

HB 400 -- FREE PARKING FOR CERTAIN VETERANS

SPONSOR: Nasheed

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Veterans by a vote of 12 to 0.

This bill allows a veteran displaying a Congressional Medal of Honor, Prisoner of War, Silver Star, or PURPLE HEART special license plate to park his or her motor vehicle without charge in a metered parking space. A veteran who has been awarded the Bronze Star may apply to the Director of the Department of Revenue for a windshield placard which will allow him or her to also park without charge in a metered parking space if the placard is hung from the front, middle rearview mirror or displayed on the dashboard on the driver's side if there is no rearview mirror.

The bill specifies certain vehicle and parking restrictions; and before these provisions are allowed, they must also be approved by the local governing body.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2010, FY 2011, and FY 2012.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill allows cities to provide free parking to certain honored veterans in recognition of their service.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Nasheed; Dewey Riehn and Robert Gibson, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Missouri Department; and George Newell, Missouri Association of Veterans Organizations.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.