

HOUSE BILL No. 2558

By Committee on Veterans and Military

Requested by Representative Garber on behalf of Alan Thagard

1-22

1 AN ACT concerning motor vehicles; relating to license plates; providing
2 for the armed services occupation medal distinctive license plate;
3 amending K.S.A. 8-1,147 and K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 8-1,141 and repealing
4 the existing sections.
5

6 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

7 New Section 1. (a) On and after January 1, 2025, any owner or lessee
8 of one or more passenger vehicles, trucks registered for a gross weight of
9 20,000 pounds or less or motorcycles, who is a resident of the state of
10 Kansas, and who submits satisfactory proof to the director of vehicles that
11 such person is a recipient of the Army of occupation medal or the Navy
12 occupation service medal, upon compliance with the provisions of this
13 section, may be issued one armed services occupation medal license plate
14 for each such passenger vehicle, truck or motorcycle. Such license plates
15 shall be issued for the same period of time as other license plates upon
16 proper registration and payment of the regular license fee as provided in
17 K.S.A. 8-143, and amendments thereto.

18 (b) Any person who is a recipient of the Army of occupation medal or
19 the Navy occupation service medal may make application for such
20 distinctive license plates, not less than 60 days prior to such person's
21 renewal of registration date, on a form prescribed and furnished by the
22 director of vehicles, and any applicant for the distinctive plates shall
23 furnish the director with proof as the director shall require that the
24 applicant is a recipient of the Army of occupation medal or the Navy
25 occupation service medal. Application for the registration of a passenger
26 vehicle, truck or motorcycle and issuance of the license plates under this
27 section shall be made by the owner or lessee in a manner prescribed by the
28 director of vehicles upon forms furnished by the director.

29 (c) No registration or distinctive license plates issued under the
30 authority of this section shall be transferable to any other person.

31 (d) Renewals of registration under this section shall be made
32 annually, upon payment of the fee prescribed in K.S.A. 8-143, and
33 amendments thereto, and in the manner prescribed in K.S.A. 8-132, and
34 amendments thereto. No renewal of registration shall be made to any
35 applicant until such applicant has filed with the director a form as provided

1 in subsection (b). If such form is not filed, the applicant shall be required
2 to comply with K.S.A. 8-143, and amendments thereto, and return the
3 distinctive license plates to the county treasurer of such person's residence.

4 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 8-1,141 is hereby amended to read as
5 follows: 8-1,141. (a) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), any new
6 distinctive license plate authorized for issuance on and after July 1, 1994,
7 shall be subject to the personalized license plate fee prescribed by K.S.A.
8 8-132(d), and amendments thereto. This section shall not apply to any
9 distinctive license plate authorized prior to July 1, 1994.

10 (2) On and after January 1, 2025, any distinctive license plate may be
11 a personalized license plate subject to the provisions of K.S.A. 8-132, and
12 amendments thereto. Any personalized distinctive license plate shall be
13 subject to a fee that is double the amount prescribed by K.S.A. 8-132(d),
14 and amendments thereto.

15 (b) The director of vehicles shall not issue any new distinctive license
16 plate unless there is a guarantee of an initial issuance of at least 250
17 license plates.

18 (c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to distinctive license
19 plates issued under the provisions of K.S.A. 8-177d, 8-1,145, 8-1,163, 8-
20 1,166, 8-1,185, 8-1,186, 8-1,187, 8-1,188, 8-1,194, 8-1,195, 8-1,196, 8-
21 1,197, 8-1,198, 8-1,199, 8-1,204 or 8-1,205, and amendments thereto, *and*
22 *section 1, and amendments thereto*, except that such distinctive license
23 plates may be personalized license plates pursuant to subsection (a)(2) if
24 an applicant pays the personalized license plate fee prescribed by K.S.A.
25 8-132(d), and amendments thereto.

26 (d) The provisions of subsection (a) shall not apply to distinctive
27 license plates issued under the provisions of K.S.A. 8-1,146, 8-1,148, 8-
28 1,153, 8-1,158 or 8-1,161, and amendments thereto, except that such
29 distinctive license plates may be personalized license plates pursuant to
30 subsection (a)(2) if an applicant pays the personalized license plate fee
31 prescribed by K.S.A. 8-132(d), and amendments thereto.

32 (e) The provisions of subsection (f) shall not apply to distinctive
33 license plates issued under the provisions of K.S.A. 8-1,160; *and* 8-1,183,
34 *and amendments thereto*, and K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 8-1,211, and amendments
35 thereto, except that the division shall delay the manufacturing and issuance
36 of such distinctive license plate until the division has received not fewer
37 than 100 orders for such plate, including payment of the personalized
38 license plate fee required under subsection (a). Upon certification by the
39 director of vehicles to the director of accounts and reports that not less
40 than 100 paid orders for such plate have been received, the director of
41 accounts and reports shall transfer \$4,000 from the state highway fund to
42 the distinctive license plate fund.

43 (f) (1) Any person or organization sponsoring any distinctive license

1 plate authorized by the legislature shall submit to the division of vehicles a
2 nonrefundable amount not to exceed \$5,000, to defray the division's cost
3 for developing such distinctive license plate.

4 (2) All moneys received under this subsection shall be remitted by the
5 secretary of revenue to the state treasurer in accordance with the
6 provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments thereto. Upon receipt of
7 each such remittance, the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount in
8 the state treasury to the credit of the distinctive license plate fund which is
9 hereby created in the state treasury. All moneys credited to the distinctive
10 license plate fund shall be used by the department of revenue only for the
11 purpose associated with the development of distinctive license plates. All
12 expenditures from the distinctive license plate application fee fund shall be
13 made in accordance with appropriation acts, upon warrants of the director
14 of accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the
15 secretary of the department of revenue.

16 (g) The director of vehicles shall discontinue the issuance of any
17 distinctive license plate if:

18 (1) Fewer than 250 plates, including annual renewals, are issued for
19 that distinctive license plate by the end of the second year of sales; and

20 (2) fewer than 125 license plates, including annual renewals, are
21 issued for that distinctive license plate during any subsequent two-year
22 period.

23 (h) An application for any distinctive license plate issued and the
24 corresponding royalty fee may be collected either by the county treasurer
25 or the entity benefiting from the issuance of the distinctive license plate.
26 Annual royalty payments collected by the county treasurers shall be
27 remitted to the state treasurer in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A.
28 75-4215, and amendments thereto. Upon receipt of each such remittance
29 the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount in the state treasury to
30 the credit of a segregated royalty fund which shall be administered by the
31 state treasurer. All expenditures from the royalty fund shall be made in
32 accordance with appropriation acts upon warrants of the director of
33 accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the state
34 treasurer or the state treasurer's designee. Payments from the royalty fund
35 shall be made to the entity benefiting from the issuance of the distinctive
36 license plate on a monthly basis.

37 (i) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for any distinctive
38 license plate, the division shall produce such distinctive license plate for a
39 motorcycle upon request to the division by the organization sponsoring the
40 distinctive license plate.

41 (j) In addition to any residency requirements for all distinctive license
42 plates, any person not a resident of Kansas, serving as a member of the
43 armed forces stationed in this state shall be eligible to apply for any

1 distinctive license plate as if the individual was a resident of this state.
2 Such person shall be eligible to renew the distinctive license plate
3 registration as long as the person is still stationed in this state at the time
4 the registration is renewed.

5 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 8-1,147 is hereby amended to read as follows: 8-1,147.
6 In the event of the death of any person issued distinctive license plates
7 under the provisions of K.S.A. 8-161, 8-177a, 8-177c, 8-1,139, 8-1,140, 8-
8 1,145 or 8-1,146 or 8-177d, 8-1,163, 8-1,166, 8-1,185, 8-1,186, 8-1,187, 8-
9 1,188, 8-1,194, 8-1,195, 8-1,196, 8-1,197, 8-1,198, 8-1,199, 8-1,204 or 8-
10 1,205, and amendments thereto, *or section 1, and amendments thereto*, the
11 surviving spouse or other family member, if there is no surviving spouse,
12 shall be entitled to possession of any such distinctive license plates. Such
13 license plates shall not be displayed on any vehicle unless otherwise
14 authorized by statute.

15 Sec. 4. K.S.A. 8-1,147 and K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 8-1,141 are hereby
16 repealed.

17 Sec. 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
18 publication in the statute book.