



316166

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/26/2025	.	
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The Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security (Collins) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Before line 50

insert:

Section 1. Section 15.0465, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

15.0465 Official state flagship.—The S.S. American Victory, a 455-foot historic steamship built in 1944 ~~schooner Western Union, a 130-foot historic sailing vessel of the tall ship class, built in Key West and first launched in 1939, is~~



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11 designated the official state flagship.

12 Section 2. Subsections (1) and (3), paragraph (a) of  
13 subsection (4), and subsection (6) of section 320.084, Florida  
14 Statutes, are amended to read:

15 320.084 Free motor vehicle license plate to certain  
16 disabled veterans.—

17 (1) One free disabled veteran ~~“DV”~~ motor vehicle license  
18 number plate must ~~shall~~ be issued by the department for use on  
19 any motor vehicle owned or leased by any disabled veteran who  
20 has been a resident of this state continuously for the preceding  
21 5 years or has established a domicile in this state as provided  
22 by s. 222.17(1), (2), or (3), and who has been honorably  
23 discharged from the United States Armed Forces, upon  
24 application, accompanied by proof that:

25 (a) A vehicle was initially acquired through financial  
26 assistance by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs  
27 or its predecessor specifically for the purchase of an  
28 automobile;

29 (b) The applicant has been determined by the United States  
30 Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor to have a  
31 service-connected 100-percent disability rating for  
32 compensation; or

33 (c) The applicant has been determined to have a service-  
34 connected disability rating of 100 percent and is in receipt of  
35 disability retirement pay from any branch of the United States  
36 Armed Services.

37 (3) The department shall, as it deems necessary, require  
38 each person to whom a motor vehicle license plate has been  
39 issued pursuant to subsection (1) to apply to the department for



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40 reissuance of his or her registration license plate. Upon  
41 receipt of the application and proof of the applicant's  
42 continued eligibility, the department shall issue a new  
43 permanent disabled veteran ~~"DV"~~ numerical motor vehicle license  
44 plate which must ~~shall~~ be of the colors red, white, and blue  
45 similar to the colors of the United States flag. The operation  
46 of a motor vehicle displaying a disabled veteran ~~"DV"~~ license  
47 plate from a previous issue period or a noncurrent validation  
48 sticker after the date specified by the department shall subject  
49 the owner if he or she is present, otherwise the operator, to  
50 the penalty provided in s. 318.18(2). Such permanent license  
51 plate must ~~shall~~ be removed upon sale of the vehicle, but may be  
52 transferred to another vehicle owned by such veteran in the  
53 manner prescribed by law. ~~The license number of each plate~~  
54 ~~issued under this section shall be identified by the letter~~  
55 ~~designation "DV."~~ Upon request of any such veteran, the  
56 department is authorized to issue a designation plate containing  
57 only the letters "DV," to be displayed on the front of the  
58 vehicle.

59 (4) (a) With the issuance of each new permanent disabled  
60 veteran ~~"DV"~~ numerical motor vehicle license plate, the  
61 department shall initially issue, without cost to the applicant,  
62 a validation sticker reflecting the owner's birth month and a  
63 serially numbered validation sticker reflecting the year of  
64 expiration. The initial sticker reflecting the year of  
65 expiration may not exceed 27 months.

66 (6) (a) A disabled veteran who meets the requirements of  
67 subsection (1) may be issued, in lieu of the disabled veteran  
68 ~~"DV"~~ license plate, a military license plate for which he or she



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69 is eligible or a specialty license plate embossed with the  
70 initials "DV" in the top left-hand corner. A disabled veteran  
71 electing a military license plate or specialty license plate  
72 under this subsection must pay all applicable fees related to  
73 such license plate, except for fees otherwise waived under  
74 subsections (1) and (4).

75 (b) A military license plate or specialty license plate  
76 elected under this subsection:

77 1. Does not provide the protections or rights afforded by  
78 ss. ~~316.1955, 316.1964, 320.0848~~, 526.141, and 553.5041.

79 2. Is not eligible for the international symbol of  
80 accessibility as described in s. 320.0842.

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

83 And the title is amended as follows:

84 Delete line 2

85 and insert:

86 An act relating to military affairs; amending s.  
87 15.0465, F.S.; redesignating the official state  
88 flagship as the S.S. American Victory; amending s.  
89 320.084, F.S.; requiring that a free disabled veteran  
90 motor vehicle license plate be issued by the  
91 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles for  
92 use on any motor vehicle owned or leased by certain  
93 disabled veterans; deleting the requirement that such  
94 plates be issued with the identifying letter  
95 designation of "DV"; authorizing the issuance of a  
96 military license plate with a certain embossing;  
97 providing that certain protections and rights do apply



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to certain military or specialty license plates;  
amending s. 295.124,