipient of the Bronze  
123 Star medal, an active or retired member of any branch of the  
124 United States Armed Forces Reserve, or a recipient of the Combat  
125 Infantry Badge, Combat Medical Badge, Combat Action Badge,  
126 Combat Action Ribbon, Air Force Combat Action Medal, or  
127 Distinguished Flying Cross, upon application to the department,  
128 accompanied by proof of release or discharge from any branch of  
129 the United States Armed Forces, proof of active membership or  
130 retired status in the Florida National Guard, proof of  
131 membership in the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association or proof of  
132 active military duty in Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, proof  
133 of being a Purple Heart or Bronze Star medal recipient, proof of  
134 active or retired membership in any branch of the United States  
135 Armed Forces Reserve, or proof of membership in the Combat  
136 Infantrymen's Association, Inc., proof of being a recipient of  
137 the Combat Infantry Badge, Combat Medical Badge, Combat Action  
138 Badge, Combat Action Ribbon, Air Force Combat Action Medal, or  
139 Distinguished Flying Cross, and upon payment of the license tax  
140 for the vehicle as provided in s. 320.08, shall be issued a  
141 license plate as provided by s. 320.06 which, in lieu of the  
142 serial numbers prescribed by s. 320.06, is stamped with the  
143 words "Veteran," "Woman Veteran," "WWII Veteran," "Navy  
144 Submariner," "National Guard," "Pearl Harbor Survivor," "Combat-  
145 wounded veteran," "Bronze Star," "U.S. Reserve," "Combat

8-01145B-17

20171374\_\_

146 Infantry Badge," "Combat Medical Badge," "Combat Action Badge,"  
147 "Combat Action Ribbon," "Air Force Combat Action Medal," or  
148 "Distinguished Flying Cross," as appropriate, and a likeness of  
149 the related campaign medal or badge, followed by the serial  
150 number of the license plate. Additionally, the Purple Heart  
151 plate may have the words "Purple Heart" stamped on the plate and  
152 the likeness of the Purple Heart medal appearing on the plate.

153 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the  
154 contrary, beginning with fiscal year 2002-2003 and annually  
155 thereafter, the first \$100,000 in general revenue generated from  
156 the sale of license plates issued under this section shall be  
157 deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund, as described  
158 in s. 296.38(2), to be used for the purposes established by law  
159 for that trust fund. Any additional general revenue generated  
160 from the sale of such plates shall be deposited into the State  
161 Homes for Veterans Trust Fund and used solely to construct,  
162 operate, and maintain domiciliary and nursing homes for  
163 veterans, subject to the requirements of chapter 216.

164 (c) Any revenue generated from the sale of Woman Veteran  
165 license plates must be deposited into the Grants and Donations  
166 ~~Operations and Maintenance~~ Trust Fund administered by the  
167 Department of Veterans' Affairs pursuant to s. 20.375(2) ~~s.~~  
168 ~~20.375(3)~~ and must be used solely for the purpose of creating  
169 and implementing programs to benefit women veterans.  
170 Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, an  
171 applicant for a Pearl Harbor Survivor license plate or a Purple  
172 Heart license plate who also qualifies for a disabled veteran's  
173 license plate under s. 320.084 shall be issued the appropriate  
174 special license plate without payment of the license tax imposed

8-01145B-17

20171374\_\_

175 by s. 320.08.

176 (2) Each owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
177 private use, a truck weighing not more than 7,999 pounds, or a  
178 recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d),  
179 which is not used for hire or commercial use who is a resident  
180 of this state and who is a former prisoner of war, or his or her  
181 unremarried surviving spouse, upon application to the  
182 department, shall be issued a license plate as provided in s.  
183 320.06 which may have the words "Ex-POW", stamped on the plate  
184 and the likeness of the Prisoner of War Medal ~~with the words~~  
185 ~~"Ex-POW"~~ followed by the serial number. Each application shall  
186 be accompanied by proof that the applicant meets the  
187 qualifications specified in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b).

188 (a) A citizen of the United States who served as a member  
189 of the Armed Forces of the United States or the armed forces of  
190 a nation allied with the United States who was held as a  
191 prisoner of war at such time as the Armed Forces of the United  
192 States were engaged in combat, or his or her unremarried  
193 surviving spouse, may be issued the special license plate  
194 provided for in this subsection without payment of the license  
195 tax imposed by s. 320.08.

196 (b) A person who was serving as a civilian with the consent  
197 of the United States Government, or a person who was a member of  
198 the Armed Forces of the United States while he or she was not a  
199 United States citizen and was held as a prisoner of war when the  
200 Armed Forces of the United States were engaged in combat, or his  
201 or her unremarried surviving spouse, may be issued the special  
202 license plate provided for in this subsection upon payment of  
203 the license tax imposed by s. 320.08.

8-01145B-17

20171374\_\_

204 (3) Each owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
205 private use, a truck weighing not more than 7,999 pounds, or a  
206 recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d),  
207 which is not used for hire or commercial use who is a resident  
208 of this state and who is the unremarried surviving spouse of a  
209 recipient of the Purple Heart medal, upon application to the  
210 department accompanied by the payment of the required fees,  
211 shall be issued a license plate as provided in s. 320.06 which  
212 is stamped with the words "Purple Heart" and the likeness of the  
213 Purple Heart medal followed by the serial number. Each  
214 application shall be accompanied by proof that the applicant is  
215 the unremarried surviving spouse of a recipient of the Purple  
216 Heart medal.

217 (4) The owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
218 private use, a truck weighing not more than 7,999 pounds, or a  
219 recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d)  
220 which is not used for hire or commercial use who is a resident  
221 of this state and a current or former member of the United  
222 States Armed Forces who was deployed and served in Korea during  
223 the Korean War as defined in s. 1.01(14), upon application to  
224 the department accompanied by proof of active membership or  
225 former active duty status during the Korean War and payment of  
226 the license tax for the vehicle as provided in s. 320.08, shall  
227 be issued a license plate as provided by s. 320.06 which, in  
228 lieu of the registration license number prescribed by s. 320.06,  
229 is stamped with the words "Korean War Veteran" and a likeness of  
230 the Korean Service Medal, followed by the registration license  
231 number of the plate. Proof that the applicant was awarded the  
232 Korean Service Medal is sufficient to establish eligibility for



8-01145B-17

20171374\_\_

233 the license plate.

234 (5) The owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
235 private use, a truck weighing not more than 7,999 pounds, or a  
236 recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d)  
237 which is not used for hire or commercial use who is a resident  
238 of this state and a current or former member of the United  
239 States military who was deployed and served in Vietnam during  
240 United States military deployment in Indochina, upon application  
241 to the department accompanied by proof of active membership or  
242 former active duty status during these operations and payment of  
243 the license tax for the vehicle as provided in s. 320.08, shall  
244 be issued a license plate as provided by s. 320.06 which, in  
245 lieu of the registration license number prescribed by s. 320.06,  
246 is stamped with the words "Vietnam War Veteran" and a likeness  
247 of the Vietnam Service Medal, followed by the registration  
248 license number of the plate. Proof that the applicant was  
249 awarded the Vietnam Service Medal is sufficient to establish  
250 eligibility for the license plate.

251 (6) The owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
252 private use, a truck weighing not more than 7,999 pounds, or a  
253 recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d)  
254 which is not used for hire or commercial use who is a resident  
255 of this state and a current or former member of the United  
256 States military who was deployed and served in Saudi Arabia,  
257 Kuwait, or another area of the Persian Gulf during Operation  
258 Desert Shield or Operation Desert Storm; in Afghanistan during  
259 Operation Enduring Freedom; or in Iraq during Operation Iraqi  
260 Freedom, upon application to the department accompanied by proof  
261 of active membership or former active duty status during one of

8-01145B-17

20171374\_\_

262 these operations and payment of the license tax for the vehicle  
263 as provided in s. 320.08, shall be issued a license plate as  
264 provided by s. 320.06 which, in lieu of the registration license  
265 number prescribed by s. 320.06, is stamped with the words  
266 "Operation Desert Shield," "Operation Desert Storm," "Operation  
267 Enduring Freedom," or "Operation Iraqi Freedom," as appropriate,  
268 and a likeness of the related campaign medal followed by the  
269 registration license number of the plate. Proof that the  
270 applicant was awarded the Southwest Asia Service Medal, Iraq  
271 Campaign Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, or Global War on  
272 Terrorism Expeditionary Medal is sufficient to establish  
273 eligibility for the appropriate license plate.

274 Section 6. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this  
275 act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2017.