

**ACT No. 53**

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 603

BY REPRESENTATIVES GADBERRY, ADAMS, AMEDEE, BAGLEY, BEAULLIEU, BRYANT, BUTLER, CARRIER, ROBBY CARTER, CORMIER, COUSSAN, COX, DUPLESSIS, ECHOLS, EDMONDS, FIRMENT, FISHER, FREIBERG, FRIEMAN, GAINES, GLOVER, HARRIS, HODGES, HORTON, ILLG, JEFFERSON, JENKINS, KERNER, LYONS, MACK, MARINO, MCFARLAND, DUSTIN MILLER, MOORE, NEWELL, CHARLES OWEN, PIERRE, RISER, SCHAMERHORN, SELDERS, THOMPSON, WHEAT, AND WHITE AND SENATORS BARROW, BERNARD, BOUIE, CARTER, FESI, HENRY, HEWITT, LAMBERT, LUNEAU, MCMATH, MILLIGAN, FRED MILLS, ROBERT MILLS, MIZELL, MORRIS, PEACOCK, PRICE, REESE, SMITH, STINE, TALBOT, TARVER, WARD, AND WOMACK

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 47:490.34 through 490.36, relative to military honor license plates; to provide  
3 for the establishment of a military honor license plate for women veterans,  
4 Commemorative Service recipients, and Military Medal Award recipients; to provide  
5 for the creation, issuance, fees, distribution, and rule promulgation applicable to the  
6 design of such plates; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 47:490.34 through 490.36 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §490.34. Military honor license plates; "Woman Veteran"; "Commemorative  
10 Service"; and "Military Medal Award"

11 A. The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall  
12 establish a military honor license plate to be known as the "Woman Veteran" plate.

13 B. Upon application of a "Woman Veteran" recipient, the secretary of the  
14 Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall issue a military honor license  
15 plate to be used in lieu of a regular motor vehicle registration plate. The license plate  
16 shall be restricted to use on passenger cars, pickup trucks, recreational vehicles,

1 motorcycles, and vans. The "Woman Veteran" plate shall include the seal of the  
2 veteran's branch of service and the words "Woman Veteran".

3 C. The charge for this license plate shall be the regular motor vehicle  
4 registration license fee as provided for under the provisions of R.S. 47:463.

5 D. The secretary shall adopt rules and regulations to implement the  
6 provisions of this Section, including but not limited to rules governing the transfer  
7 of license plates from one vehicle to another and the disposition of such license  
8 plates.

9 E.(1) Any applicant who qualifies for the military honor license plate  
10 authorized by this Section may be issued a license plate for each vehicle registered  
11 in the applicant's name.

12 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this Paragraph, each military honor  
13 license plate issued pursuant to this Section shall be returned to the secretary upon  
14 the death of the person to whom the license plate was issued. The surviving spouse  
15 of a person to whom a license plate was issued pursuant to this Section may retain  
16 a license plate issued pursuant to this Section, provided the surviving spouse has not  
17 remarried and provided the surviving spouse applies to the secretary for a transfer  
18 of the license plate to the surviving spouse. A military honor license plate  
19 transferred pursuant to this Paragraph to a surviving spouse shall be returned to the  
20 secretary upon the death or remarriage of the surviving spouse.

21 §490.35. Military honor license plates; "Commemorative Service" recipients

22 A.(1) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall  
23 establish a military honor license plate to be known as the "Commemorative Service"  
24 plate.

25 (2) This plate shall be made available to honorably discharged veterans who  
26 served in the following conflicts:

27 (a) Global War on Terrorism.

28 (b) War in Iraq.

29 (c) War in Afghanistan.

1           B. Upon application of a "Commemorative Service" recipient, the secretary  
2           of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall issue a military honor  
3           license plate to be used in lieu of a regular motor vehicle registration plate. The  
4           license plate shall be restricted to use on passenger cars, pickup trucks, recreational  
5           vehicles, motorcycles, and vans. The military honor license plate shall be known as  
6           the "Commemorative Service" license plate and shall include the seal of the veteran's  
7           branch of service, the name of the conflict, and the campaign ribbon.

8           C. The charge for this license plate shall be the regular motor vehicle  
9           registration license fee as provided for under the provisions of R.S. 47:463.

10          D. The secretary shall adopt rules and regulations to implement the  
11          provisions of this Section, including but not limited to rules governing the transfer  
12          of license plates from one vehicle to another and the disposition of such license  
13          plates.

14          E.(1) Any applicant who qualifies for the military honor license plate  
15          authorized by this Section may be issued a license plate for each vehicle registered  
16          in the applicant's name.

17          (2) Except as otherwise provided in this Paragraph, each military honor  
18          license plate issued pursuant to this Section shall be returned to the secretary upon  
19          the death of the person to whom the license plate was issued. The surviving spouse  
20          of a person to whom a license plate was issued pursuant to this Section may retain  
21          a license plate issued pursuant to this Section, provided the surviving spouse has not  
22          remarried and provided the surviving spouse applies to the secretary for a transfer  
23          of the license plate to the surviving spouse. A military honor license plate  
24          transferred pursuant to this Paragraph to a surviving spouse shall be returned to the  
25          secretary upon the death or remarriage of the surviving spouse.

26          §490.36. Military honor license plates; "Military Medal Award" recipients

27          A.(1) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall  
28          establish a military honor license plate to be known as the "Military Medal Award"  
29          plate.

1                   (2) This plate shall be made available to honorably discharged recipients, as  
2                   certified by the Department of Veteran's Affairs, of the following medal awards:

3                   (a) Navy Cross.

4                   (b) Air Force Cross.

5                   (c) Defense Distinguished Service Medal.

6                   (d) Homeland Security Distinguished Service Medal.

7                   (e) Distinguished Service Medal (Army).

8                   (f) Navy Distinguished Service Medal.

9                   (g) Air Force Distinguished Service Medal.

10                  (h) Coast Guard Distinguished Service Medal.

11                  (i) Silver Star.

12                  (j) Defense Superior Service Medal.

13                  (k) Legion of Merit.

14                  (l) Distinguished Flying Cross.

15                  (m) Air Medal.

16                  (n) Soldier's Medal.

17                  (o) Airman's Medal.

18                  (p) Navy and Marine Corps Medal.

19                  (q) Coast Guard Medal.

20                  B. Upon application of a "Military Medal Award" recipient, as certified by  
21                  the Department of Veteran's Affairs, the secretary of the Department of Public Safety  
22                  and Corrections shall issue a military honor license plate to be used in lieu of a  
23                  regular motor vehicle registration plate. The license plate shall be restricted to use  
24                  on passenger cars, pickup trucks, recreational vehicles, motorcycles, and vans. The  
25                  military honor license plate shall be known as the "Military Medal Award" license  
26                  plate and shall include the name of the veteran's branch of service and the name and  
27                  image of the medal.

28                  C. The charge for this license plate shall be the regular motor vehicle  
29                  registration license fee as provided for under the provisions of R.S. 47:463.

1           D. The secretary shall adopt rules and regulations to implement the  
2           provisions of this Section, including but not limited to rules governing the transfer  
3           of license plates from one vehicle to another and the disposition of such license  
4           plates.

5           E.(1) Any applicant who qualifies for the military honor license plate  
6           authorized by this Section may be issued a license plate for each vehicle registered  
7           in the applicant's name.

8           (2) Except as otherwise provided in this Paragraph, each military honor  
9           license plate issued pursuant to this Section shall be returned to the secretary upon  
10          the death of the person to whom the license plate was issued. The surviving spouse  
11          of a person to whom a license plate was issued pursuant to this Section may retain  
12          a license plate issued pursuant to this Section, provided the surviving spouse has not  
13          remarried and provided the surviving spouse applies to the secretary for a transfer  
14          of the license plate to the surviving spouse. A military honor license plate  
15          transferred pursuant to this Paragraph to a surviving spouse shall be returned to the  
16          secretary upon the death or remarriage of the surviving spouse.

17          Section 2. The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor  
18          vehicles, is hereby directed to create these military honor license plates when the applicable  
19          statutory provisions are met and its system is updated to accommodate the creation of new  
20          plates.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_