

1 AN ACT relating to licensing.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 186.041 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) Each initial and renewal application by a person who meets the criteria of paragraph  
5 (a) of this section and each initial application by a person who meets the criteria of  
6 paragraph (b), (c), or (d) of this section for a special military license plate shall be  
7 accompanied by proof ***as set forth in subsection (10) of this section*** that the person  
8 is associated with the United States Army, United States Navy, United States Air  
9 Force, United States Marine Corps, United States Coast Guard, United States Coast  
10 Guard Auxiliary, Kentucky National Guard, Merchant Marines with service  
11 between December 7, 1941, and August 15, 1945, or Civil Air Patrol in one (1) of  
12 the following ways:

13 (a) ***A member of the Armed Forces of the United States***~~[An active component~~  
14 ~~member];~~

15 (b) A retired member;

16 (c) A member of the National Guard or Reserve component who has completed  
17 his or her term of service, or has retired with a minimum of twenty (20) years  
18 of service; or

19 (d) A veteran who received a discharge under honorable conditions, or the  
20 veteran's ***surviving spouse***,~~[widow]~~ and:

21 1. Performed one hundred eighty (180) days of active-duty service;

22 2. Received an early release due to injuries or other medical condition, or  
23 at the convenience of the service;

24 3. Received a hardship discharge;

25 4. Was separated or retired due to a disability; or

26 5. Was determined to have a service-connected disability incurred during  
27 the enlistment.

- 1 (2) The member, retired member, veteran, ~~or~~ reservist, or his or her spouse who is  
2 eligible under subsection (9) of this section may purchase an unlimited number of  
3 special military-related license plates described in subsection (1) of this section,  
4 annually for vehicles they own or lease. A disabled veterans license plate shall  
5 expire on July 31.
- 6 (3) A recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or Air Force Cross  
7 shall be eligible for a Service Cross license plate upon submission of an application  
8 to the Kentucky Department of Veterans' Affairs. The recipient shall be required to  
9 include with the initial application for a Service Cross license plate a copy of the  
10 general order that authorized the award and the recipient's Department of Defense  
11 form number 214. The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall verify the  
12 documentation submitted with the application for a Service Cross license plate, and  
13 if the individual applying for the plate is confirmed to be a recipient of the  
14 Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or Air Force Cross, the Department of  
15 Veterans' Affairs shall submit the applicant's name to the Transportation Cabinet's  
16 Division of Motor Vehicle Licensing not later than September 1 preceding the year  
17 that the Service Cross license plate is to be initially issued or renewed. When the  
18 Service Cross license plate is ready, the plate shall be sent to the county clerk in the  
19 county of the applicant's residence. The Transportation Cabinet's Division of Motor  
20 Vehicle Licensing shall inform each applicant in writing that the Service Cross  
21 license plate is ready and may be picked up at the county clerk's office. The  
22 Transportation Cabinet shall prescribe the type of application form required by this  
23 subsection and shall supply the Department of Veterans' Affairs with the application  
24 form required by this subsection.
- 25 (4) A person who is a former prisoner of the enemy during World War I, World War II,  
26 the Korean War, or the Vietnam War, or the spouse of a deceased former prisoner  
27 of war, shall be eligible for a former prisoner of war license plate by submitting

1 written proof from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or other  
2 appropriate federal agency stating the period of time the person or person's spouse  
3 was a prisoner of war. If a former prisoner of war dies with a vehicle licensed as  
4 authorized under this section, the person's surviving spouse may retain the license  
5 plate for use on the same vehicle or on another vehicle that complies with KRS  
6 186.164(7).

7 (5) A person who is certified by the Kentucky chapter of the Pearl Harbor Survivors  
8 Association as being a survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor shall be eligible for a  
9 Pearl Harbor license plate and shall be required to attach to the special military-  
10 related license plate application written evidence from the Kentucky chapter of the  
11 Pearl Harbor Survivors Association that the person:

12 (a) Was a member of the United States Armed Forces on December 7, 1941;

13 (b) Was on station on December 7, 1941, during the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45  
14 a.m., Hawaii time, at Pearl Harbor, the island of Oahu, or offshore at a  
15 distance not to exceed three (3) miles;

16 (c) Was discharged honorably from the United States Armed Forces; and

17 (d) Is certified by the Kentucky chapter of the Pearl Harbor Survivors  
18 Association.

19 (6) A person who is eligible to receive a Gold Star Mothers, Gold Star Fathers, or Gold  
20 Star Spouses license plate under KRS 186.164(15)(a) may receive up to two (2)  
21 Gold Star Mothers, Gold Star Fathers, or Gold Star Spouses license plates free of  
22 charge and may purchase additional license plates by paying the same fee as for  
23 special military-related plates issued under KRS 186.162(2)(d) annually for vehicles  
24 he or she owns or leases.

25 (7) The surviving spouse of a Purple Heart recipient, or a Kentucky National Guard  
26 member or a retired member, who possessed a vehicle licensed with the Purple  
27 Heart recipient special license plate or the Kentucky National Guard special license

1 plate, may retain the license plate for use on the same vehicle or another vehicle that  
2 complies with KRS 186.164(7). The surviving spouse may renew the license plate  
3 indefinitely, provided the appropriate registration fee is paid annually.

4 (8) A person who is attending or who is a graduate of the United States Air Force  
5 Academy, the United States Military Academy, the United States Naval Academy,  
6 the United States Coast Guard Academy, or the United States Merchant Marine  
7 Academy shall be eligible for a special military service academy license plate. A  
8 special military service academy license plate under this subsection shall use the  
9 same plate template as the standard special military license plate under subsection  
10 (1) of this section, with stickers to identify the various service academies. The  
11 Transportation Cabinet shall promulgate administrative regulations pursuant to  
12 KRS Chapter 13A to establish the proof required to demonstrate current attendance  
13 at or graduation from a service academy. An eligible applicant may receive up to  
14 two (2) special military service academy license plates.

15 **(9) The legally married spouse of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States**  
16 **who meets the criteria for a special military license plate under subsection (1) of**  
17 **this section shall be eligible for a special military license plate. A special military**  
18 **license plate under this subsection shall use the same template as the standard**  
19 **special military license plate under subsection (1) of this section, with a sticker**  
20 **identifying the plate as that of a military spouse.**

21 **(10) Prior to receiving a special military-related plate requested under subsection (1)**  
22 **of this section, the applicant shall present one (1) of the following as proof of**  
23 **veteran status:**

24 **(a) An original or copy of his or her Veteran Identification Card or Veteran**  
25 **Health Identification Card issued by the United States Department of**  
26 **Veterans Affairs, or a DD-214, DD-256, DD-257, or NGB-22 form; or**

27 **(b) A current military or Geneva Conventions identification card establishing**

1                   *current service, dependent status, or retirement status in the Armed Forces*  
2                   *of the United States.*

3                   ➔Section 2. KRS 186.416 is amended to read as follows:

- 4                   (1) If a resident of the Commonwealth currently serving in the United States military is  
5                   stationed or assigned to a base or other location outside the boundaries of the  
6                   Commonwealth, the resident, or the resident's spouse or dependents, may renew a  
7                   Class D operator's license issued under this section by mail. If the resident, or his or  
8                   her spouse or dependents, was issued an "under 21" operator's license, upon the date  
9                   of the license holder's twenty-first birthday, the "under 21" operator's license may be  
10                  renewed for an operator's license that no longer contains the outdated reference to  
11                  being "under 21."
- 12                  (2) A resident of the Commonwealth renewing an operator's license by mail under  
13                  subsection (1) of this section may have a personal designee apply to the circuit clerk  
14                  on behalf of the resident to renew the resident's operator's license. An operator's  
15                  license being renewed by mail under subsection (1) of this section shall be issued a  
16                  license without a photograph if there is no photo on file. If there is no photo on file,  
17                  the license shall show in the space provided for the photograph the legend "valid  
18                  without photo and signature."
- 19                  (3) (a) 1. If a resident of the Commonwealth has been serving in the United States  
20                  military stationed or assigned to a base or other location outside the  
21                  boundaries of the Commonwealth and has allowed his or her operator's  
22                  license to expire, he or she shall, within ninety (90) days of returning to  
23                  the Commonwealth, be permitted to renew his or her license without  
24                  having to take a written test or road test.
- 25                  2. The spouse or dependent of a person identified in subparagraph 1. of this  
26                  paragraph shall be afforded the same consideration identified in that  
27                  subparagraph regarding the renewal of an expired operator's license.

- 1 (b) A person who meets the criteria in paragraph (a) of this subsection shall not be  
2 convicted or cited for driving on an expired license prior to license renewal  
3 during the ninety (90) days after the person's return to the Commonwealth if  
4 the person can provide proof of his or her out-of-state service and dates of  
5 assignment.
- 6 (c) A person who meets the criteria in paragraph (a) of this subsection and who  
7 does not renew his or her license within ninety (90) days of returning to the  
8 Commonwealth shall be required to comply with the provisions of this chapter  
9 governing renewal of a license that has expired.
- 10 (d) If a resident of the Commonwealth has been issued an "under 21" or "under 21  
11 CDL" operator's license and the person is unable to renew the license on the  
12 date of his or her twenty-first birthday, the "under 21" or "under 21 CDL"  
13 operator's license shall be valid for ninety (90) days beyond the date of the  
14 person's twenty-first birthday.
- 15 (4) (a) Any person who served in the active Armed Forces of the United States,  
16 including the Coast Guard, and any member of the National Guard or Reserve  
17 Component who completed the member's term of service and was released,  
18 separated, discharged, or retired therefrom under either an honorable  
19 discharge or a general under honorable conditions discharge may, at the time  
20 of initial application or application for renewal or duplicate, request that an  
21 operator's license or a personal identification card issued under this chapter  
22 bear the word "veteran" on the face or the back of the license or personal  
23 identification card.
- 24 (b) The designation shall be in a style and format considered appropriate by the  
25 Transportation Cabinet. Prior to obtaining a designation requested under this  
26 subsection, the applicant shall present the circuit clerk *with one (1) of the*  
27 *following as proof of veteran status:*

