

SENATE BILL 1118

By White

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, to authorize issuance of United States army ranger license plates.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-203(c)(5)(G), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

( ) Army ranger;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-204(c)(1), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

( ) Army ranger;

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state, who is an active, retired, or honorably discharged member of a United States army ranger unit or who is a graduate of the United States army ranger school, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-204, shall be issued a United States army ranger license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by § 55-4-210(c).

(b) All applications pursuant to this section must be accompanied by military orders or other official documentation proving the applicant's eligibility for issuance of a license plate pursuant to this section, to include:

(1) Military orders detailing a current or past assignment to a United States army ranger unit;

(2) Military orders awarding the ranger tab authorized by the United States army to the applicant;

(3) The applicant's certificate of release or discharge from active duty, department of defense form 214 (DD 214), or report of separation and record of service, NGB form 22, indicating the awarding of the ranger tab; or

(4) The diploma issued to the applicant from the United States army ranger school, as proof of eligibility for issuance of a license plate pursuant to this section.

(c) In addition to providing the documentation required under subsection (b):

(1) An active duty member of the military must present a valid military identification card or such other document as the commissioner designates as sufficient proof that the applicant is an active duty member of the military; or

(2) A retired or honorably discharged member of the military must present:

(A) A certified copy of the member's certificate of release or discharge from active duty, department of defense form 214 (DD 214), honorable discharge certificate, department of defense form 256 (DD 256), or report of separation and record of service, NGB form 22, that indicates an honorable discharge characterization;

(B) A valid DD form 2 (Retired) military identification card; or

(C) A Tennessee driver license that indicates military service in accordance with § 55-50-354.

(d) The license plates are to feature a likeness of the ranger tab authorized by the United States army and bear the legend "U.S. Army Ranger."

(e) An applicant shall be required to submit the documentation required by subsections (b) and (c) only when initially applying for license plates under this section. Subsequent license plates under this section shall be issued to that person without the repeated presentation of documentation.

SECTION 4. This act takes effect July 1, 2021, the public welfare requiring it.