

State of Arkansas
89th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2013

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1527

By: Representative D. Whitaker

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE LAW REGARDING THE ELIGIBILITY FOR OBTAINING A VIETNAM VETERAN SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE AND A VIETNAM ERA SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE BY DEFINING VIETNAM VETERAN AND VIETNAM ERA VETERAN; TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE DECALS FOR VIETNAM ERA VETERANS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO CLARIFY THE LAW REGARDING ELIGIBILITY FOR A VIETNAM VETERAN SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE BY DEFINING VIETNAM VETERAN AND VIETNAM ERA VETERAN.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 27-24-203, concerning definitions related to special license plates issued for military service and veterans, is amended to add additional definitions to read as follows:

(7) "Vietnam Era Veteran" means a veteran that can establish active-duty service during the time of the Vietnam War by presenting his or her military service discharge record in the form of the certificate of release or DD Form 214; and

(8) "Vietnam Veteran" means a veteran that can establish that he or she received the Vietnam Service Medal by presenting his or her military service discharge record in the form of the certificate of release or DD Form 214.



SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 27-24-204 is amended to read as follows:

27-24-204. ~~Existing special~~ Military and veteran special license plates and decals generally.

(a) The following special license plates or license plates with permanent decals for members and veterans of the armed forces of the United States and similar entities that were in existence or authorized by enactment on or before April 13, 2005, shall continue to be issued by the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration to an eligible applicant:

- (1) Disabled Veteran;
- (2) Disabled Veteran – World War I;
- (3) Disabled Veteran – Nonservice injury;
- (4) Medal of Honor Recipient;
- (5) Ex-Prisoner of War;
- (6) Military Reserve;
- (7) Pearl Harbor Survivor;
- (8) Merchant Marine;
- (9) World War II Veteran;
- (10) Korean War Veteran;
- (11) Vietnam Veteran;
- (12) Persian Gulf Veteran;
- (13) Armed Forces Veteran;
- (14) Distinguished Flying Cross;
- (15) Operation Iraqi Freedom Veteran; and
- (16) Operation Enduring Freedom Veteran.

(b) Beginning on the effective date of this act, the director shall create and issue a permanent decal for a Vietnam Era Veteran consistent with § 27-24-209 to an eligible applicant.

(c)(1) The Purple Heart Recipient special license plate that existed before April 13, 2005, shall continue to be issued by the director to an eligible applicant.

(2) However, on the Purple Heart Recipient special license plates issued after April 13, 2005, the words “Purple Heart – Combat Wounded” shall appear.

~~(e)~~(d) The director shall promulgate rules and forms to ensure that an owner of a motor vehicle who is issued a special license plate under this subchapter:

(1) Is eligible to be issued the particular special license plate based on his or her:

(A) Status as a disabled veteran or veteran of a foreign war;

(B) Status of being the recipient of a military honor;

(C) Status of being an ex-prisoner of war; or

(D) Past or present military service; and

(2)~~(A)~~ Either:

(A) Has an honorable record of military service; or

(B) Was honorably discharged from military service.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This act is effective on and after January 1, 2014.

APPROVED: 03/22/2013