HOUSE BILL NO. 96

INTRODUCED BY REAM

IN THE HOUSE

DECEMBER 31, 1992

JANUARY 4, 1993

JANUARY 14, 1993

JANUARY 15, 1993

JANUARY 16, 1993

JANUARY 18, 1993

JANUARY 19, 1993

INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION.

FIRST READING.

COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL DO PASS AS AMENDED. REPORT ADOPTED.

PRINTING REPORT.

ON MOTION, CONSIDERATION PASSED FOR THE DAY.

SECOND READING, DO PASS.

ENGROSSING REPORT.

THIRD READING, PASSED. AYES, 97; NOES, 1.

TRANSMITTED TO SENATE.

IN THE SENATE

JANUARY 20, 1993

FEBRUARY 13, 1993

FEBRUARY 15, 1993

FEBRUARY 16, 1993

INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION.

FIRST READING.

COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL BE CONCURRED IN. REPORT ADOPTED.

SECOND READING, CONCURRED IN.

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.

Montana Legislative Council

1 2 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."

```
9
```

3

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

Section 1. Section 61-3-332, MCA, is amended to read: 11 12 "61-3-332, (Temporary) Number plates, (1) A motor 13 vehicle that is driven upon the streets or highways of Montana must display both front and rear number plates, 14 15 bearing the distinctive number assigned the vehicle. The 16 number plates are in 10 series: one series for owners of 17 motorcars, one for owners of motor vehicles of the 18 motorcycle or quadricycle type, one for trailers, one for trucks, one for dealers in vehicles of the motorcycle or 19 20 quadricycle type that bear the distinctive letters "MCD" or 21 the letters "MC" and the word "DEALER", one for franchised 22 dealers in new motorcars (including trucks and trailers) or 23 new and used motorcars (including trucks and trailers) that 24 bear the distinctive letter "D" or the word "DEALER", one 25 for dealers in used motorcars only (including used trucks

HB 0096/01

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

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

17 (3) Subject to the provisions of this section, the 18 department shall create a new design for number plates as 19 provided in this section, and it-shall-manufacture-the-newly 20 designed--number--plates-for-issuance-after-January-17-19917 21 to-replace, at-renewal-as-required-in-61-J-312-and-61-J-3147 22 number-plates-that-were-displayed-on-motor--vehicles--before 23 that-date.

24 (4) In the case of motorcars and trucks, plates must be25 of metal 6 inches wide and 12 inches in length. The outline

-2- H& 96 INTRODUCED BILL

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 7 8 with a number one or with a letter-number combination, such as "A 1" or "AA 1", or any other similar combination of 9 letters and numbers. The distinctive registration number or 10 letter-number combination assigned to the vehicle must 11 appear on the plate preceded by the number of the county and 12 appearing in horizontal order on the same horizontal 13 baseline. The county number must be separated from the 14 distinctive registration number by a separation mark unless 15 a letter-number combination is used. The dimensions of such 16 numerals and letters must be determined by the department, 17 and all county and registration numbers must be of equal 18 height. 19

20 (6) For the use of tax-exempt motor vehicles, in
21 addition to the markings provided in this section, number
22 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 <u>a</u> year number may <u>not</u> be indicated thereon <u>on the plates</u> 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, 6 municipalities, irrigation districts organized under the 7 laws of Montana and not operating for profit, and school 8 9 districts and that are used and operated by officials and employees thereof in line of duty and for vehicles on loan 10 from the United States government or the state of Montana 11 12 to, or owned by, the civil air patrol and used and operated 13 by officials and employees thereof in the line of duty, there must be placed on the number plates assigned thereto, 14 in a position that the department may designate, the letter 15 "X" or the word "EXEMPT". Distinctive registration numbers 16 17 for plates assigned to motor vehicles of each of the counties in the state and those of the municipalities and 18 19 school districts situated within each of the counties and 20 those of the irrigation districts that obtain plates within each county must begin with number one and be numbered 21 22 consecutively. Because these number plates are of a 23 permanent nature, they are subject to replacement by the 24 department only when the physical condition of the number 25 plates requires it and a year number may not be displayed on

HB 0096/01

-4-

-3-

1 the number plates.

2 (7) On all number plates assigned to motor vehicles of 3 the truck and trailer type, other than tax-exempt trucks and tax-exempt trailers, there must appear the letter "T" or the 4 5 word "TRUCK" on plates assigned to trucks and the letters "TR" or the word "TRAILER" on plates assigned to trailers 6 7 and housetrailers. The letters "MC" or the word "CYCLE" must 8 appear on plates assigned to vehicles of the motorcycle or 9 quadricycle type.

(B) 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 <u>A</u> registration or license fee may <u>not</u> be assessed upon a
transfer of a number plate under 61-3-317 and 61-3-335.

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

1 Sanders, 35; Judith Basin, 36; Daniels, 37; Glacier, 38; 2 Fallon, 39; Sweet Grass, 40; McCone, 41; Carter, 42; 3 Broadwater, 43; Wheatland, 44; Prairie, 45; Granite, 46; Meagher, 47; Liberty, 48; Park, 49; Garfield, 50; Jefferson, 4 5 51; Wibaux, 52; Golden Valley, 53; Mineral, 54; Petroleum, 6 55; Lincoln, 56. Any new counties must be assigned numbers by the department as they may be formed, beginning with the 7 8 number 57.

9 (10) Each type of special license plate approved by the 10 legislature, except collegiate license plates authorized in 11 61-3-463, must be a separate series of plates, numbered as provided in subsection (5), except that the county number 12 must be replaced by a nonremovable design or decal 13 designating the group or organization to which the applicant 14 belongs. Unless otherwise specifically stated in this 15 16 section, the special plates are subject to the same rules and laws as govern the issuance of regular license plates, 17 18 must be placed or mounted on a vehicle owned by the person 19 who is eligible to receive them, and must be removed upon sale or other disposition of the vehicle. The special 20 21 license plates must be issued to national guard members, 22 former prisoners of war, handicapped persons, reservists, disabled veterans, survivors of the Pearl Harbor attack, 23 24 veterans of the armed services, or veterans of the armed services who were awarded the purple heart medal, who comply 25

HB 0096/01

HB 0096/01

1 with the following provisions:

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

(b) An active member of the reserve armed forces of the 11 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 decal displaying the following: United States army reserve, 14 AR (symbol); United States naval reserve, NR (anchor); 15 United States air force reserve, AFR (symbol); and United 16 States marine corps reserve, MCR (globe and anchor). The 17 commanding officer of each armed forces reserve unit shall 18 issue to each eligible member of the reserve unit a 19 certificate authorizing the issuance of one-set-of special 20 license plates, numbered in sets of two with a different 21 number on each set. The member shall surrender the plates to 22 23 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".

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 special14 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

-7-

-8-

1 appropriate.

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

(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:

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

-9-

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:

6 (A) the word "VETERAN" and a symbol signifying the 7 United States army, United States navy, United States air 8 force, United States marine corps, or United States coast 9 guard, according to the record of service verified in the 10 application; or

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

12 (ii) Plates must be furnished by the department to the 13 county treasurer, who shall issue them to qualified 14 veterans. The plates must be placed or mounted on the 15 vehicle owned by the veteran designated in the application 16 and must be removed upon sale or other disposition of the 17 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:

24 (A) deposit \$3 of the special fee in the county general25 fund;

HB 0096/01

-10-

1 (B) remit \$1 for deposit in the state general fund; and 2 (C) deposit the remainder of the special fee in the 3 state special revenue fund to the credit of the department 4 of military affairs to be appropriated by the legislature 5 for construction, operation, and maintenance of the state 6 veterans' cemetery.

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

10 (g) A Montana resident who is eligible to receive a 11 special parking permit under 49-4-301 may, upon written 12 application on a form prescribed by the department, be 13 issued a special license plate with a design or decal 14 bearing a representation of a wheelchair as the symbol of 15 the handicapped person. {Terminates July 1, 1996--sec. 4, 16 Ch. 654, L. 1989.)

61-3-332. (Effective July 1, 1996) Number plates. (1) A 17 18 motor vehicle that is driven upon the streets or highways of 19 Montana must display both front and rear number plates, bearing the distinctive number assigned the vehicle. The 20 21 number plates are in 10 series: one series for owners of 22 motorcars, one for owners of motor vehicles of the 23 motorcycle or quadricycle type, one for trailers, one for trucks, one for dealers in vehicles of the motorcycle or 24 25 quadricycle type that bear the distinctive letters "MCD" or

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

16 (2) All number plates for motor vehicles must be issued 17 for a minimum period of 4 years, bear a distinctive marking, 18 and be furnished by the state. In years when number plates 19 are not issued, the department shall provide nonremovable 20 stickers bearing appropriate registration numbers that must 21 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 sectiony-and-it-shall-manufacture-the-newly
designed--number--plates-for-issuance-after-danuary-1y-1991y

HB 0096/01

-11-

-12-

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 4 5 must be of metal 6 inches wide and 12 inches in length. For 6 number plates issued after 1976, the outline of the state of 7 Montana must be used as a distinctive border on such the license plates, and the word "Montana" and the year must be 8 9 placed across the bottom of the plates. Such-registration 10 Registration plates must be treated with a reflectorized background material according to specifications prescribed 11 12 by the department.

13 (5) The distinctive registration numbers must begin 14 with a number one or with a letter-number combination, such as "A 1" or "AA 1", or any other similar combination of 15 16 letters and numbers and be numbered consecutively for each 17 series of plates. The distinctive registration number or 18 letter-number combination assigned to the vehicle must 19 appear on the plate preceded by the number of the county and 20 appearing in horizontal order on the same horizontal baseline. The county number must be separated from the 21 22 distinctive registration number by a separation mark unless 23 a letter-number combination is used. The dimensions of such numerals and letters must be determined by the department, 24 and all county and registration numbers must be of equal 25

1 height.

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

5 (a) For vehicles owned by the state, the department may 6 designate the prefix number for the various state 7 departments. All numbered plates issued to state departments must bear the words "State Owned", and no a year number may 8 9 not be indicated thereon on the plates because these 10 numbered plates are of a permanent nature and will be 11 replaced by the department only when the physical condition 12 of numbered plates requires it.

13 (b) For vehicles that are owned by the counties, 14 municipalities, irrigation districts organized under the 15 laws of Montana and not operating for profit, and school 16 districts and that are used and operated by officials and 17 employees thereof in line of duty and for vehicles on loan 18 from the United States government or the state of Montana 19 to, or owned by, the civil air patrol and used and operated by officials and employees thereof in the line of duty. 20 21 there must be placed on the number plates assigned thereto, in a position that the department may designate, the letter 22 23 "X" or the word "EXEMPT". Distinctive registration numbers 24 for plates assigned to motor vehicles of each of the 25 counties in the state and those of the municipalities and

-13-

-14-

school districts situated within each of the counties and 1 those of the irrigation districts that obtain plates within 2 3 each county must begin with number one and be numbered consecutively. Because these number plates are of a 4 permanent nature, they are subject to replacement by the 5 6 department only when the physical condition of the number 7 plates requires it and a year number may not be displayed on 8 the number plates.

9 (7) On all number plates assigned to motor vehicles of 10 the truck and trailer type, other than tax-exempt trucks and tax-exempt trailers, there must appear the letter "T" or the 11 word "TRUCK" on plates assigned to trucks and the letters 12 13 "TR" or the word "TRAILER" on plates assigned to trailers 14 and housetrailers. The letters "MC" or the word "CYCLE" must 15 appear on plates assigned to vehicles of the motorcycle or 16 quadricycle type.

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

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

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

16 (10) Each type of special license plate approved by the 17 legislature, except collegiate license plates authorized in 18 61-3-463, must be a separate series of plates, numbered as 19 provided in subsection (5), except that the county number 20 must be replaced by a nonremovable design or decal 21 designating the group or organization to which the applicant 22 belongs. Unless otherwise specifically stated in this 23 section, the special plates are subject to the same rules 24 and laws as govern the issuance of regular license plates. must be placed or mounted on a vehicle owned by the person 25

HB 0096/01

-16-

-15-

who is eligible to receive them, and must be removed upon 1 2 sale or other disposition of the vehicle. The special license plates must be issued to national guard members, 3 former prisoners of war, handicapped persons, reservists, 4 disabled veterans, survivors of the Pearl Harbor attack, 5 6 veterans of the armed services, or veterans of the armed 7 services who were awarded the purple heart medal, who comply 8 with the following provisions:

9 (a) An active member of the Montana national quard may 10 be issued a special license plate plates with a design or 11 decal displaying the letters "NG". The adjutant general 12 shall issue to each active member of the Montana national 13 guard a certificate authorizing the department to issue one set-of national quard plates, numbered in sets of two with a 14 15 different number on each set, and the member shall surrender 16 the plates to the department upon becoming ineligible to use 17 them.

18 (b) An active member of the reserve armed forces of the United States of America who is a resident of this state may 19 20 be issued a special license plate plates with a design or 21 decal displaying the following: United States army reserve, 22 AR (symbol); United States naval reserve, NR (anchor); 23 United States air force reserve, AFR (symbol); and United 24 States marine corps reserve, MCR (globe and anchor). The 25 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.

6 (c) A resident of Montana who is a veteran of the armed 7 forces of the United States and who is 100% disabled because 8 of an injury that has been determined by the department of 9 veterans affairs to be service-connected may, upon 10 presentation to the department of proof of the 100% 11 disability, be issued a special license plate under this 12 section with a design or decal displaying the letters "DV".

(i) The fee for original or renewal registration by a
14 100% disabled veteran for a passenger vehicle or a truck
15 with a GVW-rated capacity of 1 ton or less is \$5 and is in
16 lieu of all other fees and taxes for that vehicle under this
17 chapter.

18 (ii) Special license plates issued to a disabled veteran19 are not transferable to another person.

20 (iii) A disabled veteran is not entitled to a special21 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.

-17-

-18-

(d) A Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed 1 forces of the United States and was captured and held 2 3 prisoner by a military force of a foreign nation, documented his the veteran's service record, may upon application 4 bv and presentation of proof be issued a special license plate 5 with a design or decal displaying the words "ex-prisoner of 6 7 war" or an abbreviation the department considers я appropriate.

(e) Upon payment of all taxes and fees required by 9 parts 3 and 5 of this chapter and upon furnishing proof 10 satisfactory to the department that the applicant meets the 11 requirements of this subsection (e), the department shall 12 issue to a Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed 13 services of the United States special license plates, for 14 one motor vehicle only, designed to indicate that the 15 applicant is a survivor of the Pearl Harbor attack if the 16 applicant was a member of the United States armed forces on 17 December 7, 1941, was on station on December 7, 1941, during 18 the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. (Hawaii time) at Pearl 19 Harbor, the island of Oahu, or offshore at a distance of not 20 more than 3 miles, and received an honorable discharge from 21 the United States armed forces. If special license plates 22 issued under this subsection are lost, stolen, or mutilated, 23 the recipient of the plates is entitled to replacement 24 25 plates upon request and without charge.

(f) A motor vehicle owner and resident of this state 1 2 who is a veteran of the armed services of the United States 3 nav be issued license plates inscribed as provided in subsection (10)(f)(i) if he the person was separated from 4 5 armed services under other than dishonorable the 6 circumstances or was awarded the purple heart medal:

7 (i) Upon submission of proof, in a form prescribed by 8 the department, of his the person's qualification under this 9 subsection, there must be issued to each applicant, in lieu 10 of the regular license plates prescribed by law, special 11 license plates numbered in sets of two with a different 12 number on each set. The plates must display:

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

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

25

19 (ii) Plates must be furnished by the department to the 20 county treasurer, who shall issue them to qualified 21 veterans. The plates must be placed or mounted on the 22 vehicle owned by the veteran designated in the application 23 and must be removed upon sale or other disposition of the 24 vehicle.

(iii) Each veteran who receives special license plates

-19-

-20-

HB 0096/01

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:

6 (A) deposit \$3 of the special fee in the county general7 fund;

8 (B) remit \$1 for deposit in the state general fund; and
9 (C) deposit the remainder of the special fee in the
10 state special revenue fund to the credit of the department
11 of military affairs to be appropriated by the legislature
12 for construction, operation, and maintenance of the state
13 veterans' cemetery.

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

17 (g) A Montana resident who is eligible to receive a 18 special parking permit under 49-4-301 may, upon written 19 application on a form prescribed by the department, be 20 issued a special license plate with a design or decal 21 bearing a representation of a wheelchair as the symbol of 22 the handicapped person."

23 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 2. Effective date. [This act] is
24 effective January 1, 1994.

-End-

-21-

.*

HB 0096/02

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

ON HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 96 2 INTRODUCED BY REAM 3 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING HOLDERS OF 4 *PRISONER OF WAR" AND "SURVIVOR OF PEARL HARBOR" SPECIAL 5 LICENSE PLATES AND MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OR RESERVE 6 ARMED FORCES TO BE AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE MORE THAN ONE SET 7 OF SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES: AMENDING SECTION 61-3-332, MCA; 8 AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE." 9 10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA: 11 12 **Section 1.** Section 61-3-332, MCA, is amended to read: "61-3-332. (Temporary) Number plates. (1) A motor 13 vehicle that is driven upon the streets or highways of 14 Montana must display both front and rear number plates, 15 bearing the distinctive number assigned the vehicle. The 16 number plates are in 10 series: one series for owners of 17 motorcars, one for owners of motor vehicles of the 18 motorcycle or quadricycle type, one for trailers, one for 19 trucks, one for dealers in vehicles of the motorcycle or 20 quadricycle type that bear the distinctive letters "MCD" or 21 the letters "MC" and the word "DEALER", one for franchised 22 23 dealers in new motorcars (including trucks and trailers) or new and used motorcars (including trucks and trailers) that 24 bear the distinctive letter "D" or the word "DEALER", one 25

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 ۵ 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 "DEALER", and one for special license plates. All markings 8 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--ly--19917 22 to-replace, at-renewal-as-required-in-61-3-312-and-61-3-3147 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

-2-

HB 96 Second Reading

ontana Legislative Counci

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 <u>Registration</u> plates must be treated with a reflectorized background material according to specifications prescribed by the department.

(5) The distinctive registration numbers must begin 8 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 letters and numbers. The distinctive registration number or 11 letter-number combination assigned to the vehicle must 12 appear on the plate preceded by the number of the county and 13 14 appearing in horizontal order on the same horizontal baseline. The county number must be separated from the 15 distinctive registration number by a separation mark unless 16 a letter-number combination is used. The dimensions of such 17 numerals and letters must be determined by the department, 18 and all county and registration numbers must be of equal 19 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 may25 designate the prefix number for the various state

٠.

HB 0096/02

departments. All numbered plates issued to state departments must bear the words "State Owned", and no <u>a</u> year number may <u>not</u> be indicated thereon <u>on the plates</u> 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.

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

-3-

HB 96

-4-

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 3 the truck and trailer type, other than tax-exempt trucks and 4 tax-exempt trailers, there must appear the letter "T" or the 5 word "TRUCK" on plates assigned to trucks and the letters 6 "TR" or the word "TRAILER" on plates assigned to trailers 7 8 and housetrailers. The letters "MC" or the word "CYCLE" must appear on plates assigned to vehicles of the motorcycle or 9 quadricycle type. 10

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

1 Teton, 31; Stillwater, 32; Treasure, 33; Sheridan, 34; 2 Sanders, 35; Judith Basin, 36; Daniels, 37; Glacier, 38; 3 Fallon, 39: Sweet Grass, 40: McCone, 41: Carter, 42: 4 Broadwater, 43; Wheatland, 44; Prairie, 45; Granite, 46; 5 Meagher, 47; Liberty, 48; Park, 49; Garfield, 50; Jefferson, 6 51; Wibaux, 52; Golden Valley, 53; Mineral, 54; Petroleum, 7 55; Lincoln, 56. Any new counties must be assigned numbers 8 by the department as they may be formed, beginning with the 9 number 57.

10 (10) Each type of special license plate approved by the 11 legislature, except collegiate license plates authorized in 12 61-3-463, must be a separate series of plates, numbered as 13 provided in subsection (5), except that the county number 14 must be replaced by a nonremovable design or decal 15 designating the group or organization to which the applicant 16 belonas. Unless otherwise specifically stated in this 17 section, the special plates are subject to the same rules 18 and laws as govern the issuance of regular license plates. 19 must be placed or mounted on a vehicle owned by the person 20 who is eligible to receive them, and must be removed upon sale or other disposition of the vehicle. The special 21 license plates must be issued to national guard members, 22 23 former prisoners of war, handicapped persons, reservists, 24 disabled veterans, survivors of the Pearl Harbor attack, 25 veterans of the armed services, or veterans of the armed

~5-

HB 96

-6-

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

3 (a) An active member of the Montana national guard may be issued a special license plate plates with a design or 4 5 decal displaying the letters "NG". The adjutant general 6 shall issue to each active member of the Montana national 7 quard 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

forces of the United States and who is 100% disabled because 1 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

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 veteran13 are not transferable to another person.

14 (iii) A disabled veteran is not entitled to a special15 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

-7-

HB 96

-8-

<u>EACH SET</u>, 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 4 parts 3 and 5 of this chapter and upon furnishing proof 5 satisfactory to the department that the applicant meets the 6 requirements of this subsection (e), the department shall 7 8 issue to a Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed services of the United States special license plates, for 9 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 issued under this subsection are lost, stolen, or mutilated, 19 the recipient of the plates is entitled to replacement 20 21 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:

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.

(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

-9-

HB 96

-10-

HB 0096/02

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.

(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

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 B 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

-11-

department shall create a new design for number plates as provided in this section7-and-it-shall-manufacture-the-newly designed--number--plates-for-issuance-after-danuary-17-19917 to-replace7-at-renewal-as-required-in-61-3-312-and-61-3-3147 number-plates-that-were-displayed-on-motor--vehicles--before that-date.

(4) In the case of motorcars and trucks, number plates 7 must be of metal 6 inches wide and 12 inches in length. For 8 9 number--plates--issued--after--19767--the THE outline of the 10 state of Montana must be used as a distinctive border on such the license plates, and the word "Montana" and the year 11 must be placed across the bottom--of--the plates. Such 12 registration Registration plates must be treated with a 13 14 reflectorized background material according to specifications prescribed by the department. 15

16 (5) The distinctive registration numbers must begin 17 with a number one or with a letter-number combination, such as "A 1" or "AA 1", or any other similar combination of 18 19 letters and numbers and-be-numbered-consecutively-for-each 20 series-of-plates. The distinctive registration number or letter-number combination assigned to the vehicle must 21 22 appear on the plate preceded by the number of the county and 23 appearing in horizontal order on the same horizontal 24 baseline. The county number must be separated from the 25 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 5 addition to the markings PROVIDED in this section provided, 6 number plates must bear the following distinctive markings: 7 8 (a) For vehicles owned by the state, the department may 9 designate the prefix number for the various state 10 departments. All numbered plates issued to state departments 11 must bear the words "State Owned", and no a year number may 12 not be indicated thereon on the plates because these numbered plates are of a permanent nature and will be 13 14 replaced by the department only when the physical condition 15 of numbered plates requires it.

16 (b) For vehicles that are owned by the counties, 17 municipalities, irrigation districts organized under the 18 laws of Montana and not operating for profit, and school 19 districts and that are used and operated by officials and 20 employees thereof in line of duty and for vehicles on loan 21 from the United States government or the state of Montana 22 to, or owned by, the civil air patrol and used and operated 23 by officials and employees thereof in the line of duty, 24 there must be placed on the number plates assigned thereto, 25 in a position that the department may designate, the letter

-14-

HB 0096/02

-13-

HB 96

1

"X" or the word "EXEMPT". Distinctive registration numbers 1 for plates assigned to motor vehicles of each of the 2 counties in the state and those of the municipalities and 3 school districts situated within each of the counties and 4 those of the irrigation districts that obtain plates within 5 each county must begin with number one and be numbered 6 7 consecutively. Because these number plates are of a permanent nature, they are subject to replacement by the 8 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 the truck and trailer type, other than tax-exempt trucks and 13 tax-exempt trailers, there must appear the letter "T" or the 14 15 word "TRUCK" on plates assigned to trucks and the letters "TR" or the word "TRAILER" on plates assigned to trailers 16 and housetrailers. The letters "MC" or the word "CYCLE" must 17 18 appear on plates assigned to vehicles of the motorcycle or 19 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.

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; Broadwater, 43; Wheatland, 44; Prairie, 45; Granite, 46; 13 14 Meagher, 47; Liberty, 48; Park, 49; Garfield, 50; Jefferson, 51; Wibaux, 52; Golden Valley, 53; Mineral, 54; Petroleum, 15 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.

(9) For the purpose of this chapter, the several

(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

-15-

HB 96

-16-

HB 96

HB 0096/02

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 who is eligible to receive them, and must be removed upon 4 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, veterans of the armed services, or veterans of the armed 9 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 shall issue to each active member of the Montana national 15 16 guard a certificate authorizing the department to issue one 17 set-of national quard 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.

(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);

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 license plates, numbered in sets of two with a different 6 7 number on each set. The member shall surrender the plates to the department upon becoming ineligible to use them. 8

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.

(ii) Special license plates issued to a disabled veteranare 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

-18-

-17-

HB 96

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 forces of the United States and was captured and held 5 prisoner by a military force of a foreign nation, documented б 7 by his the veteran's service record, may upon application and presentation of proof be issued a special license plate 8 PLATES, NUMBERED IN SETS OF TWO WITH A DIFFERENT NUMBER ON 9 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 parts 3 and 5 of this chapter and upon furnishing proof 14 15 satisfactory to the department that the applicant meets the 16 requirements of this subsection (e), the department shall issue to a Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed 17 18 services of the United States special license plates, for one-motor-vehicle-only NUMBERED IN SETS OF TWO WITH A 19 DIFFERENT NUMBER ON EACH SET, designed to indicate that the 20 21 applicant is a survivor of the Pearl Harbor attack if the 22 applicant was a member of the United States armed forces on December 7, 1941, was on station on December 7, 1941, during 23 the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. (Hawaii time) at Pearl 24 25 Harbor, the island of Oahu, or offshore at a distance of not

more than 3 miles, and received an honorable discharge from 1 2 the United States armed forces. If special license plates ٦ issued under this subsection are lost, stolen, or mutilated, the recipient of the plates is entitled to replacement 4 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 gualification 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 treasurer, who shall issue them to qualified county

-19-

HB 96

HB 0096/02

HB 96

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.

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:

(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

-21-

l 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-

-22-

4

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 96 2 INTRODUCED BY REAM 3 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING HOLDERS OF 4 "PRISONER OF WAR" AND "SURVIVOR OF PEARL HARBOR" SPECIAL 5 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 letter "U" and the word "DEALER", one for dealers in 3 4 trailers and/or semitrailers (new or used) that bear the distinctive letters "DTR" or the letters "TR" and the word 5 "DEALER", one for dealers in recreational vehicles that bear 6 the distinctive letters "RV" or the letter "R" and the word 7 8 "DEALER", and one for special license plates. All markings for the various kinds of dealers' plates must be placed on 9 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 sectiony-and-it-shall-manufacture-the-newly 21 designed-number-plates-for-issuance-after-January--17--19917 22 to-replacey-at-renewal-as-required-in-61-3-312-and-61-3-3147 23 number--plates--that-were-displayed-on-motor-vehicles-before 24 that-date.

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



25

-2-

THIRD READING -

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 <u>Registration</u> plates must be treated with a reflectorized background material according to specifications prescribed by the department.

8 (5) The distinctive registration numbers must begin 9 with a number one or with a letter-number combination. such as "A 1" or "AA 1", or any other similar combination of 10 11 letters and numbers. The distinctive registration number or letter-number combination assigned to the vehicle must 12 appear on the plate preceded by the number of the county and 13 appearing in horizontal order on the same horizontal 14 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, and all county and registration numbers must be of equal 19 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:

(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 <u>not</u> 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.

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 districts and that are used and operated by officials and 10 employees thereof in line of duty and for vehicles on loan 11 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, in a position that the department may designate, the letter 16 17 "X" or the word "EXEMPT". Distinctive registration numbers for plates assigned to motor vehicles of each of the 10 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

-3-

-4-

HB 96

HB 0096/02

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 3 the truck and trailer type, other than tax-exempt trucks and 4 tax-exempt trailers, there must appear the letter "T" or the 5 word "TRUCK" on plates assigned to trucks and the letters 6 "TR" or the word "TRAILER" on plates assigned to trailers 7 and housetrailers. The letters "MC" or the word "CYCLE" must 8 appear on plates assigned to vehicles of the motorcycle or 9 10 quadricycle type.

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

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

1 Teton, 31; Stillwater, 32; Treasure, 33; Sheridan, 34; 2 Sanders, 35; Judith Basin, 36; Daniels, 37; Glacier, 38; Э Fallon, 39; Sweet Grass, 40; McCone, 41: Carter, 42: 4 Broadwater, 43; Wheatland, 44; Prairie, 45; Granite, 46; 5 Meagher, 47; Liberty, 48; Park, 49; Garfield, 50; Jefferson, 6 51; Wibaux, 52; Golden Valley, 53; Mineral, 54; Petroleum, 7 55; Lincoln, 56. Any new counties must be assigned numbers 8 by the department as they may be formed, beginning with the 9 number 57.

10 (10) Each type of special license plate approved by the 11 legislature, except collegiate license plates authorized in 12 61-3-463, must be a separate series of plates, numbered as 13 provided in subsection (5), except that the county number 14 must be replaced by a nonremovable design or decal 15 designating the group or organization to which the applicant 16 belongs. Unless otherwise specifically stated in this 17 section, the special plates are subject to the same rules 18 and laws as govern the issuance of regular license plates, 19 must be placed or mounted on a vehicle owned by the person 20 who is eligible to receive them, and must be removed upon 21 sale or other disposition of the vehicle. The special 22 license plates must be issued to national guard members. former prisoners of war, handicapped persons, reservists, 23 24 disabled veterans, survivors of the Pearl Harbor attack, 25 veterans of the armed services, or veterans of the armed

-6-

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

(a) An active member of the Montana national guard may 3 be issued a special license plate plates with a design or decal displaying the letters "NG". The adjutant general 5 shall issue to each active member of the Montana national 6 7 guard a certificate authorizing the department to issue one set-of national quard plates, numbered in sets of two with a 8 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 decal displaying the following: United States army reserve, 15 16 AR (symbol); United States naval reserve, NR (anchor); 17 United States air force reserve, AFR (symbol); and United States marine corps reserve, MCR (globe and anchor). The 18 commanding officer of each armed forces reserve unit shall 19 20 issue to each eligible member of the reserve unit a certificate authorizing the issuance of one-set--of special 21 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

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".

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 veteran13 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.

(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

-7-

<u>EACH SET</u>, 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 4 parts 3 and 5 of this chapter and upon furnishing proof 5 satisfactory to the department that the applicant meets the 6 7 requirements of this subsection (e), the department shall 8 issue to a Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed services of the United States special license plates, for 9 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 applicant was a member of the United States armed forces on 13 December 7, 1941, was on station on December 7, 1941, during 14 the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. (Hawaii time) at Pearl 15 Harbor, the island of Oahu, or offshore at a distance of not 16 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 plates upon request and without charge. 21

(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:

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.

(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

-9-

-10-

this subsection (10)(f), the county treasurer shall: (A) deposit \$3 of the special fee in the county general

3 fund:

1

2

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).

(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
Nontana 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

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 the letters "MC" and the word "DEALER", one for franchised 4 dealers in new motorcars (including trucks and trailers) or 5 6 new and used motorcars (including trucks and trailers) that bear the distinctive letter "D" or the word "DEALER", one 7 8 for dealers in used motorcars only (including used trucks 9 and trailers) that bear the distinctive letters "UD" or the letter "U" and the word "DEALER", one for dealers in 10 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.

(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.

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

~12-

-11-

HB 96

HB 0096/02

department shall create a new design for number plates as provided in this section7-and-it-shall-manufacture-the-newly designed--number--plates-for-issuance-after-January-17-19917 to-replace7-at-renewal-as-required-in-61-J-J12-and-61-J-J147 number-plates-that-were-displayed-on-motor--vehicles--before that-date.

(4) In the case of motorcars and trucks, number plates 7 8 must be of metal 6 inches wide and 12 inches in length. Por number--plates--issued--after--19767--the THE outline of the 9 10 state of Montana must be used as a distinctive border on 11 such the license plates, and the word "Montana" and the year 12 must be placed across the bottom--of--the plates. Such 13 registration Registration plates must be treated with a 14 reflectorized background material according to specifications prescribed by the department. 15

16 (5) The distinctive registration numbers must begin 17 with a number one or with a letter-number combination, such 18 as "A 1" or "AA 1", or any other similar combination of 19 letters and numbers and-be-numbered-consecutively-for-each 20 series-of-plates. The distinctive registration number or 21 letter-number combination assigned to the vehicle must 22 appear on the plate preceded by the number of the county and 23 appearing in horizontal order on the same horizontal 24 baseline. The county number must be separated from the 25 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.

5 (6) For the use of tax-exempt motor vehicles, in 6 addition to the markings <u>PROVIDED</u> in this section provided, 7 number plates must bear the following distinctive markings:

(a) For vehicles owned by the state, the department may 8 9 designate the prefix number for the various state 10 departments. All numbered plates issued to state departments 11 must bear the words "State Owned", and no a year number may 12 not be indicated thereon on the plates because these 13 numbered plates are of a permanent nature and will be 14 replaced by the department only when the physical condition of numbered plates requires it. 15

16 (b) For vehicles that are owned by the counties, 17 municipalities, irrigation districts organized under the laws of Montana and not operating for profit, and school 18 districts and that are used and operated by officials and 19 20 employees thereof in line of duty and for vehicles on loan 21 from the United States government or the state of Montana 22 to, or owned by, the civil air patrol and used and operated 23 by officials and employees thereof in the line of duty, 24 there must be placed on the number plates assigned thereto, 25 in a position that the department may designate, the letter

-14-

1 "X" or the word "EXEMPT". Distinctive registration numbers 2 for plates assigned to motor vehicles of each of the counties in the state and those of the municipalities and 3 4 school districts situated within each of the counties and 5 those of the irrigation districts that obtain plates within each county must begin with number one and be numbered 6 7 consecutively. Because these number plates are of a permanent nature, they are subject to replacement by the 8 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 "TR" or the word "TRAILER" on plates assigned to trailers 16 17 and housetrailers. The letters "MC" or the word "CYCLE" must appear on plates assigned to vehicles of the motorcycle or 18 19 guadricycle type.

(6) 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 <u>A</u> registration or license fee may not be assessed upon a
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: Silver Bow, 1; Cascade, 2; Yellowstone, 3; Missoula, 4; 3 4 Lewis and Clark, 5; Gallatin, 6; Flathead, 7; Fergus, 8; Powder River, 9; Carbon, 10; Phillips, 11; Hill, 12; 5 6 Ravalli, 13; Custer, 14; Lake, 15; Dawson, 16; Roosevelt, 7 17; Beaverhead, 18; Chouteau, 19; Valley, 20; Toole, 21; Big Horn, 22; Musselshell, 23; Blaine, 24; Madison, 25; Pondera, R 9 26; Richland, 27; Powell, 28; Rosebud, 29; Deer Lodge, 30: 10 Teton, 31; Stillwater, 32; Treasure, 33; Sheridan, 34; Sanders, 35; Judith Basin, 36; Daniels, 37; Glacier, 38; 11 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; Nineral, 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

-15-

-16-

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

(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);

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 certificate authorizing the issuance of one-set--of special 5 6 license plates, numbered in sets of two with a different number on each set. The member shall surrender the plates to 7 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 veterans affairs to be service-connected may, 12 upon presentation to the department of proof of the 13 1001 14 disability, be issued a special license plate under this section with a design or decal displaying the letters "DV". 15

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

-17-

HB 96

-18-

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 5 forces of the United States and was captured and held prisoner by a military force of a foreign nation, documented 6 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-vehicic-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 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.

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:

(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:

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 the25 county treasurer, who shall issue them to gualified

-19-

HB 96

HB 0096/02

-20-

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.

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;

(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."

3 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 2. Effective date. (This act) is
4 effective January 1, 1994.

-End-

-21-

HB 96

-22-

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 96 INTRODUCED BY REAM 2 3 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING BOLDERS OF 4 "PRISONER OF WAR" AND "SURVIVOR OF PEARL HARBOR" SPECIAL 5 LICENSE PLATES AND MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OR RESERVE 6 ARMED FORCES TO BE AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE MORE THAN ONE SET 7 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 number plates are in 10 series: one series for owners of 17 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.

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

- 2 -

HB 96

REFERENCE BILL