

HCS HB 415 -- SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES, HIGHWAY AND BRIDGE DESIGNATIONS, AND DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE (Phillips)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Committee on Transportation

This substitute changes the laws regarding special license plates, and highway and bridge designations, and the Department of Revenue. In its main provisions, the substitute:

(1) Designates the portion of Interstate 70 from the western city limits of the City of St. Louis east to mile marker 248 as the "Mark Twain Highway." Currently, all of Interstate 70 within the City of St. Louis is designated as the "Mark Twain Highway." The substitute designates the portion of Interstate 70 from mile marker 248 to the Illinois border as the "Andy Gammon Memorial Highway." The costs for the designation are to be paid for by private donations (Section 227.303, RSMo);

(2) Designates the bridge on U.S. Highway 65 over CST Overlook Avenue in Greene County as the "Missouri Fallen Soldiers Memorial Bridge" with the costs to be paid for by private donations (Section 227.325);

(3) Designates the bridge on State Highway 5 over Interstate 44 in Laclede County as the "James R. Ledbetter Memorial Bridge" with the costs to be paid for by private donation (Section 227.327);

(4) Designates the new Interstate 70 bridge crossing the Mississippi River between Missouri and Illinois as the "Stan Musial Memorial Bridge." The costs for the designation must be paid for by private donations (Section 227.421);

(5) Designates the bridge on U.S. Highway 160 over Lick Creek in Ozark County as the "Barney Douglas (The Citizen) Memorial Bridge" with the costs to be paid for by private donations (Section 227.504);

(6) Designates the portion of State Highway 32 from the city limits of the City of Farmington northeast to the intersection of State Highway 144 as the "Sergeant Jeffery Kowalski Memorial Highway" with the costs to be paid for by private donations (Section 227.515);

(7) Designates the portion of Interstate 70 in St. Louis City from Union Boulevard east to Kingshighway Boulevard as the "Police Officer Daryl Hall Memorial Highway" with the costs to be paid for by private donations (Section 227.517);

(8) Designates U.S. Highway 54 from the Kansas/Missouri state line

east to the Missouri/Illinois state line as the "Discover More on Route 54 Highway" with the costs to be paid for by private donations (Section 227.520);

(9) Allows the owner of a motor vehicle other than an apportioned motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle licensed in excess of 24,000 pounds to apply for a special personalized license plate. Currently, the owner of a motor vehicle other than an apportioned motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle licensed in excess of 18,000 pounds may apply for the plate (Sections 301.130, 301.134, 301.144, 301.145, 301.441 to 301.481, 301.3032 to 301.3089, 301.3092 to 301.3115, 301.3117 to 301.3141, and 301.3143 to 301.3170);

(10) Allows the Director of the Department of Revenue to issue a temporary permit to a salvage operator for the sole purpose of transporting a salvage motor vehicle to a State Highway Patrol inspection station if he or she purchases the required motor vehicle examination form that is required to be completed and provides satisfactory evidence that the vehicle has passed the inspection. The substitute repeals the current provisions regarding the removal of plates on the transfer or sale of a vehicle, dealer plates, and temporary permits and license plates (Section 301.140);

(11) Limits the power of arrest of a Department of Revenue investigator licensed as a peace officer by the Department of Public Safety under Chapter 590 and acting as a peace officer to enforce the provisions of Chapter 301 and any provisions regarding fees, licenses, or taxes administered by the department director to offenses involving fees; licenses; taxes, other than income taxes or franchise taxes; or in situations of imminent danger to the investigator or another person. Currently, an investigator is limited to offenses involving fees, licenses, taxes, or in situations of imminent danger to the investigator or another person (Section 301.216);

(12) Repeals the authority of the Director of the Department of Revenue to direct any agent or employee of the department to secure possession of any person's license and distinctive number plates whose license has been suspended or revoked under Section 301.550 to 301.573 who neglects or refuses to surrender his or her license or plates. The substitute requires the department director to direct any law enforcement officer to secure the possession and return the items to the department director that is currently an option (Section 301.562);

(13) Changes the "Operation Enduring Freedom" special license plate to the "Operation Enduring Freedom Veteran" special license

plate; replaces the image of the American flag with an image of the Operation Enduring Freedom medal; requires the payment of a \$15 fee in addition to the regular registration fees; and allows the owner of a motor vehicle other than an apportioned motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle licensed in excess of 24,000 pounds, instead of the current 18,000 pounds, to apply for the plate (Section 301.3090);

(14) Changes the "Operation Noble Eagle" license plate to the "Operation Noble Eagle Veteran" license plate; replaces the image of the American flag with an image of the Operation Noble Eagle medal; requires the payment of a \$15 fee in addition to the regular registration fees; and allows the owner of a motor vehicle other than an apportioned motor vehicle or commercial vehicle licensed in excess of 24,000 pounds, instead of the current 18,000 pounds, to apply for the plate (Section 301.3116);

(15) Changes the fee requirement for the "Gold Star" license plate. Currently, the Department of Revenue may issue the plate to specified family members of a member of the United States military who was a resident of this state and who was killed in the line of duty upon receipt of an annual \$15 application fee in addition to the regular registration fee for a one-year plate or \$30 plus the regular registration fee for a two-year plate. The substitute requires only the payment of the regular registration fees. The substitute specifies that there can be no limit on the number of license plates that any qualified person may obtain so long as each set of plates is issued for vehicles owned solely or jointly by the person (Section 301.3142);

(16) Allows any woman who served or currently serves in any branch of the United States Armed Forces or was honorably discharged to apply for a special license plate bearing the words "WOMEN VETERAN" in place of the words "SHOW-ME STATE" and an image to be determined by the Missouri Veterans Commission and the Director of the Department of Revenue for any motor vehicle except a commercial vehicle weighing over 12,000 pounds. To obtain the plate, a woman must apply to the department director and furnish proof of military service as the department director, payment of a \$15 fee in addition to the regular registration fees, and any documents that may be required by law. No additional fee can be charged for the personalization of the license plate. These plates cannot be transferred to any other person except that a registered co-owner of the vehicle must be entitled to operate the vehicle with the plates for the duration of the year licensed in the event of the death of the qualified person (Section 301.3172);

(17) Allows any person who has been awarded the Korean Defense Service Medal to apply for a special license plate bearing the

words "KOREA DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL" in place of the words "SHOW-ME STATE" and an image of the Korea Defense Service Medal. To obtain the plate, a person must apply to the department director and furnish proof of eligibility as the department director may require, pay a \$15 fee in addition to the regular registration fees, and present any documents which may be required by law. No additional fee can be charged for the personalization of the plates. There can be no limit on the number of plates any qualified person may obtain so long as each set of plates is issued for vehicles owned solely or jointly by the person. The plates cannot be transferred to any other person except that a registered co-owner of the vehicle must be entitled to operate the vehicle with the plates for the duration of the year licensed in the event of the death of the qualified person (Section 1); and

(18) Designates the portion of Interstate 70 in Montgomery County between mile marker 165.0 and 166.0 as "Graham's Picnic Rock Highway." The department must erect and maintain appropriate signs designating the highway after the next lane widening or pavement replacement project within that portion of the highway (Section 2).

The provisions of the substitute regarding the "Stan Musial Memorial Bridge" will not become effective until the State of Illinois designates the portion of the bridge that is owned and maintained by it as the "Stan Musial Memorial Bridge."