

HOUSE BILL 1307
By Ridgeway

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, relative to the issuance of distinctive license plates for recipients of certain military decorations.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(5)(U), is amended by adding the following as new subdivisions (xi) and (xii):

(xi) Silver Star recipients;

(xii) Bronze Star recipients;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-203(c), is amended by deleting the word "and" at the end of subdivision (9); by deleting the period (.) at the end of subdivision (10) and by substituting instead a semicolon (;); and by adding the following as new subdivisions (11) and (12):

(11) Silver Star recipients; and

(12) Bronze Star recipients.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2__.

(a) A recipient of the Silver Star or a recipient of the Bronze Star who is a resident of this state and who is an owner or lessee of a motor vehicle, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and upon paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a distinctive Silver Star or Bronze Star motor vehicle registration plate, as appropriate, for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b)

(1) The Silver Star plates provided for in this section shall include an identification legend distinctive to recipients of the Silver Star. The legend shall read "Silver Star." The registration number of the plate shall include the letters "SS" and a unique identifying number.

(2) The Bronze Star plates provided for in this section shall include an identification legend distinctive to recipients of the Bronze Star. The legend shall read "Bronze Star." The registration number of the plate shall include the letters "BS" and a unique identifying number.

(c) Eligibility for Silver Star plates and Bronze Star plates shall be determined by the department of safety by consulting the appropriate information on the DD214 form (or in a case of military service predating 1950, in consultation with appropriate information on the equivalent form or on other official documentation) or a written communication from the department of veterans affairs, such form, documentation or communication certifying that the application for such plate is submitted by a recipient of the Silver Star or a recipient of the Bronze Star, as appropriate.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001, the public welfare requiring it.