

HOUSE BILL 656

By Ragan

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-237 and Section 55-4-239, relative to license plates for veterans with disabilities.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-237(a)(2), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(2) Two (2) disabled veteran memorial license plates may be issued free of charge to any qualified applicant pursuant to this section. Additional disabled veteran license plates may be obtained by any disabled veteran upon payment of the regular registration fee for plates, as prescribed under § 55-4-111, plus the payment of a fee equal to the cost of actually producing the plate.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-237(d), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(d) A disabled veteran who is entitled under this section to be issued two (2) memorial registration plates, free of charge, may elect in the alternative for the issuance of two (2) registration plates for holders of the Purple Heart, free of charge, for two (2) motor vehicles authorized by § 55-4-210(c) or two (2) motor homes, as described in subdivision (a)(1), which are owned or leased by the disabled veteran; provided, that a disabled veteran shall meet the requirements of § 55-4-239(c) in order to be eligible for the issuance of a registration plate for a holder of the Purple Heart.

(e) A second disabled veteran plate initially issued to, or renewed by, any recipient under this section as it existed prior to the effective date of this act, shall not be

subject to the regular registration fee or the cost of producing the plate, and shall be free of charge pursuant to this section on or after the effective date of this act.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-239(e), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(e)

(1) A disabled veteran who is entitled to be issued two (2) special memorial registration plates, free of charge, pursuant to § 55-4-237, may elect in the alternative for the issuance of two (2) special memorial registration plates for holders of the Purple Heart, free of charge, for two (2) motor vehicles or two (2) recreational vehicles owned or leased by that disabled veteran; provided, that a disabled veteran shall meet the requirements of subsection (c) in order to be eligible for the issuance of a special memorial registration plate for holders of the Purple Heart.

(2) Additional plates may be obtained by any person entitled to receive the holders of the Purple Heart registration plate upon payment of the regular registration fee for plates, as prescribed under § 55-4-111, and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203(c)(1).

(3) A second Purple Heart plate initially issued to, or renewed by, any recipient under this section as it existed prior to the effective date of this act, shall not be subject to the regular registration fee or the cost of producing the plate, and shall be free of charge pursuant to this section on or after the effective date of this act.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.