

SESSION OF 2019

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2007

As Amended by House Committee on Veterans
and Military

Brief*

HB 2007, as amended, would authorize a distinctive license plate indicating service in one of the military branches as specified by the bill to be issued to the owner or lessee of a passenger vehicle, truck of a gross weight of 20,000 pounds or less, or a motorcycle on or after January 1, 2020. The bill would allow any resident of Kansas who is a current member or veteran of the U.S. Army, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Marine Corps, the U.S. Air Force, or the U.S. Coast Guard to apply for a distinctive license plate indicating such military service. To be issued a distinctive license plate, the owner or lessee of such vehicle, truck, or motorcycle would be required to submit satisfactory proof to the Director of Vehicles (Director) that such owner or lessee is currently serving, separated and honorably discharged, or has received a general discharge under honorable conditions from one of the military branches listed above.

The bill would require the application be made at least 60 days prior to a person's renewal of registration date on a form designated by the Director. The license plate would be issued for the same time period as other license plates and would be subject to regular license fees, but would be exempt from the personalized license plate fee as specified elsewhere in law. No license plate or registration issued pursuant to the bill would be transferable to any other person. In the event of death of any person issued a distinctive license plate pursuant to the bill, the surviving spouse or

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

other family member would be entitled to keep possession of the plate but not display it on any vehicle.

The bill also would require renewals of registrations to be made annually in the manner provided in continuing law, and no renewal would be allowed until an applicant has filed with the Director the required form. Further, if no form is filed, an applicant would be required to return the distinctive license plate to the county treasurer of such applicant's residence.

The distinctive plates established by the bill also would be exempt from the law requiring an initial issuance of at least 500 plates by the Director (K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 8-1,141).

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Transportation at the request of Representative Williams. The bill was withdrawn from the House Committee on Transportation and referred to the House Committee on Veterans and Military.

In the House Committee on Veterans and Military hearing, no conferees provided testimony. Representative Williams provided written-only proponent testimony at a later date, stating the need for separate license plate options recognizing military members' career choices and commitments.

The House Committee amended the bill to make its provisions applicable to current members and veterans of the specified military branches who have been honorably discharged or received a general discharge under honorable conditions, rather than retired members of such branches.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the Department of Revenue estimates the bill would increase its expenditures by a minimum of \$12,600 in FY 2020. The Department of

Revenue also indicates it would incur additional costs of \$7.89 and \$6.52 to print and ship each large and small plate, respectively. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2020 Governor's Budget Report*.