

SCS HCS HB 60 -- LICENSE PLATES; RESPECT LIFE COMMISSION

(Vetoed by the Governor)

This bill allows all military and certain specialty plates to be obtained for commercial motor vehicles licensed for a gross weight not in excess of 18,000 pounds (certain pickup trucks) as well as noncommercial vehicles. Military plates will not be subject to the fee charged for personalized plates. All military plates, except the Congressional Medal of Honor, Retired Military, and the Prisoner of War plates, will cost \$15 in addition to the regular registration fee. There will no longer be a limit on the number of military plates a person may obtain as long as each set is issued for vehicles owned solely or jointly by the person.

Individuals may get a special license plate to help the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation. A \$25 emblem use contribution will be made annually to the foundation by any individual wanting the special plates. All other normal fees will apply, including the fee for personalized plates.

The following new plates are allowed to be made available: "Bronze Star," "Combat Medic," "Gulf War Veteran," "Distinguished Flying Cross," "Professional Sports Team," "Respect Life," and "Square and Round Dance Clubs."

An advisory committee for the Department of Revenue is established for the purpose of developing guidelines for the issuance of motor vehicle specialized license plates. This committee must direct the Director of Revenue to implement its guidelines for all specialized license plates not later than July 1, 2000.

The Department of Revenue is allowed to issue 30-day temporary permits to applicants for personalized plates. Currently, regular plates are issued until the stamped personalized plate is available.

The Missouri Respect Life Commission is established within the Office of Administration. This commission will consist of 13 members: 2 Missouri senators, 2 Missouri representatives, and 9 members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate, with one from each congressional district. To be eligible for appointment to the commission, a person must demonstrate agreement with the principles and goals regarding human life as set out in the bill. The powers and duties of this commission are outlined in the bill.

The Missouri State Highway Patrol is authorized to inspect

homemade trailers. If the Highway Patrol conducts the inspection, rather than the county sheriff, the \$10 inspection fee will be deposited in the State Highway Fund. After obtaining a certificate of inspection and paying all applicable fees, the Department of Revenue will issue the homemade trailer owner an identifying number plate.

Penalties are provided for any person who makes a false statement or declaration to the Director of Revenue.

The bill also contains language that will simplify Department of Revenue procedures, including allowing statements where affidavits are now required and clarifying the procedure for usage of an old pre-existing license plate issued in the year the vehicle was manufactured.