

HOUSE BILL NO. 96

INTRODUCED BY REAM

IN THE HOUSE

DECEMBER 31, 1992	INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION.
JANUARY 4, 1993	FIRST READING.
JANUARY 14, 1993	COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL DO PASS AS AMENDED. REPORT ADOPTED.
JANUARY 15, 1993	PRINTING REPORT.
JANUARY 16, 1993	ON MOTION, CONSIDERATION PASSED FOR THE DAY.
JANUARY 18, 1993	SECOND READING, DO PASS.
JANUARY 19, 1993	ENGROSSING REPORT.
	THIRD READING, PASSED. AYES, 97; NOES, 1.
	TRANSMITTED TO SENATE.

IN THE SENATE

JANUARY 20, 1993	INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION.
	FIRST READING.
FEBRUARY 13, 1993	COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL BE CONCURRED IN. REPORT ADOPTED.
FEBRUARY 15, 1993	SECOND READING, CONCURRED IN.
FEBRUARY 16, 1993	THIRD READING, CONCURRED IN. AYES, 47; NOES, 2.
	RETURNED TO HOUSE.

IN THE HOUSE

FEBRUARY 17, 1993	RECEIVED FROM SENATE.
	SENT TO ENROLLING.

REPORTED CORRECTLY ENROLLED.

HOUSE BILL NO. 96
INTRODUCED BY REAM

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OR RESERVE ARMED FORCES TO BE AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE MORE THAN ONE SET OF SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES; AMENDING SECTION 61-3-332, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 61-3-332, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-3-332. (Temporary) Number plates. (1) A motor vehicle that is driven upon the streets or highways of Montana must display both front and rear number plates, bearing the distinctive number assigned the vehicle. The number plates are in 10 series: one series for owners of motorcars, one for owners of motor vehicles of the motorcycle or quadricycle type, one for trailers, one for trucks, one for dealers in vehicles of the motorcycle or quadricycle type that bear the distinctive letters "MCD" or the letters "MC" and the word "DEALER", one for franchised dealers in new motorcars (including trucks and trailers) or new and used motorcars (including trucks and trailers) that bear the distinctive letter "D" or the word "DEALER", one for dealers in used motorcars only (including used trucks

and trailers) that bear the distinctive letters "UD" or the letter "U" and the word "DEALER", one for dealers in trailers and/or semitrailers (new or used) that bear the distinctive letters "DTR" or the letters "TR" and the word "DEALER", one for dealers in recreational vehicles that bear the distinctive letters "RV" or the letter "R" and the word "DEALER", and one for special license plates. All markings for the various kinds of dealers' plates must be placed on the number plates assigned thereto in the position that the department designates.

(2) All number plates for motor vehicles must be issued for a minimum period of 4 years, bear a distinctive marking, and be furnished by the state. In years when number plates are not issued, the department shall provide nonremovable stickers bearing appropriate registration numbers that must be affixed to the license plates in use.

(3) Subject to the provisions of this section, the department shall create a new design for number plates as provided in this section, ~~and it shall manufacture the newly designed number plates for issuance after January 17, 1991, to replace, at renewal as required in 61-3-312 and 61-3-314, number plates that were displayed on motor vehicles before that date.~~

(4) In the case of motorcars and trucks, plates must be of metal 6 inches wide and 12 inches in length. The outline

of the state of Montana must be used as a distinctive border on such the license plates, and the word "Montana" and the year must be placed across the plates. Such-registration Registration plates must be treated with a reflectorized background material according to specifications prescribed by the department.

(5) The distinctive registration numbers must begin with a number one or with a letter-number combination, such as "A 1" or "AA 1", or any other similar combination of letters and numbers. The distinctive registration number or letter-number combination assigned to the vehicle must appear on the plate preceded by the number of the county and appearing in horizontal order on the same horizontal baseline. The county number must be separated from the distinctive registration number by a separation mark unless a letter-number combination is used. The dimensions of such numerals and letters must be determined by the department, and all county and registration numbers must be of equal height.

(6) For the use of tax-exempt motor vehicles, in addition to the markings provided in this section, number plates must bear the following distinctive markings:

(a) For vehicles owned by the state, the department may designate the prefix number for the various state departments. All numbered plates issued to state departments

must bear the words "State Owned", and no a year number may not be indicated thereon on the plates because these numbered plates are of a permanent nature and will be replaced by the department only when the physical condition of numbered plates requires it.

(b) For vehicles that are owned by the counties, municipalities, irrigation districts organized under the laws of Montana and not operating for profit, and school districts and that are used and operated by officials and employees thereof in line of duty and for vehicles on loan from the United States government or the state of Montana to, or owned by, the civil air patrol and used and operated by officials and employees thereof in the line of duty, there must be placed on the number plates assigned thereto, in a position that the department may designate, the letter "X" or the word "EXEMPT". Distinctive registration numbers for plates assigned to motor vehicles of each of the counties in the state and those of the municipalities and school districts situated within each of the counties and those of the irrigation districts that obtain plates within each county must begin with number one and be numbered consecutively. Because these number plates are of a permanent nature, they are subject to replacement by the department only when the physical condition of the number plates requires it and a year number may not be displayed on

the number plates.

(7) On all number plates assigned to motor vehicles of the truck and trailer type, other than tax-exempt trucks and tax-exempt trailers, there must appear the letter "T" or the word "TRUCK" on plates assigned to trucks and the letters "TR" or the word "TRAILER" on plates assigned to trailers and housetrailer. The letters "MC" or the word "CYCLE" must appear on plates assigned to vehicles of the motorcycle or quadricycle type.

(8) Number plates issued to a passenger car, truck, trailer, or vehicle of the motorcycle or quadricycle type may be transferred only to a replacement passenger car, truck, trailer, or motorcycle- or quadricycle-type vehicle. No A registration or license fee may not be assessed upon a transfer of a number plate under 61-3-317 and 61-3-335.

(9) For the purpose of this chapter, the several counties of the state are assigned numbers as follows: Silver Bow, 1; Cascade, 2; Yellowstone, 3; Missoula, 4; Lewis and Clark, 5; Gallatin, 6; Flathead, 7; Fergus, 8; Powder River, 9; Carbon, 10; Phillips, 11; Hill, 12; Ravalli, 13; Custer, 14; Lake, 15; Dawson, 16; Roosevelt, 17; Beaverhead, 18; Chouteau, 19; Valley, 20; Toole, 21; Big Horn, 22; Musselshell, 23; Blaine, 24; Madison, 25; Pondera, 26; Richland, 27; Powell, 28; Rosebud, 29; Deer Lodge, 30; Teton, 31; Stillwater, 32; Treasure, 33; Sheridan, 34;

Sanders, 35; Judith Basin, 36; Daniels, 37; Glacier, 38; Fallon, 39; Sweet Grass, 40; McCone, 41; Carter, 42; Broadwater, 43; Wheatland, 44; Prairie, 45; Granite, 46; Meagher, 47; Liberty, 48; Park, 49; Garfield, 50; Jefferson, 51; Wibaux, 52; Golden Valley, 53; Mineral, 54; Petroleum, 55; Lincoln, 56. Any new counties must be assigned numbers by the department as they may be formed, beginning with the number 57.

(10) Each type of special license plate approved by the legislature, except collegiate license plates authorized in 61-3-463, must be a separate series of plates, numbered as provided in subsection (5), except that the county number must be replaced by a nonremovable design or decal designating the group or organization to which the applicant belongs. Unless otherwise specifically stated in this section, the special plates are subject to the same rules and laws as govern the issuance of regular license plates, must be placed or mounted on a vehicle owned by the person who is eligible to receive them, and must be removed upon sale or other disposition of the vehicle. The special license plates must be issued to national guard members, former prisoners of war, handicapped persons, reservists, disabled veterans, survivors of the Pearl Harbor attack, veterans of the armed services, or veterans of the armed services who were awarded the purple heart medal, who comply

1 with the following provisions:

2 (a) An active member of the Montana national guard may
3 be issued a special license plate plates with a design or
4 decal displaying the letters "NG". The adjutant general
5 shall issue to each active member of the Montana national
6 guard a certificate authorizing the department to issue one
7 set-of national guard plates, numbered in sets of two with a
8 different number on each set, and the member shall surrender
9 the plates to the department upon becoming ineligible to use
10 them.

11 (b) An active member of the reserve armed forces of the
12 United States of America who is a resident of this state may
13 be issued a special license plate plates with a design or
14 decal displaying the following: United States army reserve,
15 AR (symbol); United States naval reserve, NR (anchor);
16 United States air force reserve, AFR (symbol); and United
17 States marine corps reserve, MCR (globe and anchor). The
18 commanding officer of each armed forces reserve unit shall
19 issue to each eligible member of the reserve unit a
20 certificate authorizing the issuance of one-set-of special
21 license plates, numbered in sets of two with a different
22 number on each set. The member shall surrender the plates to
23 the department upon becoming ineligible to use them.

24 (c) A resident of Montana who is a veteran of the armed
25 forces of the United States and who is 100% disabled because

1 of an injury that has been determined by the department of
2 veterans affairs to be service-connected may, upon
3 presentation to the department of proof of the 100%
4 disability, be issued a special license plate under this
5 section with a design or decal displaying the letters "DV".

6 (i) The fee for original or renewal registration by a
7 100% disabled veteran for a passenger vehicle or a truck
8 with a GVW-rated capacity of 1 ton or less is \$5 and is in
9 lieu of all other fees and taxes for that vehicle under this
10 chapter.

11 (ii) Special license plates issued to a disabled veteran
12 are not transferable to another person.

13 (iii) A disabled veteran is not entitled to a special
14 license plate for more than one vehicle.

15 (iv) A vehicle lawfully displaying a disabled veteran's
16 plate and that is conveying a 100% disabled veteran is
17 entitled to the parking privileges allowed a handicapped
18 person's vehicle under this title.

19 (d) A Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed
20 forces of the United States and was captured and held
21 prisoner by a military force of a foreign nation, documented
22 by his the veteran's service record, may upon application
23 and presentation of proof be issued a special license plate
24 with a design or decal displaying the words "ex-prisoner of
25 war" or an abbreviation the department considers

appropriate.

(e) Upon payment of all taxes and fees required by parts 3 and 5 of this chapter and upon furnishing proof satisfactory to the department that the applicant meets the requirements of this subsection (e), the department shall issue to a Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed services of the United States special license plates, for one motor vehicle only, designed to indicate that the applicant is a survivor of the Pearl Harbor attack if the applicant was a member of the United States armed forces on December 7, 1941, was on station on December 7, 1941, during the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. (Hawaii time) at Pearl Harbor, the island of Oahu, or offshore at a distance of not more than 3 miles, and received an honorable discharge from the United States armed forces. If special license plates issued under this subsection are lost, stolen, or mutilated, the recipient of the plates is entitled to replacement plates upon request and without charge.

(f) A motor vehicle owner and resident of this state who is a veteran of the armed services of the United States may be issued license plates inscribed as provided in subsection (10)(f)(i) if he the person was separated from the armed services under other than dishonorable circumstances or was awarded the purple heart medal:

(i) Upon submission of proof, in a form prescribed by

the department, of his the person's qualification under this subsection, there must be issued to each applicant, in lieu of the regular license plates prescribed by law, special license plates numbered in sets of two with a different number on each set. The plates must display:

(A) the word "VETERAN" and a symbol signifying the United States army, United States navy, United States air force, United States marine corps, or United States coast guard, according to the record of service verified in the application; or

(B) a symbol representing the purple heart medal.

(ii) Plates must be furnished by the department to the county treasurer, who shall issue them to qualified veterans. The plates must be placed or mounted on the vehicle owned by the veteran designated in the application and must be removed upon sale or other disposition of the vehicle.

(iii) Each veteran who receives special license plates under this subsection (10)(f) is liable for payment of all taxes and fees required under parts 3 and 4 of this chapter and a special veteran's or purple heart medal license plate fee of \$10. Upon an original application for a license under this subsection (10)(f), the county treasurer shall:

(A) deposit \$3 of the special fee in the county general fund;

(B) remit \$1 for deposit in the state general fund; and

(C) deposit the remainder of the special fee in the state special revenue fund to the credit of the department of military affairs to be appropriated by the legislature for construction, operation, and maintenance of the state veterans' cemetery.

(iv) Upon subsequent annual renewal of registration, the county treasurer shall deposit all of the special fee as provided in subsection (10)(f)(iii)(C).

(g) A Montana resident who is eligible to receive a special parking permit under 49-4-301 may, upon written application on a form prescribed by the department, be issued a special license plate with a design or decal bearing a representation of a wheelchair as the symbol of the handicapped person. (Terminates July 1, 1996--sec. 4, Ch. 654, L. 1989.)

61-3-332. (Effective July 1, 1996) Number plates. (1) A motor vehicle that is driven upon the streets or highways of Montana must display both front and rear number plates, bearing the distinctive number assigned the vehicle. The number plates are in 10 series: one series for owners of motorcars, one for owners of motor vehicles of the motorcycle or quadricycle type, one for trailers, one for trucks, one for dealers in vehicles of the motorcycle or quadricycle type that bear the distinctive letters "MCD" or

the letters "MC" and the word "DEALER", one for franchised dealers in new motorcars (including trucks and trailers) or new and used motorcars (including trucks and trailers) that bear the distinctive letter "D" or the word "DEALER", one for dealers in used motorcars only (including used trucks and trailers) that bear the distinctive letters "UD" or the letter "U" and the word "DEALER", one for dealers in trailers and/or semitrailers (new or used) that bear the distinctive letters "DTR" or the letters "TR" and the word "DEALER", one for dealers in recreational vehicles that bear the distinctive letters "RV" or the letter "R" and the word "DEALER", and one for special license plates. All markings for the various kinds of dealers' plates must be placed on the number plates assigned thereto in the position that the department designates.

(2) All number plates for motor vehicles must be issued for a minimum period of 4 years, bear a distinctive marking, and be furnished by the state. In years when number plates are not issued, the department shall provide nonremovable stickers bearing appropriate registration numbers that must be affixed to the license plates in use.

(3) Subject to the provisions of this section, the department shall create a new design for number plates as provided in this section, and it shall manufacture the newly designed number plates for issuance after January 1, 1991.

~~to-replace-at-renewal-as-required-in-61-3-312-and-61-3-314,
number-plates-that-were-displayed-on-motor-vehicles-before
that-date.~~

(4) In the case of motorcars and trucks, number plates must be of metal 6 inches wide and 12 inches in length. For number plates issued after 1976, the outline of the state of Montana must be used as a distinctive border on such the license plates, and the word "Montana" and the year must be placed across the bottom of the plates. ~~Such-registration~~ Registration plates must be treated with a reflectorized background material according to specifications prescribed by the department.

(5) The distinctive registration numbers must begin with a number one or with a letter-number combination, such as "A 1" or "AA 1", or any other similar combination of letters and numbers and be numbered consecutively for each series of plates. The distinctive registration number or letter-number combination assigned to the vehicle must appear on the plate preceded by the number of the county and appearing in horizontal order on the same horizontal baseline. The county number must be separated from the distinctive registration number by a separation mark unless a letter-number combination is used. The dimensions of such numerals and letters must be determined by the department, and all county and registration numbers must be of equal

height.

(6) For the use of tax-exempt motor vehicles, in addition to the markings in this section provided, number plates must bear the following distinctive markings:

(a) For vehicles owned by the state, the department may designate the prefix number for the various state departments. All numbered plates issued to state departments must bear the words "State Owned", and no a year number may not be indicated thereon on the plates because these numbered plates are of a permanent nature and will be replaced by the department only when the physical condition of numbered plates requires it.

(b) For vehicles that are owned by the counties, municipalities, irrigation districts organized under the laws of Montana and not operating for profit, and school districts and that are used and operated by officials and employees thereof in line of duty and for vehicles on loan from the United States government or the state of Montana to, or owned by, the civil air patrol and used and operated by officials and employees thereof in the line of duty, there must be placed on the number plates assigned thereto, in a position that the department may designate, the letter "X" or the word "EXEMPT". Distinctive registration numbers for plates assigned to motor vehicles of each of the counties in the state and those of the municipalities and

school districts situated within each of the counties and those of the irrigation districts that obtain plates within each county must begin with number one and be numbered consecutively. Because these number plates are of a permanent nature, they are subject to replacement by the department only when the physical condition of the number plates requires it and a year number may not be displayed on the number plates.

(7) On all number plates assigned to motor vehicles of the truck and trailer type, other than tax-exempt trucks and tax-exempt trailers, there must appear the letter "T" or the word "TRUCK" on plates assigned to trucks and the letters "TR" or the word "TRAILER" on plates assigned to trailers and housetrailer. The letters "MC" or the word "CYCLE" must appear on plates assigned to vehicles of the motorcycle or quadricycle type.

(8) Number plates issued to a passenger car, truck, trailer, or vehicle of the motorcycle or quadricycle type may be transferred only to a replacement passenger car, truck, trailer, or motorcycle- or quadricycle-type vehicle. No A registration or license fee may not be assessed upon a transfer of a number plate under 61-3-317 and 61-3-335.

(9) For the purpose of this chapter, the several counties of the state are assigned numbers as follows: Silver Bow, 1; Cascade, 2; Yellowstone, 3; Missoula, 4;

Lewis and Clark, 5; Gallatin, 6; Flathead, 7; Fergus, 8; Powder River, 9; Carbon, 10; Phillips, 11; Hill, 12; Ravalli, 13; Custer, 14; Lake, 15; Dawson, 16; Roosevelt, 17; Beaverhead, 18; Chouteau, 19; Valley, 20; Toole, 21; Big Horn, 22; Musselshell, 23; Blaine, 24; Madison, 25; Pondera, 26; Richland, 27; Powell, 28; Rosebud, 29; Deer Lodge, 30; Teton, 31; Stillwater, 32; Treasure, 33; Sheridan, 34; Sanders, 35; Judith Basin, 36; Daniels, 37; Glacier, 38; Fallon, 39; Sweet Grass, 40; McCone, 41; Carter, 42; Broadwater, 43; Wheatland, 44; Prairie, 45; Granite, 46; Meagher, 47; Liberty, 48; Park, 49; Garfield, 50; Jefferson, 51; Wibaux, 52; Golden Valley, 53; Mineral, 54; Petroleum, 55; Lincoln, 56. Any new counties must be assigned numbers by the department as they may be formed, beginning with the number 57.

(10) Each type of special license plate approved by the legislature, except collegiate license plates authorized in 61-3-463, must be a separate series of plates, numbered as provided in subsection (5), except that the county number must be replaced by a nonremovable design or decal designating the group or organization to which the applicant belongs. Unless otherwise specifically stated in this section, the special plates are subject to the same rules and laws as govern the issuance of regular license plates, must be placed or mounted on a vehicle owned by the person

who is eligible to receive them, and must be removed upon sale or other disposition of the vehicle. The special license plates must be issued to national guard members, former prisoners of war, handicapped persons, reservists, disabled veterans, survivors of the Pearl Harbor attack, veterans of the armed services, or veterans of the armed services who were awarded the purple heart medal, who comply with the following provisions:

(a) An active member of the Montana national guard may be issued a special license plate plates with a design or decal displaying the letters "NG". The adjutant general shall issue to each active member of the Montana national guard a certificate authorizing the department to issue one set-of national guard plates, numbered in sets of two with a different number on each set, and the member shall surrender the plates to the department upon becoming ineligible to use them.

(b) An active member of the reserve armed forces of the United States of America who is a resident of this state may be issued a special license plate plates with a design or decal displaying the following: United States army reserve, AR (symbol); United States naval reserve, NR (anchor); United States air force reserve, AFR (symbol); and United States marine corps reserve, MCR (globe and anchor). The commanding officer of each armed forces reserve unit shall

issue to each eligible member of the reserve unit a certificate authorizing the issuance of one-set--of special license plates, numbered in sets of two with a different number on each set. The member shall surrender the plates to the department upon becoming ineligible to use them.

(c) A resident of Montana who is a veteran of the armed forces of the United States and who is 100% disabled because of an injury that has been determined by the department of veterans affairs to be service-connected may, upon presentation to the department of proof of the 100% disability, be issued a special license plate under this section with a design or decal displaying the letters "DV".

(i) The fee for original or renewal registration by a 100% disabled veteran for a passenger vehicle or a truck with a GVW-rated capacity of 1 ton or less is \$5 and is in lieu of all other fees and taxes for that vehicle under this chapter.

(ii) Special license plates issued to a disabled veteran are not transferable to another person.

(iii) A disabled veteran is not entitled to a special license plate for more than one vehicle.

(iv) A vehicle lawfully displaying a disabled veteran's plate and that is conveying a 100% disabled veteran is entitled to the parking privileges allowed a handicapped person's vehicle under this title.

(d) A Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed forces of the United States and was captured and held prisoner by a military force of a foreign nation, documented by his the veteran's service record, may upon application and presentation of proof be issued a special license plate with a design or decal displaying the words "ex-prisoner of war" or an abbreviation the department considers appropriate.

(e) Upon payment of all taxes and fees required by parts 3 and 5 of this chapter and upon furnishing proof satisfactory to the department that the applicant meets the requirements of this subsection (e), the department shall issue to a Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed services of the United States special license plates, for one motor vehicle only, designed to indicate that the applicant is a survivor of the Pearl Harbor attack if the applicant was a member of the United States armed forces on December 7, 1941, was on station on December 7, 1941, during the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. (Hawaii time) at Pearl Harbor, the island of Oahu, or offshore at a distance of not more than 3 miles, and received an honorable discharge from the United States armed forces. If special license plates issued under this subsection are lost, stolen, or mutilated, the recipient of the plates is entitled to replacement plates upon request and without charge.

(f) A motor vehicle owner and resident of this state who is a veteran of the armed services of the United States may be issued license plates inscribed as provided in subsection (10)(f)(i) if he the person was separated from the armed services under other than dishonorable circumstances or was awarded the purple heart medal:

(i) Upon submission of proof, in a form prescribed by the department, of his the person's qualification under this subsection, there must be issued to each applicant, in lieu of the regular license plates prescribed by law, special license plates numbered in sets of two with a different number on each set. The plates must display:

(A) the word "VETERAN" and a symbol signifying the United States army, United States navy, United States air force, United States marine corps, or United States coast guard, according to the record of service verified in the application; or

(B) a symbol representing the purple heart medal.

(ii) Plates must be furnished by the department to the county treasurer, who shall issue them to qualified veterans. The plates must be placed or mounted on the vehicle owned by the veteran designated in the application and must be removed upon sale or other disposition of the vehicle.

(iii) Each veteran who receives special license plates

under this subsection (10)(f) is liable for payment of all taxes and fees required under parts 3 and 4 of this chapter and a special veteran's or purple heart medal license plate fee of \$10. Upon an original application for a license under this subsection (10)(f), the county treasurer shall:

(A) deposit \$3 of the special fee in the county general fund;

(B) remit \$1 for deposit in the state general fund; and

(C) deposit the remainder of the special fee in the state special revenue fund to the credit of the department of military affairs to be appropriated by the legislature for construction, operation, and maintenance of the state veterans' cemetery.

(iv) Upon subsequent annual renewal of registration, the county treasurer shall deposit all of the special fee as provided in subsection (10)(f)(iii)(C).

(g) A Montana resident who is eligible to receive a special parking permit under 49-4-301 may, upon written application on a form prescribed by the department, be issued a special license plate with a design or decal bearing a representation of a wheelchair as the symbol of the handicapped person."

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Effective date. [This act] is effective January 1, 1994.

-End-

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
ON HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION

HOUSE BILL NO. 96

INTRODUCED BY REAM

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING HOLDERS OF
"PRISONER OF WAR" AND "SURVIVOR OF PEARL HARBOR" SPECIAL
LICENSE PLATES AND MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OR RESERVE
ARMED FORCES TO BE AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE MORE THAN ONE SET
OF SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES; AMENDING SECTION 61-3-332, MCA;
AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 61-3-332, MCA, is amended to read:

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vehicle that is driven upon the streets or highways of
Montana must display both front and rear number plates,
bearing the distinctive number assigned the vehicle. The
number plates are in 10 series: one series for owners of
motorcars, one for owners of motor vehicles of the
motorcycle or quadricycle type, one for trailers, one for
trucks, one for dealers in vehicles of the motorcycle or
quadricycle type that bear the distinctive letters "MCD" or
the letters "MC" and the word "DEALER", one for franchised
dealers in new motorcars (including trucks and trailers) or
new and used motorcars (including trucks and trailers) that
bear the distinctive letter "D" or the word "DEALER", one

for dealers in used motorcars only (including used trucks
and trailers) that bear the distinctive letters "UD" or the
letter "U" and the word "DEALER", one for dealers in
trailers and/or semitrailers (new or used) that bear the
distinctive letters "DTR" or the letters "TR" and the word
"DEALER", one for dealers in recreational vehicles that bear
the distinctive letters "RV" or the letter "R" and the word
"DEALER", and one for special license plates. All markings
for the various kinds of dealers' plates must be placed on
the number plates assigned thereto in the position that the
department designates.

(2) All number plates for motor vehicles must be issued
for a minimum period of 4 years, bear a distinctive marking,
and be furnished by the state. In years when number plates
are not issued, the department shall provide nonremovable
stickers bearing appropriate registration numbers that must
be affixed to the license plates in use.

(3) Subject to the provisions of this section, the
department shall create a new design for number plates as
provided in this section, and it shall manufacture the newly
designed number plates for issuance after January 1, 1991,
to replace, at renewal as required in 61-3-312 and 61-3-314,
number plates that were displayed on motor vehicles before
that date.

(4) In the case of motorcars and trucks, plates must be

1 of metal 6 inches wide and 12 inches in length. The outline
 2 of the state of Montana must be used as a distinctive border
 3 on such the license plates, and the word "Montana" and the
 4 year must be placed across the plates. Such--registration
 5 Registration plates must be treated with a reflectorized
 6 background material according to specifications prescribed
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8 (5) The distinctive registration numbers must begin
 9 with a number one or with a letter-number combination, such
 10 as "A 1" or "AA 1", or any other similar combination of
 11 letters and numbers. The distinctive registration number or
 12 letter-number combination assigned to the vehicle must
 13 appear on the plate preceded by the number of the county and
 14 appearing in horizontal order on the same horizontal
 15 baseline. The county number must be separated from the
 16 distinctive registration number by a separation mark unless
 17 a letter-number combination is used. The dimensions of such
 18 numerals and letters must be determined by the department,
 19 and all county and registration numbers must be of equal
 20 height.

21 (6) For the use of tax-exempt motor vehicles, in
 22 addition to the markings provided in this section, number
 23 plates must bear the following distinctive markings:

24 (a) For vehicles owned by the state, the department may
 25 designate the prefix number for the various state

1 departments. All numbered plates issued to state departments
 2 must bear the words "State Owned", and no a year number may
 3 not be indicated thereon on the plates because these
 4 numbered plates are of a permanent nature and will be
 5 replaced by the department only when the physical condition
 6 of numbered plates requires it.

7 (b) For vehicles that are owned by the counties,
 8 municipalities, irrigation districts organized under the
 9 laws of Montana and not operating for profit, and school
 10 districts and that are used and operated by officials and
 11 employees thereof in line of duty and for vehicles on loan
 12 from the United States government or the state of Montana
 13 to, or owned by, the civil air patrol and used and operated
 14 by officials and employees thereof in the line of duty,
 15 there must be placed on the number plates assigned thereto,
 16 in a position that the department may designate, the letter
 17 "X" or the word "EXEMPT". Distinctive registration numbers
 18 for plates assigned to motor vehicles of each of the
 19 counties in the state and those of the municipalities and
 20 school districts situated within each of the counties and
 21 those of the irrigation districts that obtain plates within
 22 each county must begin with number one and be numbered
 23 consecutively. Because these number plates are of a
 24 permanent nature, they are subject to replacement by the
 25 department only when the physical condition of the number

plates requires it and a year number may not be displayed on the number plates.

(7) On all number plates assigned to motor vehicles of the truck and trailer type, other than tax-exempt trucks and tax-exempt trailers, there must appear the letter "T" or the word "TRUCK" on plates assigned to trucks and the letters "TR" or the word "TRAILER" on plates assigned to trailers and housetrailer. The letters "MC" or the word "CYCLE" must appear on plates assigned to vehicles of the motorcycle or quadricycle type.

(8) Number plates issued to a passenger car, truck, trailer, or vehicle of the motorcycle or quadricycle type may be transferred only to a replacement passenger car, truck, trailer, or motorcycle- or quadricycle-type vehicle. No A registration or license fee may not be assessed upon a transfer of a number plate under 61-3-317 and 61-3-335.

(9) For the purpose of this chapter, the several counties of the state are assigned numbers as follows: Silver Bow, 1; Cascade, 2; Yellowstone, 3; Missoula, 4; Lewis and Clark, 5; Gallatin, 6; Flathead, 7; Fergus, 8; Powder River, 9; Carbon, 10; Phillips, 11; Hill, 12; Ravalli, 13; Custer, 14; Lake, 15; Dawson, 16; Roosevelt, 17; Beaverhead, 18; Chouteau, 19; Valley, 20; Toole, 21; Big Horn, 22; Musselshell, 23; Blaine, 24; Madison, 25; Pondera, 26; Richland, 27; Powell, 28; Rosebud, 29; Deer Lodge, 30;

Teton, 31; Stillwater, 32; Treasure, 33; Sheridan, 34; Sanders, 35; Judith Basin, 36; Daniels, 37; Glacier, 38; Fallon, 39; Sweet Grass, 40; McCone, 41; Carter, 42; Broadwater, 43; Wheatland, 44; Prairie, 45; Granite, 46; Meagher, 47; Liberty, 48; Park, 49; Garfield, 50; Jefferson, 51; Wibaux, 52; Golden Valley, 53; Mineral, 54; Petroleum, 55; Lincoln, 56. Any new counties must be assigned numbers by the department as they may be formed, beginning with the number 57.

(10) Each type of special license plate approved by the legislature, except collegiate license plates authorized in 61-3-463, must be a separate series of plates, numbered as provided in subsection (5), except that the county number must be replaced by a nonremovable design or decal designating the group or organization to which the applicant belongs. Unless otherwise specifically stated in this section, the special plates are subject to the same rules and laws as govern the issuance of regular license plates, must be placed or mounted on a vehicle owned by the person who is eligible to receive them, and must be removed upon sale or other disposition of the vehicle. The special license plates must be issued to national guard members, former prisoners of war, handicapped persons, reservists, disabled veterans, survivors of the Pearl Harbor attack, veterans of the armed services, or veterans of the armed

1 services who were awarded the purple heart medal, who comply
2 with the following provisions:

3 (a) An active member of the Montana national guard may
4 be issued a special license plate plates with a design or
5 decal displaying the letters "NG". The adjutant general
6 shall issue to each active member of the Montana national
7 guard a certificate authorizing the department to issue one
8 set-of national guard plates, numbered in sets of two with a
9 different number on each set, and the member shall surrender
10 the plates to the department upon becoming ineligible to use
11 them.

12 (b) An active member of the reserve armed forces of the
13 United States of America who is a resident of this state may
14 be issued a special license plate plates with a design or
15 decal displaying the following: United States army reserve,
16 AR (symbol); United States naval reserve, NR (anchor);
17 United States air force reserve, AFR (symbol); and United
18 States marine corps reserve, MCR (globe and anchor). The
19 commanding officer of each armed forces reserve unit shall
20 issue to each eligible member of the reserve unit a
21 certificate authorizing the issuance of one-set--of special
22 license plates, numbered in sets of two with a different
23 number on each set. The member shall surrender the plates to
24 the department upon becoming ineligible to use them.

25 (c) A resident of Montana who is a veteran of the armed

1 forces of the United States and who is 100% disabled because
2 of an injury that has been determined by the department of
3 veterans affairs to be service-connected may, upon
4 presentation to the department of proof of the 100%
5 disability, be issued a special license plate under this
6 section with a design or decal displaying the letters "DV".

7 (i) The fee for original or renewal registration by a
8 100% disabled veteran for a passenger vehicle or a truck
9 with a GVW-rated capacity of 1 ton or less is \$5 and is in
10 lieu of all other fees and taxes for that vehicle under this
11 chapter.

12 (ii) Special license plates issued to a disabled veteran
13 are not transferable to another person.

14 (iii) A disabled veteran is not entitled to a special
15 license plate for more than one vehicle.

16 (iv) A vehicle lawfully displaying a disabled veteran's
17 plate and that is conveying a 100% disabled veteran is
18 entitled to the parking privileges allowed a handicapped
19 person's vehicle under this title.

20 (d) A Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed
21 forces of the United States and was captured and held
22 prisoner by a military force of a foreign nation, documented
23 by his the veteran's service record, may upon application
24 and presentation of proof be issued a special license plate
25 PLATES, NUMBERED IN SETS OF TWO WITH A DIFFERENT NUMBER ON

1 EACH SET, with a design or decal displaying the words
 2 "ex-prisoner of war" or an abbreviation the department
 3 considers appropriate.

4 (e) Upon payment of all taxes and fees required by
 5 parts 3 and 5 of this chapter and upon furnishing proof
 6 satisfactory to the department that the applicant meets the
 7 requirements of this subsection (e), the department shall
 8 issue to a Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed
 9 services of the United States special license plates, for
 10 ~~one-motor-vehicle-only~~ NUMBERED IN SETS OF TWO WITH A
 11 DIFFERENT NUMBER ON EACH SET, designed to indicate that the
 12 applicant is a survivor of the Pearl Harbor attack if the
 13 applicant was a member of the United States armed forces on
 14 December 7, 1941, was on station on December 7, 1941, during
 15 the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. (Hawaii time) at Pearl
 16 Harbor, the island of Oahu, or offshore at a distance of not
 17 more than 3 miles, and received an honorable discharge from
 18 the United States armed forces. If special license plates
 19 issued under this subsection are lost, stolen, or mutilated,
 20 the recipient of the plates is entitled to replacement
 21 plates upon request and without charge.

22 (f) A motor vehicle owner and resident of this state
 23 who is a veteran of the armed services of the United States
 24 may be issued license plates inscribed as provided in
 25 subsection (10)(f)(i) if he the person was separated from

1 the armed services under other than dishonorable
 2 circumstances or was awarded the purple heart medal:

3 (i) Upon submission of proof, in a form prescribed by
 4 the department, of ~~his~~ the person's qualification under this
 5 subsection, there must be issued to each applicant, in lieu
 6 of the regular license plates prescribed by law, special
 7 license plates numbered in sets of two with a different
 8 number on each set. The plates must display:

9 (A) the word "VETERAN" and a symbol signifying the
 10 United States army, United States navy, United States air
 11 force, United States marine corps, or United States coast
 12 guard, according to the record of service verified in the
 13 application; or

14 (B) a symbol representing the purple heart medal.

15 (ii) Plates must be furnished by the department to the
 16 county treasurer, who shall issue them to qualified
 17 veterans. The plates must be placed or mounted on the
 18 vehicle owned by the veteran designated in the application
 19 and must be removed upon sale or other disposition of the
 20 vehicle.

21 (iii) Each veteran who receives special license plates
 22 under this subsection (10)(f) is liable for payment of all
 23 taxes and fees required under parts 3 and 4 of this chapter
 24 and a special veteran's or purple heart medal license plate
 25 fee of \$10. Upon an original application for a license under

1 this subsection (10)(f), the county treasurer shall:

2 (A) deposit \$3 of the special fee in the county general
3 fund;

4 (B) remit \$1 for deposit in the state general fund; and

5 (C) deposit the remainder of the special fee in the
6 state special revenue fund to the credit of the department
7 of military affairs to be appropriated by the legislature
8 for construction, operation, and maintenance of the state
9 veterans' cemetery.

10 (iv) Upon subsequent annual renewal of registration, the
11 county treasurer shall deposit all of the special fee as
12 provided in subsection (10)(f)(iii)(C).

13 (g) A Montana resident who is eligible to receive a
14 special parking permit under 49-4-301 may, upon written
15 application on a form prescribed by the department, be
16 issued a special license plate with a design or decal
17 bearing a representation of a wheelchair as the symbol of
18 the handicapped person. (Terminates July 1, 1996--sec. 4,
19 Ch. 654, L. 1989.)

20 61-3-332. (Effective July 1, 1996) Number plates. (1) A
21 motor vehicle that is driven upon the streets or highways of
22 Montana must display both front and rear number plates,
23 bearing the distinctive number assigned the vehicle. The
24 number plates are in 10 series: one series for owners of
25 motorcars, one for owners of motor vehicles of the

1 motorcycle or quadricycle type, one for trailers, one for
2 trucks, one for dealers in vehicles of the motorcycle or
3 quadricycle type that bear the distinctive letters "MCD" or
4 the letters "MC" and the word "DEALER", one for franchised
5 dealers in new motorcars (including trucks and trailers) or
6 new and used motorcars (including trucks and trailers) that
7 bear the distinctive letter "D" or the word "DEALER", one
8 for dealers in used motorcars only (including used trucks
9 and trailers) that bear the distinctive letters "UD" or the
10 letter "U" and the word "DEALER", one for dealers in
11 trailers and/or semitrailers (new or used) that bear the
12 distinctive letters "DTR" or the letters "TR" and the word
13 "DEALER", one for dealers in recreational vehicles that bear
14 the distinctive letters "RV" or the letter "R" and the word
15 "DEALER", and one for special license plates. All markings
16 for the various kinds of dealers' plates must be placed on
17 the number plates assigned thereto in the position that the
18 department designates.

19 (2) All number plates for motor vehicles must be issued
20 for a minimum period of 4 years, bear a distinctive marking,
21 and be furnished by the state. In years when number plates
22 are not issued, the department shall provide nonremovable
23 stickers bearing appropriate registration numbers that must
24 be affixed to the license plates in use.

25 (3) Subject to the provisions of this section, the

department shall create a new design for number plates as provided in this section ~~and it shall manufacture the newly designed number plates for issuance after January 17, 1991, to replace, at renewal as required in 61-3-312 and 61-3-314, number plates that were displayed on motor vehicles before that date.~~

(4) In the case of motorcars and trucks, number plates must be of metal 6 inches wide and 12 inches in length. ~~For number plates issued after 1976, the~~ THE outline of the state of Montana must be used as a distinctive border on ~~such the~~ license plates, and the word "Montana" and the year must be placed across the ~~bottom of the~~ plates. Such registration Registration plates must be treated with a reflectorized background material according to specifications prescribed by the department.

(5) The distinctive registration numbers must begin with a number one or with a letter-number combination, such as "A 1" or "AA 1", or any other similar combination of letters and numbers ~~and be numbered consecutively for each series of plates.~~ The distinctive registration number or letter-number combination assigned to the vehicle must appear on the plate preceded by the number of the county and appearing in horizontal order on the same horizontal baseline. The county number must be separated from the distinctive registration number by a separation mark unless

a letter-number combination is used. The dimensions of such numerals and letters must be determined by the department, and all county and registration numbers must be of equal height.

(6) For the use of tax-exempt motor vehicles, in addition to the markings PROVIDED in this section provided, number plates must bear the following distinctive markings:

(a) For vehicles owned by the state, the department may designate the prefix number for the various state departments. All numbered plates issued to state departments must bear the words "State Owned", and ~~no a~~ year number may not be indicated thereon on the plates because these numbered plates are of a permanent nature and will be replaced by the department only when the physical condition of numbered plates requires it.

(b) For vehicles that are owned by the counties, municipalities, irrigation districts organized under the laws of Montana and not operating for profit, and school districts and that are used and operated by officials and employees thereof in line of duty and for vehicles on loan from the United States government or the state of Montana to, or owned by, the civil air patrol and used and operated by officials and employees thereof in the line of duty, there must be placed on the number plates assigned thereto, in a position that the department may designate, the letter

"X" or the word "EXEMPT". Distinctive registration numbers for plates assigned to motor vehicles of each of the counties in the state and those of the municipalities and school districts situated within each of the counties and those of the irrigation districts that obtain plates within each county must begin with number one and be numbered consecutively. Because these number plates are of a permanent nature, they are subject to replacement by the department only when the physical condition of the number plates requires it and a year number may not be displayed on the number plates.

(7) On all number plates assigned to motor vehicles of the truck and trailer type, other than tax-exempt trucks and tax-exempt trailers, there must appear the letter "T" or the word "TRUCK" on plates assigned to trucks and the letters "TR" or the word "TRAILER" on plates assigned to trailers and housetrailer. The letters "MC" or the word "CYCLE" must appear on plates assigned to vehicles of the motorcycle or quadricycle type.

(8) Number plates issued to a passenger car, truck, trailer, or vehicle of the motorcycle or quadricycle type may be transferred only to a replacement passenger car, truck, trailer, or motorcycle- or quadricycle-type vehicle. No A registration or license fee may not be assessed upon a transfer of a number plate under 61-3-317 and 61-3-335.

(9) For the purpose of this chapter, the several counties of the state are assigned numbers as follows: Silver Bow, 1; Cascade, 2; Yellowstone, 3; Missoula, 4; Lewis and Clark, 5; Gallatin, 6; Flathead, 7; Fergus, 8; Powder River, 9; Carbon, 10; Phillips, 11; Hill, 12; Ravalli, 13; Custer, 14; Lake, 15; Dawson, 16; Roosevelt, 17; Beaverhead, 18; Chouteau, 19; Valley, 20; Toole, 21; Big Horn, 22; Musselshell, 23; Blaine, 24; Madison, 25; Pondera, 26; Richland, 27; Powell, 28; Rosebud, 29; Deer Lodge, 30; Teton, 31; Stillwater, 32; Treasure, 33; Sheridan, 34; Sanders, 35; Judith Basin, 36; Daniels, 37; Glacier, 38; Fallon, 39; Sweet Grass, 40; McCone, 41; Carter, 42; Broadwater, 43; Wheatland, 44; Prairie, 45; Granite, 46; Meagher, 47; Liberty, 48; Park, 49; Garfield, 50; Jefferson, 51; Wibaux, 52; Golden Valley, 53; Mineral, 54; Petroleum, 55; Lincoln, 56. Any new counties must be assigned numbers by the department as they may be formed, beginning with the number 57.

(10) Each type of special license plate approved by the legislature, except collegiate license plates authorized in 61-3-463, must be a separate series of plates, numbered as provided in subsection (5), except that the county number must be replaced by a nonremovable design or decal designating the group or organization to which the applicant belongs. Unless otherwise specifically stated in this

1 section, the special plates are subject to the same rules
 2 and laws as govern the issuance of regular license plates,
 3 must be placed or mounted on a vehicle owned by the person
 4 who is eligible to receive them, and must be removed upon
 5 sale or other disposition of the vehicle. The special
 6 license plates must be issued to national guard members,
 7 former prisoners of war, handicapped persons, reservists,
 8 disabled veterans, survivors of the Pearl Harbor attack,
 9 veterans of the armed services, or veterans of the armed
 10 services who were awarded the purple heart medal, who comply
 11 with the following provisions:

12 (a) An active member of the Montana national guard may
 13 be issued a special license plate plates with a design or
 14 decal displaying the letters "NG". The adjutant general
 15 shall issue to each active member of the Montana national
 16 guard a certificate authorizing the department to issue one
 17 set-of national guard plates, numbered in sets of two with a
 18 different number on each set, and the member shall surrender
 19 the plates to the department upon becoming ineligible to use
 20 them.

21 (b) An active member of the reserve armed forces of the
 22 United States of America who is a resident of this state may
 23 be issued a special license plate plates with a design or
 24 decal displaying the following: United States army reserve,
 25 AR (symbol); United States naval reserve, NR (anchor);

1 United States air force reserve, AFR (symbol); and United
 2 States marine corps reserve, MCR (globe and anchor). The
 3 commanding officer of each armed forces reserve unit shall
 4 issue to each eligible member of the reserve unit a
 5 certificate authorizing the issuance of one-set--of special
 6 license plates, numbered in sets of two with a different
 7 number on each set. The member shall surrender the plates to
 8 the department upon becoming ineligible to use them.

9 (c) A resident of Montana who is a veteran of the armed
 10 forces of the United States and who is 100% disabled because
 11 of an injury that has been determined by the department of
 12 veterans affairs to be service-connected may, upon
 13 presentation to the department of proof of the 100%
 14 disability, be issued a special license plate under this
 15 section with a design or decal displaying the letters "DV".

16 (i) The fee for original or renewal registration by a
 17 100% disabled veteran for a passenger vehicle or a truck
 18 with a GVW-rated capacity of 1 ton or less is \$5 and is in
 19 lieu of all other fees and taxes for that vehicle under this
 20 chapter.

21 (ii) Special license plates issued to a disabled veteran
 22 are not transferable to another person.

23 (iii) A disabled veteran is not entitled to a special
 24 license plate for more than one vehicle.

25 (iv) A vehicle lawfully displaying a disabled veteran's

1 plate and that is conveying a 100% disabled veteran is
2 entitled to the parking privileges allowed a handicapped
3 person's vehicle under this title.

4 (d) A Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed
5 forces of the United States and was captured and held
6 prisoner by a military force of a foreign nation, documented
7 by his the veteran's service record, may upon application
8 and presentation of proof be issued a special license plate
9 PLATES, NUMBERED IN SETS OF TWO WITH A DIFFERENT NUMBER ON
10 EACH SET, with a design or decal displaying the words
11 "ex-prisoner of war" or an abbreviation the department
12 considers appropriate.

13 (e) Upon payment of all taxes and fees required by
14 parts 3 and 5 of this chapter and upon furnishing proof
15 satisfactory to the department that the applicant meets the
16 requirements of this subsection (e), the department shall
17 issue to a Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed
18 services of the United States special license plates, for
19 one-motor-vehicle-only NUMBERED IN SETS OF TWO WITH A
20 DIFFERENT NUMBER ON EACH SET, designed to indicate that the
21 applicant is a survivor of the Pearl Harbor attack if the
22 applicant was a member of the United States armed forces on
23 December 7, 1941, was on station on December 7, 1941, during
24 the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. (Hawaii time) at Pearl
25 Harbor, the island of Oahu, or offshore at a distance of not

1 more than 3 miles, and received an honorable discharge from
2 the United States armed forces. If special license plates
3 issued under this subsection are lost, stolen, or mutilated,
4 the recipient of the plates is entitled to replacement
5 plates upon request and without charge.

6 (f) A motor vehicle owner and resident of this state
7 who is a veteran of the armed services of the United States
8 may be issued license plates inscribed as provided in
9 subsection (10)(f)(i) if he the person was separated from
10 the armed services under other than dishonorable
11 circumstances or was awarded the purple heart medal:

12 (i) Upon submission of proof, in a form prescribed by
13 the department, of his the person's qualification under this
14 subsection, there must be issued to each applicant, in lieu
15 of the regular license plates prescribed by law, special
16 license plates numbered in sets of two with a different
17 number on each set. The plates must display:

18 (A) the word "VETERAN" and a symbol signifying the
19 United States army, United States navy, United States air
20 force, United States marine corps, or United States coast
21 guard, according to the record of service verified in the
22 application; or

23 (B) a symbol representing the purple heart medal.

24 (ii) Plates must be furnished by the department to the
25 county treasurer, who shall issue them to qualified

1 veterans. The plates must be placed or mounted on the
2 vehicle owned by the veteran designated in the application
3 and must be removed upon sale or other disposition of the
4 vehicle.

5 (iii) Each veteran who receives special license plates
6 under this subsection (10)(f) is liable for payment of all
7 taxes and fees required under parts 3 and 4 of this chapter
8 and a special veteran's or purple heart medal license plate
9 fee of \$10. Upon an original application for a license under
10 this subsection (10)(f), the county treasurer shall:

11 (A) deposit \$3 of the special fee in the county general
12 fund;

13 (B) remit \$1 for deposit in the state general fund; and

14 (C) deposit the remainder of the special fee in the
15 state special revenue fund to the credit of the department
16 of military affairs to be appropriated by the legislature
17 for construction, operation, and maintenance of the state
18 veterans' cemetery.

19 (iv) Upon subsequent annual renewal of registration, the
20 county treasurer shall deposit all of the special fee as
21 provided in subsection (10)(f)(iii)(C).

22 (g) A Montana resident who is eligible to receive a
23 special parking permit under 49-4-301 may, upon written
24 application on a form prescribed by the department, be
25 issued a special license plate with a design or decal

1 bearing a representation of a wheelchair as the symbol of
2 the handicapped person."

3 NEW SECTION. **Section 2.** Effective date. [This act] is
4 effective January 1, 1994.

-End-

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 96

2 INTRODUCED BY REAM

3
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING HOLDERS OF
5 "PRISONER OF WAR" AND "SURVIVOR OF PEARL HARBOR" SPECIAL
6 LICENSE PLATES AND MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OR RESERVE
7 ARMED FORCES TO BE AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE MORE THAN ONE SET
8 OF SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES; AMENDING SECTION 61-3-332, MCA;
9 AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

10
11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

12 Section 1. Section 61-3-332, MCA, is amended to read:

13 "61-3-332. (Temporary) Number plates. (1) A motor
14 vehicle that is driven upon the streets or highways of
15 Montana must display both front and rear number plates,
16 bearing the distinctive number assigned the vehicle. The
17 number plates are in 10 series: one series for owners of
18 motorcars, one for owners of motor vehicles of the
19 motorcycle or quadricycle type, one for trailers, one for
20 trucks, one for dealers in vehicles of the motorcycle or
21 quadricycle type that bear the distinctive letters "MCD" or
22 the letters "MC" and the word "DEALER", one for franchised
23 dealers in new motorcars (including trucks and trailers) or
24 new and used motorcars (including trucks and trailers) that
25 bear the distinctive letter "D" or the word "DEALER", one

1 for dealers in used motorcars only (including used trucks
2 and trailers) that bear the distinctive letters "UD" or the
3 letter "U" and the word "DEALER", one for dealers in
4 trailers and/or semitrailers (new or used) that bear the
5 distinctive letters "DTR" or the letters "TR" and the word
6 "DEALER", one for dealers in recreational vehicles that bear
7 the distinctive letters "RV" or the letter "R" and the word
8 "DEALER", and one for special license plates. All markings
9 for the various kinds of dealers' plates must be placed on
10 the number plates assigned thereto in the position that the
11 department designates.

12 (2) All number plates for motor vehicles must be issued
13 for a minimum period of 4 years, bear a distinctive marking,
14 and be furnished by the state. In years when number plates
15 are not issued, the department shall provide nonremovable
16 stickers bearing appropriate registration numbers that must
17 be affixed to the license plates in use.

18 (3) Subject to the provisions of this section, the
19 department shall create a new design for number plates as
20 provided in this section, ~~and it shall manufacture the newly~~
21 ~~designed number plates for issuance after January 1, 1991,~~
22 ~~to replace, at renewal as required in 61-3-312 and 61-3-314,~~
23 ~~number plates that were displayed on motor vehicles before~~
24 ~~that date.~~

25 (4) In the case of motorcars and trucks, plates must be

1 of metal 6 inches wide and 12 inches in length. The outline
 2 of the state of Montana must be used as a distinctive border
 3 on such the license plates, and the word "Montana" and the
 4 year must be placed across the plates. Such--registration
 5 Registration plates must be treated with a reflectorized
 6 background material according to specifications prescribed
 7 by the department.

8 (5) The distinctive registration numbers must begin
 9 with a number one or with a letter-number combination, such
 10 as "A 1" or "AA 1", or any other similar combination of
 11 letters and numbers. The distinctive registration number or
 12 letter-number combination assigned to the vehicle must
 13 appear on the plate preceded by the number of the county and
 14 appearing in horizontal order on the same horizontal
 15 baseline. The county number must be separated from the
 16 distinctive registration number by a separation mark unless
 17 a letter-number combination is used. The dimensions of such
 18 numerals and letters must be determined by the department,
 19 and all county and registration numbers must be of equal
 20 height.

21 (6) For the use of tax-exempt motor vehicles, in
 22 addition to the markings provided in this section, number
 23 plates must bear the following distinctive markings:

24 (a) For vehicles owned by the state, the department may
 25 designate the prefix number for the various state

1 departments. All numbered plates issued to state departments
 2 must bear the words "State Owned", and no a year number may
 3 not be indicated thereon on the plates because these
 4 numbered plates are of a permanent nature and will be
 5 replaced by the department only when the physical condition
 6 of numbered plates requires it.

7 (b) For vehicles that are owned by the counties,
 8 municipalities, irrigation districts organized under the
 9 laws of Montana and not operating for profit, and school
 10 districts and that are used and operated by officials and
 11 employees thereof in line of duty and for vehicles on loan
 12 from the United States government or the state of Montana
 13 to, or owned by, the civil air patrol and used and operated
 14 by officials and employees thereof in the line of duty,
 15 there must be placed on the number plates assigned thereto,
 16 in a position that the department may designate, the letter
 17 "X" or the word "EXEMPT". Distinctive registration numbers
 18 for plates assigned to motor vehicles of each of the
 19 counties in the state and those of the municipalities and
 20 school districts situated within each of the counties and
 21 those of the irrigation districts that obtain plates within
 22 each county must begin with number one and be numbered
 23 consecutively. Because these number plates are of a
 24 permanent nature, they are subject to replacement by the
 25 department only when the physical condition of the number

plates requires it and a year number may not be displayed on the number plates.

(7) On all number plates assigned to motor vehicles of the truck and trailer type, other than tax-exempt trucks and tax-exempt trailers, there must appear the letter "T" or the word "TRUCK" on plates assigned to trucks and the letters "TR" or the word "TRAILER" on plates assigned to trailers and housetrailer. The letters "MC" or the word "CYCLE" must appear on plates assigned to vehicles of the motorcycle or quadricycle type.

(8) Number plates issued to a passenger car, truck, trailer, or vehicle of the motorcycle or quadricycle type may be transferred only to a replacement passenger car, truck, trailer, or motorcycle- or quadricycle-type vehicle. No A registration or license fee may not be assessed upon a transfer of a number plate under 61-3-317 and 61-3-335.

(9) For the purpose of this chapter, the several counties of the state are assigned numbers as follows: Silver Bow, 1; Cascade, 2; Yellowstone, 3; Missoula, 4; Lewis and Clark, 5; Gallatin, 6; Flathead, 7; Fergus, 8; Powder River, 9; Carbon, 10; Phillips, 11; Hill, 12; Ravalli, 13; Custer, 14; Lake, 15; Dawson, 16; Roosevelt, 17; Beaverhead, 18; Chouteau, 19; Valley, 20; Toole, 21; Big Horn, 22; Musselshell, 23; Blaine, 24; Madison, 25; Pondera, 26; Richland, 27; Powell, 28; Rosebud, 29; Deer Lodge, 30;

Teton, 31; Stillwater, 32; Treasure, 33; Sheridan, 34; Sanders, 35; Judith Basin, 36; Daniels, 37; Glacier, 38; Fallon, 39; Sweet Grass, 40; McCone, 41; Carter, 42; Broadwater, 43; Wheatland, 44; Prairie, 45; Granite, 46; Meagher, 47; Liberty, 48; Park, 49; Garfield, 50; Jefferson, 51; Wibaux, 52; Golden Valley, 53; Mineral, 54; Petroleum, 55; Lincoln, 56. Any new counties must be assigned numbers by the department as they may be formed, beginning with the number 57.

(10) Each type of special license plate approved by the legislature, except collegiate license plates authorized in 61-3-463, must be a separate series of plates, numbered as provided in subsection (5), except that the county number must be replaced by a nonremovable design or decal designating the group or organization to which the applicant belongs. Unless otherwise specifically stated in this section, the special plates are subject to the same rules and laws as govern the issuance of regular license plates, must be placed or mounted on a vehicle owned by the person who is eligible to receive them, and must be removed upon sale or other disposition of the vehicle. The special license plates must be issued to national guard members, former prisoners of war, handicapped persons, reservists, disabled veterans, survivors of the Pearl Harbor attack, veterans of the armed services, or veterans of the armed

services who were awarded the purple heart medal, who comply with the following provisions:

(a) An active member of the Montana national guard may be issued a special license plate plates with a design or decal displaying the letters "NG". The adjutant general shall issue to each active member of the Montana national guard a certificate authorizing the department to issue one set of national guard plates, numbered in sets of two with a different number on each set, and the member shall surrender the plates to the department upon becoming ineligible to use them.

(b) An active member of the reserve armed forces of the United States of America who is a resident of this state may be issued a special license plate plates with a design or decal displaying the following: United States army reserve, AR (symbol); United States naval reserve, NR (anchor); United States air force reserve, AFR (symbol); and United States marine corps reserve, MCR (globe and anchor). The commanding officer of each armed forces reserve unit shall issue to each eligible member of the reserve unit a certificate authorizing the issuance of one set--of special license plates, numbered in sets of two with a different number on each set. The member shall surrender the plates to the department upon becoming ineligible to use them.

(c) A resident of Montana who is a veteran of the armed

forces of the United States and who is 100% disabled because of an injury that has been determined by the department of veterans affairs to be service-connected may, upon presentation to the department of proof of the 100% disability, be issued a special license plate under this section with a design or decal displaying the letters "DV".

(i) The fee for original or renewal registration by a 100% disabled veteran for a passenger vehicle or a truck with a GVW-rated capacity of 1 ton or less is \$5 and is in lieu of all other fees and taxes for that vehicle under this chapter.

(ii) Special license plates issued to a disabled veteran are not transferable to another person.

(iii) A disabled veteran is not entitled to a special license plate for more than one vehicle.

(iv) A vehicle lawfully displaying a disabled veteran's plate and that is conveying a 100% disabled veteran is entitled to the parking privileges allowed a handicapped person's vehicle under this title.

(d) A Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed forces of the United States and was captured and held prisoner by a military force of a foreign nation, documented by his the veteran's service record, may upon application and presentation of proof be issued a special license plate PLATES, NUMBERED IN SETS OF TWO WITH A DIFFERENT NUMBER ON

EACH SET, with a design or decal displaying the words "ex-prisoner of war" or an abbreviation the department considers appropriate.

(e) Upon payment of all taxes and fees required by parts 3 and 5 of this chapter and upon furnishing proof satisfactory to the department that the applicant meets the requirements of this subsection (e), the department shall issue to a Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed services of the United States special license plates, for one-motor-vehicle-only NUMBERED IN SETS OF TWO WITH A DIFFERENT NUMBER ON EACH SET, designed to indicate that the applicant is a survivor of the Pearl Harbor attack if the applicant was a member of the United States armed forces on December 7, 1941, was on station on December 7, 1941, during the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. (Hawaii time) at Pearl Harbor, the island of Oahu, or offshore at a distance of not more than 3 miles, and received an honorable discharge from the United States armed forces. If special license plates issued under this subsection are lost, stolen, or mutilated, the recipient of the plates is entitled to replacement plates upon request and without charge.

(f) A motor vehicle owner and resident of this state who is a veteran of the armed services of the United States may be issued license plates inscribed as provided in subsection (10)(f)(i) if he the person was separated from

the armed services under other than dishonorable circumstances or was awarded the purple heart medal:

(i) Upon submission of proof, in a form prescribed by the department, of his the person's qualification under this subsection, there must be issued to each applicant, in lieu of the regular license plates prescribed by law, special license plates numbered in sets of two with a different number on each set. The plates must display:

(A) the word "VETERAN" and a symbol signifying the United States army, United States navy, United States air force, United States marine corps, or United States coast guard, according to the record of service verified in the application; or

(B) a symbol representing the purple heart medal.

(ii) Plates must be furnished by the department to the county treasurer, who shall issue them to qualified veterans. The plates must be placed or mounted on the vehicle owned by the veteran designated in the application and must be removed upon sale or other disposition of the vehicle.

(iii) Each veteran who receives special license plates under this subsection (10)(f) is liable for payment of all taxes and fees required under parts 3 and 4 of this chapter and a special veteran's or purple heart medal license plate fee of \$10. Upon an original application for a license under

1 this subsection (10)(f), the county treasurer shall:

2 (A) deposit \$3 of the special fee in the county general
3 fund;

4 (B) remit \$1 for deposit in the state general fund; and

5 (C) deposit the remainder of the special fee in the
6 state special revenue fund to the credit of the department
7 of military affairs to be appropriated by the legislature
8 for construction, operation, and maintenance of the state
9 veterans' cemetery.

10 (iv) Upon subsequent annual renewal of registration, the
11 county treasurer shall deposit all of the special fee as
12 provided in subsection (10)(f)(iii)(C).

13 (g) A Montana resident who is eligible to receive a
14 special parking permit under 49-4-301 may, upon written
15 application on a form prescribed by the department, be
16 issued a special license plate with a design or decal
17 bearing a representation of a wheelchair as the symbol of
18 the handicapped person. (Terminates July 1, 1996--sec. 4,
19 Ch. 654, L. 1989.)

20 61-3-332. (Effective July 1, 1996) Number plates. (1) A
21 motor vehicle that is driven upon the streets or highways of
22 Montana must display both front and rear number plates,
23 bearing the distinctive number assigned the vehicle. The
24 number plates are in 10 series: one series for owners of
25 motorcars, one for owners of motor vehicles of the

1 motorcycle or quadricycle type, one for trailers, one for
2 trucks, one for dealers in vehicles of the motorcycle or
3 quadricycle type that bear the distinctive letters "MCD" or
4 the letters "MC" and the word "DEALER", one for franchised
5 dealers in new motorcars (including trucks and trailers) or
6 new and used motorcars (including trucks and trailers) that
7 bear the distinctive letter "D" or the word "DEALER", one
8 for dealers in used motorcars only (including used trucks
9 and trailers) that bear the distinctive letters "UD" or the
10 letter "U" and the word "DEALER", one for dealers in
11 trailers and/or semitrailers (new or used) that bear the
12 distinctive letters "DTR" or the letters "TR" and the word
13 "DEALER", one for dealers in recreational vehicles that bear
14 the distinctive letters "RV" or the letter "R" and the word
15 "DEALER", and one for special license plates. All markings
16 for the various kinds of dealers' plates must be placed on
17 the number plates assigned thereto in the position that the
18 department designates.

19 (2) All number plates for motor vehicles must be issued
20 for a minimum period of 4 years, bear a distinctive marking,
21 and be furnished by the state. In years when number plates
22 are not issued, the department shall provide nonremovable
23 stickers bearing appropriate registration numbers that must
24 be affixed to the license plates in use.

25 (3) Subject to the provisions of this section, the

department shall create a new design for number plates as provided in this section~~and it shall manufacture the newly designed number plates for issuance after January 1, 1991, to replace, at renewal as required in 61-3-312 and 61-3-314, number plates that were displayed on motor vehicles before that date.~~

(4) In the case of motorcars and trucks, number plates must be of metal 6 inches wide and 12 inches in length. For number plates issued after 1976, the THE outline of the state of Montana must be used as a distinctive border on such the license plates, and the word "Montana" and the year must be placed across the bottom of the plates. Such registration Registration plates must be treated with a reflectorized background material according to specifications prescribed by the department.

(5) The distinctive registration numbers must begin with a number one or with a letter-number combination, such as "A 1" or "AA 1", or any other similar combination of letters and numbers and be numbered consecutively for each series of plates. The distinctive registration number or letter-number combination assigned to the vehicle must appear on the plate preceded by the number of the county and appearing in horizontal order on the same horizontal baseline. The county number must be separated from the distinctive registration number by a separation mark unless

a letter-number combination is used. The dimensions of such numerals and letters must be determined by the department, and all county and registration numbers must be of equal height.

(6) For the use of tax-exempt motor vehicles, in addition to the markings PROVIDED in this section provided, number plates must bear the following distinctive markings:

(a) For vehicles owned by the state, the department may designate the prefix number for the various state departments. All numbered plates issued to state departments must bear the words "State Owned", and no a year number may not be indicated thereon on the plates because these numbered plates are of a permanent nature and will be replaced by the department only when the physical condition of numbered plates requires it.

(b) For vehicles that are owned by the counties, municipalities, irrigation districts organized under the laws of Montana and not operating for profit, and school districts and that are used and operated by officials and employees thereof in line of duty and for vehicles on loan from the United States government or the state of Montana to, or owned by, the civil air patrol and used and operated by officials and employees thereof in the line of duty, there must be placed on the number plates assigned thereto, in a position that the department may designate, the letter

1 "X" or the word "EXEMPT". Distinctive registration numbers
 2 for plates assigned to motor vehicles of each of the
 3 counties in the state and those of the municipalities and
 4 school districts situated within each of the counties and
 5 those of the irrigation districts that obtain plates within
 6 each county must begin with number one and be numbered
 7 consecutively. Because these number plates are of a
 8 permanent nature, they are subject to replacement by the
 9 department only when the physical condition of the number
 10 plates requires it and a year number may not be displayed on
 11 the number plates.

12 (7) On all number plates assigned to motor vehicles of
 13 the truck and trailer type, other than tax-exempt trucks and
 14 tax-exempt trailers, there must appear the letter "T" or the
 15 word "TRUCK" on plates assigned to trucks and the letters
 16 "TR" or the word "TRAILER" on plates assigned to trailers
 17 and housetrailer. The letters "MC" or the word "CYCLE" must
 18 appear on plates assigned to vehicles of the motorcycle or
 19 quadricycle type.

20 (8) Number plates issued to a passenger car, truck,
 21 trailer, or vehicle of the motorcycle or quadricycle type
 22 may be transferred only to a replacement passenger car,
 23 truck, trailer, or motorcycle- or quadricycle-type vehicle.
 24 No A registration or license fee may not be assessed upon a
 25 transfer of a number plate under 61-3-317 and 61-3-335.

1 (9) For the purpose of this chapter, the several
 2 counties of the state are assigned numbers as follows:
 3 Silver Bow, 1; Cascade, 2; Yellowstone, 3; Missoula, 4;
 4 Lewis and Clark, 5; Gallatin, 6; Flathead, 7; Fergus, 8;
 5 Powder River, 9; Carbon, 10; Phillips, 11; Hill, 12;
 6 Ravalli, 13; Custer, 14; Lake, 15; Dawson, 16; Roosevelt,
 7 17; Beaverhead, 18; Chouteau, 19; Valley, 20; Toole, 21; Big
 8 Horn, 22; Musselshell, 23; Blaine, 24; Madison, 25; Pondera,
 9 26; Richland, 27; Powell, 28; Rosebud, 29; Deer Lodge, 30;
 10 Teton, 31; Stillwater, 32; Treasure, 33; Sheridan, 34;
 11 Sanders, 35; Judith Basin, 36; Daniels, 37; Glacier, 38;
 12 Fallon, 39; Sweet Grass, 40; McCone, 41; Carter, 42;
 13 Broadwater, 43; Wheatland, 44; Prairie, 45; Granite, 46;
 14 Meagher, 47; Liberty, 48; Park, 49; Garfield, 50; Jefferson,
 15 51; Wibaux, 52; Golden Valley, 53; Mineral, 54; Petroleum,
 16 55; Lincoln, 56. Any new counties must be assigned numbers
 17 by the department as they may be formed, beginning with the
 18 number 57.

19 (10) Each type of special license plate approved by the
 20 legislature, except collegiate license plates authorized in
 21 61-3-463, must be a separate series of plates, numbered as
 22 provided in subsection (5), except that the county number
 23 must be replaced by a nonremovable design or decal
 24 designating the group or organization to which the applicant
 25 belongs. Unless otherwise specifically stated in this

section, the special plates are subject to the same rules and laws as govern the issuance of regular license plates, must be placed or mounted on a vehicle owned by the person who is eligible to receive them, and must be removed upon sale or other disposition of the vehicle. The special license plates must be issued to national guard members, former prisoners of war, handicapped persons, reservists, disabled veterans, survivors of the Pearl Harbor attack, veterans of the armed services, or veterans of the armed services who were awarded the purple heart medal, who comply with the following provisions:

(a) An active member of the Montana national guard may be issued a special license plate plates with a design or decal displaying the letters "NG". The adjutant general shall issue to each active member of the Montana national guard a certificate authorizing the department to issue one set-of national guard plates, numbered in sets of two with a different number on each set, and the member shall surrender the plates to the department upon becoming ineligible to use them.

(b) An active member of the reserve armed forces of the United States of America who is a resident of this state may be issued a special license plate plates with a design or decal displaying the following: United States army reserve, AR (symbol); United States naval reserve, NR (anchor);

United States air force reserve, AFR (symbol); and United States marine corps reserve, MCR (globe and anchor). The commanding officer of each armed forces reserve unit shall issue to each eligible member of the reserve unit a certificate authorizing the issuance of one-set--of special license plates, numbered in sets of two with a different number on each set. The member shall surrender the plates to the department upon becoming ineligible to use them.

(c) A resident of Montana who is a veteran of the armed forces of the United States and who is 100% disabled because of an injury that has been determined by the department of veterans affairs to be service-connected may, upon presentation to the department of proof of the 100% disability, be issued a special license plate under this section with a design or decal displaying the letters "DV".

(i) The fee for original or renewal registration by a 100% disabled veteran for a passenger vehicle or a truck with a GVW-rated capacity of 1 ton or less is \$5 and is in lieu of all other fees and taxes for that vehicle under this chapter.

(ii) Special license plates issued to a disabled veteran are not transferable to another person.

(iii) A disabled veteran is not entitled to a special license plate for more than one vehicle.

(iv) A vehicle lawfully displaying a disabled veteran's

plate and that is conveying a 100% disabled veteran is entitled to the parking privileges allowed a handicapped person's vehicle under this title.

(d) A Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed forces of the United States and was captured and held prisoner by a military force of a foreign nation, documented by his the veteran's service record, may upon application and presentation of proof be issued a special license plate PLATES, NUMBERED IN SETS OF TWO WITH A DIFFERENT NUMBER ON EACH SET, with a design or decal displaying the words "ex-prisoner of war" or an abbreviation the department considers appropriate.

(e) Upon payment of all taxes and fees required by parts 3 and 5 of this chapter and upon furnishing proof satisfactory to the department that the applicant meets the requirements of this subsection (e), the department shall issue to a Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed services of the United States special license plates, for one-motor-vehicle-only NUMBERED IN SETS OF TWO WITH A DIFFERENT NUMBER ON EACH SET, designed to indicate that the applicant is a survivor of the Pearl Harbor attack if the applicant was a member of the United States armed forces on December 7, 1941, was on station on December 7, 1941, during the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. (Hawaii time) at Pearl Harbor, the island of Oahu, or offshore at a distance of not

more than 3 miles, and received an honorable discharge from the United States armed forces. If special license plates issued under this subsection are lost, stolen, or mutilated, the recipient of the plates is entitled to replacement plates upon request and without charge.

(f) A motor vehicle owner and resident of this state who is a veteran of the armed services of the United States may be issued license plates inscribed as provided in subsection (10)(f)(i) if he the person was separated from the armed services under other than dishonorable circumstances or was awarded the purple heart medal:

(i) Upon submission of proof, in a form prescribed by the department, of his the person's qualification under this subsection, there must be issued to each applicant, in lieu of the regular license plates prescribed by law, special license plates numbered in sets of two with a different number on each set. The plates must display:

(A) the word "VETERAN" and a symbol signifying the United States army, United States navy, United States air force, United States marine corps, or United States coast guard, according to the record of service verified in the application; or

(B) a symbol representing the purple heart medal.

(ii) Plates must be furnished by the department to the county treasurer, who shall issue them to qualified

1 veterans. The plates must be placed or mounted on the
 2 vehicle owned by the veteran designated in the application
 3 and must be removed upon sale or other disposition of the
 4 vehicle.

5 (iii) Each veteran who receives special license plates
 6 under this subsection (10)(f) is liable for payment of all
 7 taxes and fees required under parts 3 and 4 of this chapter
 8 and a special veteran's or purple heart medal license plate
 9 fee of \$10. Upon an original application for a license under
 10 this subsection (10)(f), the county treasurer shall:

11 (A) deposit \$3 of the special fee in the county general
 12 fund;

13 (B) remit \$1 for deposit in the state general fund; and

14 (C) deposit the remainder of the special fee in the
 15 state special revenue fund to the credit of the department
 16 of military affairs to be appropriated by the legislature
 17 for construction, operation, and maintenance of the state
 18 veterans' cemetery.

19 (iv) Upon subsequent annual renewal of registration, the
 20 county treasurer shall deposit all of the special fee as
 21 provided in subsection (10)(f)(iii)(C).

22 (g) A Montana resident who is eligible to receive a
 23 special parking permit under 49-4-301 may, upon written
 24 application on a form prescribed by the department, be
 25 issued a special license plate with a design or decal

1 bearing a representation of a wheelchair as the symbol of
 2 the handicapped person."

3 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Effective date. [This act] is
 4 effective January 1, 1994.

-End-

HOUSE BILL NO. 96

INTRODUCED BY REAM

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING HOLDERS OF
"PRISONER OF WAR" AND "SURVIVOR OF PEARL HARBOR" SPECIAL
LICENSE PLATES AND MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OR RESERVE
ARMED FORCES TO BE AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE MORE THAN ONE SET
OF SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES; AMENDING SECTION 61-3-332, MCA;
AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 61-3-332, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-3-332. (Temporary) Number plates. (1) A motor vehicle that is driven upon the streets or highways of Montana must display both front and rear number plates, bearing the distinctive number assigned the vehicle. The number plates are in 10 series: one series for owners of motorcars, one for owners of motor vehicles of the motorcycle or quadricycle type, one for trailers, one for trucks, one for dealers in vehicles of the motorcycle or quadricycle type that bear the distinctive letters "MCD" or the letters "MC" and the word "DEALER", one for franchised dealers in new motorcars (including trucks and trailers) or new and used motorcars (including trucks and trailers) that bear the distinctive letter "D" or the word "DEALER", one

for dealers in used motorcars only (including used trucks and trailers) that bear the distinctive letters "UD" or the letter "U" and the word "DEALER", one for dealers in trailers and/or semitrailers (new or used) that bear the distinctive letters "DTR" or the letters "TR" and the word "DEALER", one for dealers in recreational vehicles that bear the distinctive letters "RV" or the letter "R" and the word "DEALER", and one for special license plates. All markings for the various kinds of dealers' plates must be placed on the number plates assigned thereto in the position that the department designates.

(2) All number plates for motor vehicles must be issued for a minimum period of 4 years, bear a distinctive marking, and be furnished by the state. In years when number plates are not issued, the department shall provide nonremovable stickers bearing appropriate registration numbers that must be affixed to the license plates in use.

There are no changes in this bill.
Please refer to third reading
(blue) for complete text.

