

1 HB461
2 158217-4
3 By Representatives Drake, Faust, Carns, Wallace, Standridge,
4 Baker, Patterson and McClendon
5 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security
6 First Read: 12-FEB-14

1 employees of the department who actually engage in fire
2 fighting or rendering first aid at the scene of an accident.

3 Section 2. (a) Notwithstanding Sections 32-6-64,
4 32-6-67, and 32-6-68, Code of Alabama 1975, a paid
5 professional firefighter, upon application and subject to the
6 provisions of this act, may be issued a distinctive motor
7 vehicle license plate or tag upon identification as a paid
8 professional firefighter.

9 (b) In addition to the proper numbers, words, and
10 insignias used on the standard license plate or tag issued for
11 motor vehicles, the distinctive plates or tags so issued for a
12 professional firefighter shall have a design created by the
13 state association of professional firefighters in coordination
14 with the tag department of the Alabama Department of Revenue.
15 Motor vehicle and motorcycle license plates shall bear the
16 same design.

17 Section 3. (a) The distinctive license plate
18 provided herein shall be prepared, approved by the
19 Commissioner of Revenue, and shall be issued through the judge
20 of probate, license commissioner, or other license issuing
21 official of the several counties of the state in the same
22 manner as are other motor vehicle license plates or tags, and
23 the officers shall be entitled to their regular fees for the
24 service.

25 (b) By December 1 of each year, the Firefighters'
26 Personnel Standards and Education Commission shall submit to
27 the judge of probate, the license commissioner, or other

1 license issuing official of each county a list of eligible
2 professional firefighters from paid or part-paid fire
3 departments under this act.

4 (c) Any person who joins a paid or part-paid fire
5 department after December 1 of any year or any person who is
6 mistakenly omitted from the lists prepared as described above
7 may obtain a distinctive plate by presenting to the license
8 issuing official proof of his or her membership in a fire
9 department by means of a certificate signed by the chief of
10 the department on a form prescribed by the Firefighters'
11 Personnel Standards and Education Commission.

12 (d) Upon the applicant submitting proof of his or
13 her identification, the professional firefighter shall be
14 issued the requested number of distinctive license plates or
15 tags upon the payment of the regular license fee for tags, as
16 provided by law.

17 (e) The distinctive license plates or tags issued
18 pursuant to this section shall be used only upon and for
19 personally owned, private passenger vehicles, to include
20 station wagons, pick-up trucks, and motorcycles registered in
21 the name of the professional firefighter making application
22 therefor, and when so issued to the applicant shall be used
23 upon the vehicle for which issued in lieu of the standard
24 license plates or license tags normally issued for the
25 vehicle.

26 (f) Any person who falsely obtains or certifies an
27 individual to obtain a distinctive professional firefighter

1 license plate, who is not qualified to obtain the plate shall
2 be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall
3 be punished as provided by law.

4 Section 4. Distinctive plates or tags as provided by
5 this act shall be prepared and furnished for the licensing
6 year commencing January 1, 2015, and thereafter as provided by
7 law for the issuance of other license plates.

8 Section 5. Sections 32-6-250 and 32-6-251 of the
9 Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

10 "§32-6-250.

11 "(a) A distinctive permanent license plate shall be
12 issued to any resident of the state who is a recipient of the
13 Medal of Honor or the widow of a recipient of the Medal of
14 Honor, to any resident who is a recipient of the Purple Heart
15 Medal, to any resident who is a member of the Legion of Valor
16 with positive proof of the award of the Medal of Honor, the
17 Army Distinguished Service Cross, the Navy Cross, or the Air
18 Force Cross, or to any resident who shows by satisfactory
19 proof that he or she was a duly recognized former prisoner of
20 war, for use on a private motor vehicle registered in the name
21 of the resident. There shall be no fee or tax for the license
22 plate, except Purple Heart Medal recipients shall pay ad
23 valorem taxes on vehicles for which the distinctive plates are
24 issued, and no recipient shall receive a plate for more than
25 one vehicle except as provided in subsection (c).

26 "(b) A former prisoner of war for purposes of this
27 section is a person who, as a member of the United States

1 Armed Forces, or while serving with a formal United States
2 ally force, or as a United States civilian, was held as a
3 prisoner of war during any armed conflict by forces hostile to
4 the United States.

5 "(c) A person eligible to be issued a distinctive
6 license plate under this section may be issued additional
7 distinctive license plates, under any of the above license
8 plate categories, if the person otherwise qualifies to receive
9 the distinctive license plate, upon payment of all license tax
10 and registration fees, including ad valorem taxes, for the
11 vehicles. Annual renewal decals shall be provided after
12 payment, if required, of license fees and taxes for the years
13 during which a new tag or plate is not issued as provided in
14 Section 32-6-63.

15 "§32-6-251.

16 The special plates shall be of the same size as
17 regular motor vehicle license plates, distinguished by the
18 letters MOH, or LOV, or PHM to be of a different color scheme
19 and design to any other vehicle tag in this state, or POW to
20 be of the same color scheme as other distinguished military
21 tags in this state, whichever distinctive design applies, the
22 nature of which shall be prescribed by a committee to be
23 appointed by the chief legislative sponsors of this division."

24 Section 6. All laws or parts of laws which conflict
25 with this act are repealed.

26 Section 7. Although this bill would have as its
27 purpose or effect the requirement of a new or increased

1 expenditure of local funds, the bill is excluded from further
2 requirements and application under Amendment 621 because the
3 bill defines a new crime or amends the definition of an
4 existing crime.

5 Section 8. This act shall become effective on the
6 first day of the third month following its passage and
7 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18

House of Representatives

Read for the first time and re-
ferred to the House of Representa-
tives committee on Public Safety
and Homeland Security..... 12-FEB-14

Read for the second time and placed
on the calendar..... 20-FEB-14

Read for the third time and passed
as amended..... 05-MAR-14

Yeas 96, Nays 0, Abstains 0

Jeff Woodard
Clerk