

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill authorizes a new license plate for veterans who have served in the Iraq War, the Afghanistan War or elsewhere in support of the Global War on Terrorism since 9/11/01. This new plate would be designated using decals on the state's generic license plate used for most other special veterans plates in recent years.

Section

- 1** **Motorcycle plate.** Authorizes the new license plate to be used on motorcycles, in addition to other passenger motor vehicles. Currently, the only special veterans plate authorized for use on motorcycles is the Vietnam Veteran license plate.

The new language on page 2, lines 7 and 8, replace the stricken language on lines 2 to 6, regarding motorcycle plate authorization for Vietnam Veterans [paragraph (a)] - and also authorizes motorcycle plates for the new plates being authorized in paragraphs (h) and (i).

- 2** **New license plate.** Authorizes the new license plate for veterans of the Global War on Terrorism.

Paragraph (h)

Section

For a veteran with the GWOT Expeditionary Medal, the decal will read:

- **Iraq War Vet**
- **Afghan War Vet** , or
- **GWOT Veteran** , for service in the Philippines war zone

Paragraph (i)

For a veteran with the GWOT Service Medal, the decal will read:

- **GWOT Vet-Service**, for service in support of operations, mostly in U.S.

Most plate recipients in this category will officially be "veterans." However, eligibility also includes members of the National Guard and other Reserves who earned the qualifying military medal while serving long-term providing airport security duty in exact accordance with Presidential orders, but just shy of the time required to receive designation as "veterans" under federal law (i.e., their federal orders were for 179 days of airport duty, rather than the necessary "over 180 days").

- 3 Exemption from bond and study.** Exempts the new Global War on Terrorism veterans plate from the requirements of section 168.1293 for a survey and the posting of a \$20,000 bond to ensure that at least 10,000 new plates would be sold. [To date, the best-selling veterans plate is the one for Vietnam Veterans, for which somewhat fewer than 7,000 have been issued thus far.]
- 4 Effective Date.** The day following final enactment.

Note: It is expected that the new special veterans' license plates authorized by this bill will be marked with decals (i.e., stickers) on the generic special license plate form, in accordance with the recent legislative policy decision to use the cheaper decals in designing most new special plates (section 168.1291, initially enacted in 1996).