

Amendment No.

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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Representative Gonzalez offered the following:

Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 205.055, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

205.055 Exemptions; veterans, spouses of veterans and certain servicemembers, and low-income persons.-

(1) The following persons are entitled to an exemption from a business tax and any fees imposed under this chapter:

(a) A veteran of the United States Armed Forces who was honorably discharged upon separation from service, or the spouse or unremarried surviving spouse of such a veteran.

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14 (b) The spouse of an active duty military servicemember
15 who has relocated to the county or municipality pursuant to a
16 permanent change of station order.

17 (c) A person who is receiving public assistance as defined
18 in s. 409.2554.

19 (d) A person whose household income is below 130 percent
20 of the federal poverty level based on the current year's federal
21 poverty guidelines.

22 (2) A person must complete and sign, under penalty of
23 perjury, a Request for Fee Exemption to be furnished by the
24 local governing authority and provide written documentation in
25 support of his or her request for an exemption under subsection
26 (1).

27 (3) If a person who is exempt under subsection (1) owns a
28 majority interest in a business with fewer than 100 employees,
29 the business is exempt. Such person must complete and sign,
30 under penalty of perjury, a Request for Fee Exemption to be
31 furnished by the local governing authority and provide written
32 documentation in support of his or her request for an exemption
33 for the business under this subsection.

34 Section 2. Section 205.171, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

35 Section 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of this act, a
36 municipality that imposes a business tax on merchants which is
37 measured by gross receipts from the sale of merchandise or
38 services, or both, may continue to impose such tax and may, by

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39 ordinance, revise the definition of the term "merchant."
40 However, the municipality may not revise the rate of the tax
41 measured by gross sales.

42 Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (8) of section
43 322.051, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

44 322.051 Identification cards.—

45 (8)

46 (b)1. The word "Veteran" must ~~shall~~ be exhibited on the
47 identification card of a veteran upon ~~the payment of an~~
48 ~~additional \$1 fee for the identification card and the~~
49 presentation of a copy of the person's:

50 a. DD Form 214, issued by the United States Department of
51 Defense;

52 b. Veteran health identification card, issued by the
53 United States Department of Veterans Affairs;

54 c. Veteran identification card, issued by the United
55 States Department of Veterans Affairs pursuant to the Veterans
56 Identification Card Act of 2015, Pub. L. 114-31; or

57 d. Other ~~another~~ acceptable form specified by the
58 Department of Veterans' Affairs.

59 2. Until a veteran's identification card is next renewed,
60 the veteran may have the word "Veteran" added to his or her
61 identification card upon surrender of his or her current
62 identification card, ~~payment of a \$2 fee to be deposited into~~
63 ~~the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund,~~ and presentation of any

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64 of the forms of identification specified in subparagraph 1 a
65 copy of his or her DD Form 214 or another acceptable form
66 specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs. If the
67 applicant is not conducting any other transaction affecting the
68 identification card, a replacement identification card must
69 ~~shall~~ be issued with the word "Veteran" without payment of the
70 fee required in s. 322.21(1)(f)3.

71 Section 5. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section
72 322.14, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

73 322.14 Licenses issued to drivers.—

74 (1)

75 (d)1. The word "Veteran" must ~~shall~~ be exhibited on the
76 driver license of a veteran upon ~~the payment of an additional \$1~~
77 ~~fee for the license and the presentation of a copy of the~~
78 person's:

79 a. DD Form 214, issued by the United States Department of
80 Defense;

81 b. Veteran health identification card, issued by the
82 United States Department of Veterans Affairs;

83 c. Veteran identification card, issued by the United
84 States Department of Veterans Affairs pursuant to the Veterans
85 Identification Card Act of 2015, Pub. L. 114-31; or

86 d. Other ~~another~~ acceptable form specified by the
87 Department of Veterans' Affairs.

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88 2. Until a veteran's license is next renewed, the veteran
89 may have the word "Veteran" added to his or her license upon
90 surrender of his or her current license, ~~payment of a \$2 fee to~~
91 ~~be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund,~~ and
92 presentation of any of the forms of identification specified in
93 subparagraph 1 ~~a copy of his or her DD Form 214 or another~~
94 ~~acceptable form specified by the Department of Veterans'~~
95 ~~Affairs.~~ If the applicant is not conducting any other
96 transaction affecting the driver license, a replacement license
97 must ~~shall~~ be issued with the word "Veteran" without payment of
98 the fee required in s. 322.21(1) (e).

99 Section 6. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section
100 322.135, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101 322.135 Driver license agents.—

102 (1) The department shall, upon application, authorize by
103 interagency agreement any or all of the tax collectors who are
104 constitutional officers under s. 1(d), Art. VIII of the State
105 Constitution in the several counties of the state, subject to
106 the requirements of law, in accordance with rules of the
107 department, to serve as its agent for the provision of specified
108 driver license services.

109 (c) A service fee of \$6.25 must ~~shall~~ be charged, in
110 addition to the fees set forth in this chapter, for providing
111 all services pursuant to this chapter. The service fee may not
112 be charged:

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113 1. More than once per customer during a single visit to a
114 tax collector's office.

115 2. For a reexamination requested by the Medical Advisory
116 Board or required pursuant to s. 322.221.

117 3. For a voter registration transaction.

118 4. In violation of any federal or state law.

119 5. To a veteran receiving any service pursuant to this
120 chapter, upon presentation of a copy of the veteran's:

121 a. DD Form 214, issued by the United States Department of
122 Defense;

123 b. Veteran health identification card, issued by the
124 United States Department of Veterans Affairs;

125 c. Veteran identification card, issued by the United
126 States Department of Veterans Affairs pursuant to the Veterans
127 Identification Card Act of 2015, Pub. L. 114-31; or

128 d. Other acceptable form specified by the Department of
129 Veterans' Affairs.

130 Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.

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

134 Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:

135 A bill to be entitled

136 An act relating to taxes and fees for veterans and

137 low-income persons; creating s. 205.055, F.S.;

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138 exempting certain persons and businesses from business
139 taxes and fees; providing requirements for applying
140 for such exemption; repealing s. 205.171, F.S.,
141 relating to exemptions allowed for disabled veterans
142 of any war or their unremarried spouses; authorizing
143 municipalities that impose certain business taxes on
144 merchants to continue to impose such taxes;
145 authorizing such municipalities to revise the
146 definition of the term "merchant"; amending ss.
147 322.051 and 322.14, F.S.; deleting fees for adding the
148 word "Veteran" to an identification card or driver
149 license; revising acceptable forms of identification
150 required for such addition; amending s. 322.135, F.S.;
151 prohibiting tax collectors from charging certain
152 driver license service fees to veterans who present
153 specified forms of identification; providing an
154 effective date.

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