

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 603

BY REPRESENTATIVES GADBERRY, CORMIER, FIRMENT, FREIBERG, GLOVER,
HORTON, MARINO, MOORE, CHARLES OWEN, SCHAMERHORN, AND
SELDERS

MTR VEHICLE/LICEN PLATES: Creates military honor specialty license plates

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 47:490.34 through 490.36, relative to military honor license plates; to provide
3 for the establishment of a military honor license plate for women veterans,
4 Commemorative Service recipients, and Military Medal Award recipients; to provide
5 for the creation, issuance, fees, distribution, and rule promulgation applicable to the
6 design of such plates; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 47:490.34 through 490.36 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §490.34. Military honor license plates; "Woman Veteran"; "Commemorative
10 Service"; and "Military Medal Award"

11 A. The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall
12 establish a military honor license plate to be known as the "Woman Veteran" plate.

13 B. Upon application of a "Woman Veteran" recipient, the secretary of the
14 Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall issue a military honor license
15 plate to be used in lieu of a regular motor vehicle registration plate. The license plate
16 shall be restricted to use on passenger cars, pickup trucks, recreational vehicles,
17 motorcycles, and vans. The "Woman Veteran" plate shall include the seal of the
18 veteran's branch of service and the words "Woman Veteran".

1 C. The charge for this license plate shall be the regular motor vehicle
2 registration license fee as provided for under the provisions of R.S. 47:463.

3 D. The secretary shall adopt rules and regulations to implement the
4 provisions of this Section, including but not limited to rules governing the transfer
5 of license plates from one vehicle to another and the disposition of such license
6 plates.

7 E.(1) Any applicant who qualifies for the military honor license plate
8 authorized by this Section may be issued a license plate for each vehicle registered
9 in the applicant's name.

10 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this Paragraph, each military honor
11 license plate issued pursuant to this Section shall be returned to the secretary upon
12 the death of the person to whom the license plate was issued. The surviving spouse
13 of a person to whom a license plate was issued pursuant to this Section may retain
14 a license plate issued pursuant to this Section, provided the surviving spouse has not
15 remarried and provided the surviving spouse applies to the secretary for a transfer
16 of the license plate to the surviving spouse. A military honor license plate
17 transferred pursuant to this Paragraph to a surviving spouse shall be returned to the
18 secretary upon the death or remarriage of the surviving spouse.

19 §490.35. Military honor license plates; "Commemorative Service" recipients

20 A.(1) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall
21 establish a military honor license plate to be known as the "Commemorative Service"
22 plate.

23 (2) This plate shall be made available to honorably discharged veterans who
24 served in the following conflicts:

25 (a) Global War on Terrorism.

26 (b) War in Iraq.

27 (c) War in Afghanistan.

28 B. Upon application of a "Commemorative Service" recipient, the secretary
29 of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall issue a military honor

1 license plate to be used in lieu of a regular motor vehicle registration plate. The
2 license plate shall be restricted to use on passenger cars, pickup trucks, recreational
3 vehicles, motorcycles, and vans. The military honor license plate shall be known as
4 the "Commemorative Service" license plate and shall include the seal of the veteran's
5 branch of service, the name of the conflict, and the campaign ribbon.

6 C. The charge for this license plate shall be the regular motor vehicle
7 registration license fee as provided for under the provisions of R.S. 47:463.

8 D. The secretary shall adopt rules and regulations to implement the
9 provisions of this Section, including but not limited to rules governing the transfer
10 of license plates from one vehicle to another and the disposition of such license
11 plates.

12 E.(1) Any applicant who qualifies for the military honor license plate
13 authorized by this Section may be issued a license plate for each vehicle registered
14 in the applicant's name.

15 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this Paragraph, each military honor
16 license plate issued pursuant to this Section shall be returned to the secretary upon
17 the death of the person to whom the license plate was issued. The surviving spouse
18 of a person to whom a license plate was issued pursuant to this Section may retain
19 a license plate issued pursuant to this Section, provided the surviving spouse has not
20 remarried and provided the surviving spouse applies to the secretary for a transfer
21 of the license plate to the surviving spouse. A military honor license plate
22 transferred pursuant to this Paragraph to a surviving spouse shall be returned to the
23 secretary upon the death or remarriage of the surviving spouse.

24 §490.36. Military honor license plates; "Military Medal Award" recipients

25 A.(1) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall
26 establish a military honor license plate to be known as the "Military Medal Award"
27 plate.

28 (2) This plate shall be made available to honorably discharged recipients, as
29 certified by the Department of Veteran's Affairs, of the following medal awards:

- 1 (a) Navy Cross.
- 2 (b) Air Force Cross.
- 3 (c) Defense Distinguished Service Medal.
- 4 (d) Homeland Security Distinguished Service Medal.
- 5 (e) Distinguished Service Medal (Army).
- 6 (f) Navy Distinguished Service Medal.
- 7 (g) Air Force Distinguished Service Medal.
- 8 (h) Coast Guard Distinguished Service Medal.
- 9 (i) Silver Star.
- 10 (j) Defense Superior Service Medal.
- 11 (k) Legion of Merit.
- 12 (l) Distinguished Flying Cross.
- 13 (m) Air Medal.
- 14 (n) Soldier's Medal.

15 B. Upon application of a "Military Medal Award" recipient, as certified by
16 the Department of Veteran's Affairs, the secretary of the Department of Public Safety
17 and Corrections shall issue a military honor license plate to be used in lieu of a
18 regular motor vehicle registration plate. The license plate shall be restricted to use
19 on passenger cars, pickup trucks, recreational vehicles, motorcycles, and vans. The
20 military honor license plate shall be known as the "Military Medal Award" license
21 plate and shall include the name of the veteran's branch of service and the name and
22 image of the medal.

23 C. The charge for this license plate shall be the regular motor vehicle
24 registration license fee as provided for under the provisions of R.S. 47:463.

25 D. The secretary shall adopt rules and regulations to implement the
26 provisions of this Section, including but not limited to rules governing the transfer
27 of license plates from one vehicle to another and the disposition of such license
28 plates.

1 E.(1) Any applicant who qualifies for the military honor license plate
2 authorized by this Section may be issued a license plate for each vehicle registered
3 in the applicant's name.

4 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this Paragraph, each military honor
5 license plate issued pursuant to this Section shall be returned to the secretary upon
6 the death of the person to whom the license plate was issued. The surviving spouse
7 of a person to whom a license plate was issued pursuant to this Section may retain
8 a license plate issued pursuant to this Section, provided the surviving spouse has not
9 remarried and provided the surviving spouse applies to the secretary for a transfer
10 of the license plate to the surviving spouse. A military honor license plate
11 transferred pursuant to this Paragraph to a surviving spouse shall be returned to the
12 secretary upon the death or remarriage of the surviving spouse.

13 Section 2. The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor
14 vehicles, is hereby directed to create these military honor license plates when the applicable
15 statutory provisions are met and its system is updated to accommodate the creation of new
16 plates.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 603 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

Gadberry

Abstract: Creates the "Woman Veteran", "Commemorative Service" recipient, and "Military Medal Award" recipients speciality license plates.

Proposed law creates the "Woman Veteran", "Commemorative Service recipient", and "Military Medal Award". Provides for the use, name, design, and specifications of the specialty plates.

Proposed law requires the charge for the license plates be the regular motor vehicle registration license fee as provided for in present law, which waives the \$3.50 handling fee for such plate.

Proposed law requires the "Woman Veteran" plate include the seal of the veteran's branch of service and the words "Woman Veteran".

Proposed law requires the "Commemorative Service" be made available to honorably discharged veterans for serving in the following conflicts:

- (1) Global War on Terrorism.
- (2) War in Iraq.
- (3) War in Afghanistan.

Proposed law requires the "Commemorative Service" plate include the seal of the veteran's branch of service, the name of the conflict, and the campaign ribbon.

Proposed law requires the "Military Medal Award" be made available to honorably discharged recipients, as certified by the Department of Veteran's Affairs, of the following medal awards:

- (1) Navy Cross.
- (2) Air Force Cross.
- (3) Defense Distinguished Service Medal.
- (4) Homeland Security Distinguished Service Medal.
- (5) Distinguished Service Medal (Army).
- (6) Navy Distinguished Service Medal.
- (7) Air Force Distinguished Service Medal.
- (8) Coast Guard Distinguished Service Medal.
- (9) Silver Star.
- (10) Defense Superior Service Medal.
- (11) Legion of Merit.
- (12) Distinguished Flying Cross.
- (13) Air Medal.
- (14) Soldier's Medal.

Proposed law requires the "Military Medal Award" plate include the name of the veteran's branch of service and the name and image of the medal.

Proposed law requires the secretary of the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections to adopt rules relative to the implementation of the military honor license plates, including the transfer of the license plate to the surviving spouse and the disposition of the military honor license plates.

Proposed law requires the office of motor vehicles to create the military honor plates provided for in proposed law when the applicable statutory provisions are met and its system is updated to accommodate new plates.

(Adds R.S. 47:490.34-490.36)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Remove the handling fee of \$3.50 that was applicable to each military honor license plate.
3. Remove the inclusion of the U.S. flag background on each license plate.
4. Require the office of motor vehicles to create the military honor plates provided for in proposed law when the applicable statutory provisions are met and its system is updated to accommodate new plates.