

## 1 HOUSE BILL NO. 18

2 INTRODUCED BY J. JOHNSON

3 BY REQUEST OF THE JOINT INTERIM SUBCOMMITTEE ON VETERANS' NEEDS

4

5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING THE BOARD OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS TO DEVELOP  
6 A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FROM TOWN, CITY, COUNTY, AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS IN EASTERN  
7 MONTANA FOR THE SITING OF AN EASTERN MONTANA STATE VETERANS' CEMETERY; SPECIFYING  
8 CERTAIN CRITERIA FOR THE SITE OF THE CEMETERY; DESIGNATING THE BOARD TO EVALUATE THE  
9 PROPOSALS; PROVIDING FOR THE EVALUATION OF THE PROPOSALS AND SELECTION OF A SITE;  
10 APPROPRIATING MONEY TO THE BOARD FOR THE PURPOSES OF SITE SELECTION; AMENDING  
11 SECTIONS 10-2-601, 10-2-602, 10-2-603, AND 61-3-332, MCA; AND PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATES  
12 AND A TERMINATION DATE."

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

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16 **NEW SECTION. Section 1. Legislative findings.** The legislature finds that Article II, section 35,  
17 of the Montana constitution states that the legislature may give Montana veterans special consideration.  
18 Accordingly, there are geographical requirements for veterans' cemeteries for proper interment. Therefore,  
19 it is necessary to provide guidelines for the siting and construction of an eastern Montana state veterans'  
20 cemetery.

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22 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Request for proposals.** (1) The board of veterans' affairs shall request  
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25 (a) be made in the form of a request for proposals;

26 (b) specify 90 days from the date on which the requests for proposals are mailed as the date on  
27 which all proposals are to be received by the board; and28 (c) contain the information required under subsection (2) and other information determined  
29 necessary by the board.

30 (2) The request for proposal must:

1 (a) require that information be submitted by a town, city, county, or tribal government as part of  
2 any proposal according to the requirements in 38 U.S.C. 2408, 38 CFR, part 39, and the most recent  
3 department of veterans affairs National Cemetery System Program Guide 40-1, state cemetery grants  
4 program;

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6 cemetery; and

7 (c) state the proximity to the veterans' affairs field offices and department of military affairs  
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10 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Board to select site.** (1) Proposals submitted in response to the request  
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12 (2) Except as provided in subsection (3), the board must be compensated, reimbursed, and  
13 otherwise governed by the provisions of 2-15-122 regarding advisory councils.

14 (3) The board members must receive an honorarium of \$50 for each day spent performing the  
15 duties required in [sections 2 through 6] that does not constitute a regular board meeting.

16 (4) The board shall meet as often as necessary to perform the duties assigned by [sections 2  
17 through 6]. The board shall consider, evaluate, and select the location for the eastern Montana state  
18 veterans' cemetery according to the procedure and criteria provided for in [sections 2 through 6].

19 (5) The department of military affairs shall provide staff and budgetary, administrative, and clerical  
20 services to the board as the board or its presiding officer requests.

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22 administration, architecture and engineering division, and other executive agencies that may have  
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24 (7) The board's site selection function terminates on the date of the announcement by the governor  
25 of the winning proposal, in accordance with [section 6].

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27 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Site selection procedure and criteria.** (1) The board of veterans' affairs  
28 may not consider a proposal unless the proposal:

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2 Daniels, Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, McCone, Musselshell, Petroleum, Phillips, Powder River, Prairie, Richland,  
3 Roosevelt, Rosebud, Sheridan, Treasure, Valley, Wibaux, or Yellowstone County.

4 (2) The board shall determine a maximum numeric value for each of the criteria required in [section  
5 2] and the tie-breaker criteria described in [section 6(2)]. Criteria that the board determines to be of more  
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21 **NEW SECTION. Section 6. Site selection.** (1) After completing the onsite reviews required by  
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29 (b) the proximity to the veterans' affairs division field offices and department of military affairs  
30 support facilities.

1           (3) The cemetery must be located at the proposed site that receives the highest numeric score  
 2 using the procedure provided in this section. Upon selection of the winning proposal by the board, the  
 3 board shall inform the governor of its selection. The board shall submit its selection to the governor no later  
 4 than 250 days after [the effective date of this section]. The governor shall review the selection process to  
 5 ensure that the board has not made an error in process or in fact. If the governor determines that an error  
 6 has been made, the governor shall remand the recommendation to the board for further evaluation. The  
 7 governor shall make a public announcement of the board's selection upon determining that no errors have  
 8 been made.

9  
 10           **Section 7.** Section 10-2-601, MCA, is amended to read:

11           "**10-2-601. State veterans' ~~cemetery~~ cemeteries.** The department of military affairs shall establish  
 12 a state veterans' ~~cemetery~~ cemeteries. ~~The A~~ cemetery must be located at Fort William Henry Harrison,  
 13 Lewis and Clark County, Montana, and at the location chosen pursuant to [sections 1 through 6]."

14  
 15           **Section 8.** Section 10-2-602, MCA, is amended to read:

16           "**10-2-602. Rulemaking authority.** The department of military affairs shall adopt rules that provide  
 17 criteria for determining which veterans may be buried in ~~the a~~ state veterans' cemetery. The criteria must  
 18 include, but are not limited to, discharge status and length of service."

19  
 20           **Section 9.** Section 10-2-603, MCA, is amended to read:

21           "**10-2-603. Special revenue account -- use of funds -- solicitation.** (1) There is an account in the  
 22 special revenue fund to the credit of the department of military affairs for the state veterans' ~~cemetery~~  
 23 cemeteries.

24           (2) Plot allowances, donations, and, as provided in 61-3-332, revenue from veterans' license plate  
 25 sales must be deposited into the account.

26           (3) As appropriated by the legislature, money in the account may be used only for the construction,  
 27 maintenance, operation, and administration of the state veterans' ~~cemetery~~ cemeteries.

28           (4) The department of military affairs may solicit veterans' license plate sales and donations on  
 29 behalf of the state veterans' ~~cemetery~~ cemeteries."

30

1           **Section 10.** Section 61-3-332, MCA, is amended to read:

2           **"61-3-332. Number plates.** (1) A motor vehicle that is driven upon the streets or highways of  
3 Montana must display both front and rear number plates, bearing the distinctive number assigned to the  
4 vehicle. The number plates are in 10 series: one series for owners of motorcars, one for owners of motor  
5 vehicles of the motorcycle or quadricycle type, one for trailers, one for trucks, one for dealers in vehicles  
6 of the motorcycle or quadricycle type that bear the distinctive letters "MCD" or the letters "MC" and the  
7 word "DEALER", one for franchised dealers in new motorcars (including trucks and trailers) or new and  
8 used motorcars (including trucks and trailers) that bear the distinctive letter "D" or the word "DEALER",  
9 one for dealers in used motorcars only (including used trucks and trailers) that bear the distinctive letters  
10 "UD" or the letter "U" and the word "DEALER", one for dealers in trailers and/or semitrailers (new or used)  
11 that bear the distinctive letters "DTR" or the letters "TR" and the word "DEALER", one for dealers in  
12 recreational vehicles that bear the distinctive letters "RV" or the letter "R" and the word "DEALER", and  
13 one for special license plates. All markings for the various kinds of dealers' plates must be placed on the  
14 number plates assigned to the dealer, in the position that the department designates.

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

19           (3) Subject to the provisions of this section, the department shall create a new design for number  
20 plates as provided in this section.

21           (4) In the case of motorcars and trucks, plates must be of metal 6 inches wide and 12 inches in  
22 length. The outline of the state of Montana must be used as a distinctive border on the license plates, and  
23 the word "Montana" and the year must be placed across the plates. Registration plates must be treated  
24 with a reflectorized background material according to specifications prescribed by the department.

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

1 determined by the department, and all county and registration numbers must be of equal height.

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

4 (a) For vehicles owned by the state, the department may designate the prefix number for the  
5 various state departments. All numbered plates issued to state departments must bear the words "State  
6 Owned", and a year number may not be indicated on the plates because these numbered plates are of a  
7 permanent nature and will be replaced by the department only when the physical condition of numbered  
8 plates requires it.

9 (b) For vehicles that are owned by the counties, municipalities, and special districts, as defined in  
10 18-8-202, organized under the laws of Montana and not operating for profit, and that are used and  
11 operated by officials and employees in the line of duty and for vehicles on loan from the United States  
12 government or the state of Montana to, or owned by, the civil air patrol and used and operated by officials  
13 and employees in the line of duty, there must be placed on the number plates assigned, in a position that  
14 the department may designate, the letter "X" or the word "EXEMPT". Distinctive registration numbers for  
15 plates assigned to motor vehicles of each of the counties in the state and those of the municipalities and  
16 special districts that obtain plates within each county must begin with number one and be numbered  
17 consecutively. Because these number plates are of a permanent nature, they are subject to replacement  
18 by the department only when the physical condition of the number plates requires it and a year number may  
19 not be displayed on the number plates.

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

25 (8) Number plates issued to a passenger car, truck, trailer, or vehicle of the motorcycle or  
26 quadricycle type may be transferred only to a replacement passenger car, truck, trailer, or motorcycle- or  
27 quadricycle-type vehicle. A registration or license fee may not be assessed upon a transfer of a number  
28 plate under 61-3-317 and 61-3-335.

29 (9) For the purpose of this chapter, the several counties of the state are assigned numbers as  
30 follows: Silver Bow, 1; Cascade, 2; Yellowstone, 3; Missoula, 4; Lewis and Clark, 5; Gallatin, 6; Flathead,

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

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

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

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

1 (c) (i) A resident of Montana who is a veteran of the armed forces of the United States and who  
2 is 100% disabled because of an injury that has been determined by the department of veterans affairs to  
3 be service-connected may, upon presentation to the department of proof of the 100% disability, be issued:

4 (A) a special license plate under this section with a design or decal displaying the letters "DV"; or

5 (B) one set of any other military-related plates that the disabled veteran is eligible to receive under  
6 this section.

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

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

11 (iv) A disabled veteran is not entitled to a special disabled veteran's license plate for more than one  
12 vehicle.

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

15 (d) A Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed forces of the United States and was  
16 captured and held prisoner by a military force of a foreign nation, documented by the veteran's service  
17 record, may upon application and presentation of proof be issued special license plates, numbered in sets  
18 of two with a different number on each set, with a design or decal displaying the words "ex-prisoner of  
19 war" or an abbreviation the department considers appropriate.

20 (e) Except as provided in subsection (10)(c), upon payment of all taxes and fees required by parts  
21 3 and 5 of this chapter and upon furnishing proof satisfactory to the department that the applicant meets  
22 the requirements of this subsection (10)(e), the department shall issue to a Montana resident who is a  
23 veteran of the armed services of the United States special license plates, numbered in sets of two with a  
24 different number on each set, designed to indicate that the applicant is a survivor of the Pearl Harbor attack  
25 if the applicant was a member of the United States armed forces on December 7, 1941, was on station on  
26 December 7, 1941, during the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. (Hawaii time) at Pearl Harbor, the island  
27 of Oahu, or offshore at a distance of not more than 3 miles, and received an honorable discharge from the  
28 United States armed forces. If special license plates issued under this subsection are lost, stolen, or  
29 mutilated, the recipient of the plates is entitled to replacement plates upon request and without charge.

30 (f) A motor vehicle owner and resident of this state who is a veteran or the surviving spouse of



1 a veteran of the armed services of the United States may be issued license plates inscribed as provided in  
2 subsection (10)(f)(i) if the veteran was separated from the armed services under other than dishonorable  
3 circumstances or was awarded the purple heart medal:

4 (i) Upon submission of a department of defense form 214(DD-214) or its successor or documents  
5 showing an other-than-dishonorable discharge or a reenlistment, proper identification, and other relevant  
6 documents to show an applicant's qualification under this subsection, there must be issued to the applicant,  
7 in lieu of the regular license plates prescribed by law, special license plates numbered in sets of two with  
8 a different number on each set. The plates must display:

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

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

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

17 (iii) Except as provided in subsection (10)(c), a veteran or surviving spouse who receives special  
18 license plates under this subsection (10)(f) is liable for payment of all taxes and fees required under parts  
19 3 and 4 of this chapter and a special veteran's or purple heart medal license plate fee of \$10. Upon an  
20 original application for a license under this subsection (10)(f), the county treasurer shall:

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

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

23 (C) deposit the remainder of the special fee in the state special revenue account established in  
24 10-2-603 for administration, construction, operation, and maintenance of the state veterans' ~~cemetery~~  
25 cemeteries.

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

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

1           **NEW SECTION. Section 11. Appropriation.** There is appropriated from the general fund \$10,000  
2 to the board of veterans' affairs for expenses incurred in selecting a site for the eastern Montana state  
3 veterans' cemetery and for support and travel costs for members and staff and honoraria for members. This  
4 appropriation is effective through the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999.

5

6           **NEW SECTION. Section 12. Notification to tribal governments.** The secretary of state shall send  
7 a copy of [this act] to each tribal government located on the four Montana reservations in eastern Montana  
8 located in the counties set forth in [section 4(1)(c)].

9

10           **NEW SECTION. Section 13. Effective dates.** (1) [Sections 1 through 10, 12, and 14 and this  
11 section] are effective on passage and approval.

12           (2) [Section 11] is effective July 1, 1997.

13

14           **NEW SECTION. Section 14. Termination.** [Sections 1 through 6] terminate June 30, 1999.

15

-END-

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28 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Site selection procedure and criteria.** (1) The board of veterans' affairs  
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3 Daniels, Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, McCone, Musselshell, Petroleum, Phillips, Powder River, Prairie, Richland,  
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29 and  
30 (b) the proximity to the veterans' affairs division field offices and department of military affairs

1 support facilities.

2 (3) The cemetery must be located at the proposed site that receives the highest numeric score  
3 using the procedure provided in this section. Upon selection of the winning proposal by the board, the  
4 board shall inform the governor of its selection. The board shall submit its selection to the governor no later  
5 than 250 days after [the effective date of this section]. The governor shall review the selection process to  
6 ensure that the board has not made an error in process or in fact. If the governor determines that an error  
7 has been made, the governor shall remand the recommendation to the board for further evaluation. The  
8 governor shall make a public announcement of the board's selection upon determining that no errors have  
9 been made.

10

11 **Section 7.** Section 10-2-601, MCA, is amended to read:

12 "**10-2-601. State veterans' ~~cemetary~~ cemeteries.** The department of military affairs shall establish  
13 a state veterans' ~~cemetary~~ cemeteries. ~~The A~~ cemetery must be located at Fort William Henry Harrison,  
14 Lewis and Clark County, Montana, and at the location chosen pursuant to [sections 1 through 6]."

15

16 **Section 8.** Section 10-2-602, MCA, is amended to read:

17 "**10-2-602. Rulemaking authority.** The department of military affairs shall adopt rules that provide  
18 criteria for determining which veterans may be buried in ~~the a~~ state veterans' cemetery. The criteria must  
19 include, but are not limited to, discharge status and length of service."

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21 **Section 9.** Section 10-2-603, MCA, is amended to read:

22 "**10-2-603. Special revenue account -- use of funds -- solicitation.** (1) There is an account in the  
23 special revenue fund to the credit of the department of military affairs for the state veterans' ~~cemetary~~  
24 cemeteries.

25 (2) Plot allowances, donations, and, as provided in 61-3-332, revenue from veterans' license plate  
26 sales must be deposited into the account.

27 (3) As appropriated by the legislature, money in the account may be used only for the construction,  
28 maintenance, operation, and administration of the state veterans' ~~cemetary~~ cemeteries.

29 (4) The department of military affairs may solicit veterans' license plate sales and donations on  
30 behalf of the state veterans' ~~cemetary~~ cemeteries."

1           **Section 10.** Section 61-3-332, MCA, is amended to read:

2           **"61-3-332. Number plates.** (1) A motor vehicle that is driven upon the streets or highways of  
3 Montana must display both front and rear number plates, bearing the distinctive number assigned to the  
4 vehicle. The number plates are in 10 series: one series for owners of motorcars, one for owners of motor  
5 vehicles of the motorcycle or quadricycle type, one for trailers, one for trucks, one for dealers in vehicles  
6 of the motorcycle or quadricycle type that bear the distinctive letters "MCD" or the letters "MC" and the  
7 word "DEALER", one for franchised dealers in new motorcars (including trucks and trailers) or new and  
8 used motorcars (including trucks and trailers) that bear the distinctive letter "D" or the word "DEALER",  
9 one for dealers in used motorcars only (including used trucks and trailers) that bear the distinctive letters  
10 "UD" or the letter "U" and the word "DEALER", one for dealers in trailers and/or semitrailers (new or used)  
11 that bear the distinctive letters "DTR" or the letters "TR" and the word "DEALER", one for dealers in  
12 recreational vehicles that bear the distinctive letters "RV" or the letter "R" and the word "DEALER", and  
13 one for special license plates. All markings for the various kinds of dealers' plates must be placed on the  
14 number plates assigned to the dealer, in the position that the department designates.

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

19           (3) Subject to the provisions of this section, the department shall create a new design for number  
20 plates as provided in this section.

21           (4) In the case of motorcars and trucks, plates must be of metal 6 inches wide and 12 inches in  
22 length. The outline of the state of Montana must be used as a distinctive border on the license plates, and  
23 the word "Montana" and the year must be placed across the plates. Registration plates must be treated  
24 with a reflectorized background material according to specifications prescribed by the department.

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

1 determined by the department, and all county and registration numbers must be of equal height.

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

4 (a) For vehicles owned by the state, the department may designate the prefix number for the  
5 various state departments. All numbered plates issued to state departments must bear the words "State  
6 Owned", and a year number may not be indicated on the plates because these numbered plates are of a  
7 permanent nature and will be replaced by the department only when the physical condition of numbered  
8 plates requires it.

9 (b) For vehicles that are owned by the counties, municipalities, and special districts, as defined in  
10 18-8-202, organized under the laws of Montana and not operating for profit, and that are used and  
11 operated by officials and employees in the line of duty and for vehicles on loan from the United States  
12 government or the state of Montana to, or owned by, the civil air patrol and used and operated by officials  
13 and employees in the line of duty, there must be placed on the number plates assigned, in a position that  
14 the department may designate, the letter "X" or the word "EXEMPT". Distinctive registration numbers for  
15 plates assigned to motor vehicles of each of the counties in the state and those of the municipalities and  
16 special districts that obtain plates within each county must begin with number one and be numbered  
17 consecutively. Because these number plates are of a permanent nature, they are subject to replacement  
18 by the department only when the physical condition of the number plates requires it and a year number may  
19 not be displayed on the number plates.

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

25 (8) Number plates issued to a passenger car, truck, trailer, or vehicle of the motorcycle or  
26 quadricycle type may be transferred only to a replacement passenger car, truck, trailer, or motorcycle- or  
27 quadricycle-type vehicle. A registration or license fee may not be assessed upon a transfer of a number  
28 plate under 61-3-317 and 61-3-335.

29 (9) For the purpose of this chapter, the several counties of the state are assigned numbers as  
30 follows: Silver Bow, 1; Cascade, 2; Yellowstone, 3; Missoula, 4; Lewis and Clark, 5; Gallatin, 6; Flathead,



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

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

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

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

1 (c) (i) A resident of Montana who is a veteran of the armed forces of the United States and who  
2 is 100% disabled because of an injury that has been determined by the department of veterans affairs to  
3 be service-connected may, upon presentation to the department of proof of the 100% disability, be issued:

4 (A) a special license plate under this section with a design or decal displaying the letters "DV"; or

5 (B) one set of any other military-related plates that the disabled veteran is eligible to receive under  
6 this section.

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

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

11 (iv) A disabled veteran is not entitled to a special disabled veteran's license plate for more than one  
12 vehicle.

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

15 (d) A Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed forces of the United States and was  
16 captured and held prisoner by a military force of a foreign nation, documented by the veteran's service  
17 record, may upon application and presentation of proof be issued special license plates, numbered in sets  
18 of two with a different number on each set, with a design or decal displaying the words "ex-prisoner of  
19 war" or an abbreviation the department considers appropriate.

20 (e) Except as provided in subsection (10)(c), upon payment of all taxes and fees required by parts  
21 3 and 5 of this chapter and upon furnishing proof satisfactory to the department that the applicant meets  
22 the requirements of this subsection (10)(e), the department shall issue to a Montana resident who is a  
23 veteran of the armed services of the United States special license plates, numbered in sets of two with a  
24 different number on each set, designed to indicate that the applicant is a survivor of the Pearl Harbor attack  
25 if the applicant was a member of the United States armed forces on December 7, 1941, was on station on  
26 December 7, 1941, during the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. (Hawaii time) at Pearl Harbor, the island  
27 of Oahu, or offshore at a distance of not more than 3 miles, and received an honorable discharge from the  
28 United States armed forces. If special license plates issued under this subsection are lost, stolen, or  
29 mutilated, the recipient of the plates is entitled to replacement plates upon request and without charge.

30 (f) A motor vehicle owner and resident of this state who is a veteran or the surviving spouse of

1 a veteran of the armed services of the United States may be issued license plates inscribed as provided in  
2 subsection (10)(f)(i) if the veteran was separated from the armed services under other than dishonorable  
3 circumstances or was awarded the purple heart medal:

4 (i) Upon submission of a department of defense form 214(DD-214) or its successor or documents  
5 showing an other-than-dishonorable discharge or a reenlistment, proper identification, and other relevant  
6 documents to show an applicant's qualification under this subsection, there must be issued to the applicant,  
7 in lieu of the regular license plates prescribed by law, special license plates numbered in sets of two with  
8 a different number on each set. The plates must display:

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

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

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

17 (iii) Except as provided in subsection (10)(c), a veteran or surviving spouse who receives special  
18 license plates under this subsection (10)(f) is liable for payment of all taxes and fees required under parts  
19 3 and 4 of this chapter and a special veteran's or purple heart medal license plate fee of \$10. Upon an  
20 original application for a license under this subsection (10)(f), the county treasurer shall:

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

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

23 (C) deposit the remainder of the special fee in the state special revenue account established in  
24 10-2-603 for administration, construction, operation, and maintenance of the state veterans' ~~cemetery~~  
25 cemeteries.

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

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

1           **NEW SECTION. Section 11. Appropriation.** There is appropriated from the ~~general~~ VETERAN'S  
2 LICENSE PLATE FEE ACCOUNT IN THE STATE SPECIAL REVENUE fund \$10,000 to the board of veterans'  
3 affairs for expenses incurred in selecting a site for the eastern Montana state veterans' cemetery and for  
4 support and travel costs for members and staff and honoraria for members. This appropriation is effective  
5 through the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999.

6

7           **NEW SECTION. Section 12. Notification to tribal governments.** The secretary of state shall send  
8 a copy of [this act] to each tribal government located on the four Montana reservations in eastern Montana  
9 located in the counties set forth in [section 4(1)(c)].

10

11           **NEW SECTION. Section 13. Effective dates.** (1) [Sections 1 through 10, 12, and 14 and this  
12 section] are effective on passage and approval.

13           (2) [Section 11] is effective July 1, 1997.

14

15           **NEW SECTION. Section 14. Termination.** [Sections 1 through 6] terminate June 30, 1999.

16

-END-

## 1 HOUSE BILL NO. 18

2 INTRODUCED BY J. JOHNSON, HARGROVE, CRIPPEN, SIMPKINS, HOLDEN, TROPILA, PAVLOVICH,  
3 DEBRUYCKER, ROSE, HAYNE, KITZENBERG

4 BY REQUEST OF THE JOINT INTERIM SUBCOMMITTEE ON VETERANS' NEEDS

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6 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING THE BOARD OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS TO DEVELOP  
7 A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FROM TOWN, CITY, COUNTY, AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS IN EASTERN  
8 MONTANA FOR THE SITING OF AN EASTERN MONTANA STATE VETERANS' CEMETERY; SPECIFYING  
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10 PROPOSALS; PROVIDING FOR THE EVALUATION OF THE PROPOSALS AND SELECTION OF A SITE;  
11 APPROPRIATING MONEY TO THE BOARD FOR THE PURPOSES OF SITE SELECTION; AMENDING  
12 SECTIONS 10-2-601, 10-2-602, 10-2-603, AND 61-3-332, MCA; AND PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATES  
13 AND A TERMINATION DATE."

14  
15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**THERE ARE NO CHANGES IN THIS BILL AND IT WILL NOT BE  
REPRINTED. PLEASE REFER TO SECOND READING COPY  
(YELLOW) FOR COMPLETE TEXT.**

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13 AND A TERMINATION DATE."

14  
15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

16  
17 **NEW SECTION.** **Section 1. Legislative findings.** The legislature finds that Article II, section 35,  
18 of the Montana constitution states that the legislature may give Montana veterans special consideration.  
19 Accordingly, there are geographical requirements for veterans' cemeteries for proper interment. Therefore,  
20 it is necessary to provide guidelines for the siting and construction of an eastern Montana state veterans'  
21 cemetery.

22  
23 **NEW SECTION.** **Section 2. Request for proposals.** (1) The board of veterans' affairs shall request  
24 that proposals for the siting of a new state veterans' cemetery be submitted to the board from town, city,  
25 county, and tribal governments in the counties enumerated in [section 4] . The request must:

26 (a) be made in the form of a request for proposals;

27 (b) specify 90 days from the date on which the requests for proposals are mailed as the date on  
28 which all proposals are to be received by the board; and

29 (c) contain the information required under subsection (2) and other information determined  
30 necessary by the board.

1 (2) The request for proposal must:

2 (a) require that information be submitted by a town, city, county, or tribal government as part of  
3 any proposal according to the requirements in 38 U.S.C. 2408, 38 CFR, part 39, and the most recent  
4 department of veterans affairs National Cemetery System Program Guide 40-1, state cemetery grants  
5 program;

6 (b) include the extent to which land is donated to the state for an eastern Montana state veterans'  
7 cemetery; and

8 (c) state the proximity to the veterans' affairs field offices and department of military affairs  
9 support facilities.

10

11 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Board to select site.** (1) Proposals submitted in response to the request  
12 for proposals required by [section 2] must be evaluated by the board of veterans' affairs.

13 (2) Except as provided in subsection (3), the board must be compensated, reimbursed, and  
14 otherwise governed by the provisions of 2-15-122 regarding advisory councils.

15 (3) The board members must receive an honorarium of \$50 for each day spent performing the  
16 duties required in [sections 2 through 6] that does not constitute a regular board meeting.

17 (4) The board shall meet as often as necessary to perform the duties assigned by [sections 2  
18 through 6]. The board shall consider, evaluate, and select the location for the eastern Montana state  
19 veterans' cemetery according to the procedure and criteria provided for in [sections 2 through 6].

20 (5) The department of military affairs shall provide staff and budgetary, administrative, and clerical  
21 services to the board as the board or its presiding officer requests.

22 (6) The board must receive assistance and information, as requested, from the department of  
23 administration, architecture and engineering division, and other executive agencies that may have  
24 information relevant to siting and supporting a state veterans' cemetery.

25 (7) The board's site selection function terminates on the date of the announcement by the governor  
26 of the winning proposal, in accordance with [section 6].

27

28 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Site selection procedure and criteria.** (1) The board of veterans' affairs  
29 may not consider a proposal unless the proposal:

30 (a) is submitted within the time required by the request for proposal;



1 (b) contains the criteria and additional information required by [section 2]; and

2 (c) is submitted by a town, city, county, or tribal government located in Big Horn, Carter, Custer,  
3 Daniels, Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, McCone, Musselshell, Petroleum, Phillips, Powder River, Prairie, Richland,  
4 Roosevelt, Rosebud, Sheridan, Treasure, Valley, Wibaux, or Yellowstone County.

5 (2) The board shall determine a maximum numeric value for each of the criteria required in [section  
6 2] and the tie-breaker criteria described in [section 6(2)]. Criteria that the board determines to be of more  
7 relative importance must be awarded a greater maximum value. The board shall rate each proposal  
8 considered by it by using a weighted-scale process that assigns a numeric score for each criterion and then  
9 totals the score for each proposal. The score for each criterion and proposal must be determined by the  
10 extent to which each criterion is satisfied, based upon a documented demonstration.

11

12 **NEW SECTION. Section 5. Site visitations and hearings required.** The board of veterans' affairs  
13 shall determine the three proposals with the highest numeric scores. The board shall eliminate the other  
14 proposals from further consideration. As soon as possible after elimination of the other sites, the board shall  
15 conduct onsite reviews of the remaining candidate sites by both conducting an onsite tour of each of the  
16 candidate sites and holding a public hearing on the subject of the cemetery in the community where each  
17 proposed site is located. The purpose of the tour and hearing is to receive information concerning the extent  
18 to which each candidate site satisfies the criteria provided in [section 2]. The hearings must be conducted  
19 under procedures determined by the board, and the board shall give notice of each hearing by  
20 advertisement in a newspaper of general circulation in the county of each candidate site.

21

22 **NEW SECTION. Section 6. Site selection.** (1) After completing the onsite reviews required by  
23 [section 5], the board shall again score each of the candidate sites by applying the criteria and scoring  
24 method provided in [section 4].

25 (2) If two or more proposals receive the same total score, the board shall determine the leading  
26 proposal by scoring those proposals on the following criteria for the community in which the cemetery  
27 would be located:

28 (a) the extent to which land is donated to the state for an eastern Montana veterans' cemetery;  
29 and

30 (b) the proximity to the veterans' affairs division field offices and department of military affairs

1 support facilities.

2 (3) The cemetery must be located at the proposed site that receives the highest numeric score  
3 using the procedure provided in this section. Upon selection of the winning proposal by the board, the  
4 board shall inform the governor of its selection. The board shall submit its selection to the governor no later  
5 than 250 days after [the effective date of this section]. The governor shall review the selection process to  
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15           (2) All number plates for motor vehicles must be issued for a minimum period of 4 years, bear a  
16 distinctive marking, and be furnished by the state. In years when number plates are not issued, the  
17 department shall provide nonremovable stickers bearing appropriate registration numbers that must be  
18 affixed to the license plates in use.

19           (3) Subject to the provisions of this section, the department shall create a new design for number  
20 plates as provided in this section.

21           (4) In the case of motorcars and trucks, plates must be of metal 6 inches wide and 12 inches in  
22 length. The outline of the state of Montana must be used as a distinctive border on the license plates, and  
23 the word "Montana" and the year must be placed across the plates. Registration plates must be treated  
24 with a reflectorized background material according to specifications prescribed by the department.

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

1 determined by the department, and all county and registration numbers must be of equal height.

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

4 (a) For vehicles owned by the state, the department may designate the prefix number for the  
5 various state departments. All numbered plates issued to state departments must bear the words "State  
6 Owned", and a year number may not be indicated on the plates because these numbered plates are of a  
7 permanent nature and will be replaced by the department only when the physical condition of numbered  
8 plates requires it.

9 (b) For vehicles that are owned by the counties, municipalities, and special districts, as defined in  
10 18-8-202, organized under the laws of Montana and not operating for profit, and that are used and  
11 operated by officials and employees in the line of duty and for vehicles on loan from the United States  
12 government or the state of Montana to, or owned by, the civil air patrol and used and operated by officials  
13 and employees in the line of duty, there must be placed on the number plates assigned, in a position that  
14 the department may designate, the letter "X" or the word "EXEMPT". Distinctive registration numbers for  
15 plates assigned to motor vehicles of each of the counties in the state and those of the municipalities and  
16 special districts that obtain plates within each county must begin with number one and be numbered  
17 consecutively. Because these number plates are of a permanent nature, they are subject to replacement  
18 by the department only when the physical condition of the number plates requires it and a year number may  
19 not be displayed on the number plates.

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

25 (8) Number plates issued to a passenger car, truck, trailer, or vehicle of the motorcycle or  
26 quadricycle type may be transferred only to a replacement passenger car, truck, trailer, or motorcycle- or  
27 quadricycle-type vehicle. A registration or license fee may not be assessed upon a transfer of a number  
28 plate under 61-3-317 and 61-3-335.

29 (9) For the purpose of this chapter, the several counties of the state are assigned numbers as  
30 follows: Silver Bow, 1; Cascade, 2; Yellowstone, 3; Missoula, 4; Lewis and Clark, 5; Gallatin, 6; Flathead,

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

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

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

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

1 (c) (i) A resident of Montana who is a veteran of the armed forces of the United States and who  
2 is 100% disabled because of an injury that has been determined by the department of veterans affairs to  
3 be service-connected may, upon presentation to the department of proof of the 100% disability, be issued:

4 (A) a special license plate under this section with a design or decal displaying the letters "DV"; or

5 (B) one set of any other military-related plates that the disabled veteran is eligible to receive under  
6 this section.

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

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

11 (iv) A disabled veteran is not entitled to a special disabled veteran's license plate for more than one  
12 vehicle.

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

15 (d) A Montana resident who is a veteran of the armed forces of the United States and was  
16 captured and held prisoner by a military force of a foreign nation, documented by the veteran's service  
17 record, may upon application and presentation of proof be issued special license plates, numbered in sets  
18 of two with a different number on each set, with a design or decal displaying the words "ex-prisoner of  
19 war" or an abbreviation the department considers appropriate.

20 (e) Except as provided in subsection (10)(c), upon payment of all taxes and fees required by parts  
21 3 and 5 of this chapter and upon furnishing proof satisfactory to the department that the applicant meets  
22 the requirements of this subsection (10)(e), the department shall issue to a Montana resident who is a  
23 veteran of the armed services of the United States special license plates, numbered in sets of two with a  
24 different number on each set, designed to indicate that the applicant is a survivor of the Pearl Harbor attack  
25 if the applicant was a member of the United States armed forces on December 7, 1941, was on station on  
26 December 7, 1941, during the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. (Hawaii time) at Pearl Harbor, the island  
27 of Oahu, or offshore at a distance of not more than 3 miles, and received an honorable discharge from the  
28 United States armed forces. If special license plates issued under this subsection are lost, stolen, or  
29 mutilated, the recipient of the plates is entitled to replacement plates upon request and without charge.

30 (f) A motor vehicle owner and resident of this state who is a veteran or the surviving spouse of

1 a veteran of the armed services of the United States may be issued license plates inscribed as provided in  
2 subsection (10)(f)(i) if the veteran was separated from the armed services under other than dishonorable  
3 circumstances or was awarded the purple heart medal:

4 (i) Upon submission of a department of defense form 214(DD-214) or its successor or documents  
5 showing an other-than-dishonorable discharge or a reenlistment, proper identification, and other relevant  
6 documents to show an applicant's qualification under this subsection, there must be issued to the applicant,  
7 in lieu of the regular license plates prescribed by law, special license plates numbered in sets of two with  
8 a different number on each set. The plates must display:

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

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

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

17 (iii) Except as provided in subsection (10)(c), a veteran or surviving spouse who receives special  
18 license plates under this subsection (10)(f) is liable for payment of all taxes and fees required under parts  
19 3 and 4 of this chapter and a special veteran's or purple heart medal license plate fee of \$10. Upon an  
20 original application for a license under this subsection (10)(f), the county treasurer shall:

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

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

23 (C) deposit the remainder of the special fee in the state special revenue account established in  
24 10-2-603 for administration, construction, operation, and maintenance of the state veterans' ~~cemetery~~  
25 cemeteries.

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

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

1                 NEW SECTION. Section 11. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the ~~general~~ VETERAN'S  
2 LICENSE PLATE FEE ACCOUNT IN THE STATE SPECIAL REVENUE fund \$10,000 to the board of veterans'  
3 affairs for expenses incurred in selecting a site for the eastern Montana state veterans' cemetery and for  
4 support and travel costs for members and staff and honoraria for members. This appropriation is effective  
5 through the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999.

6

7                 NEW SECTION. Section 12. Notification to tribal governments. The secretary of state shall send  
8 a copy of [this act] to each tribal government located on the four Montana reservations in eastern Montana  
9 located in the counties set forth in [section 4(1)(c)].

10

11                 NEW SECTION. Section 13. Effective dates. (1) [Sections 1 through 10, 12, and 14 and this  
12 section] are effective on passage and approval.

13                 (2) [Section 11] is effective July 1, 1997.

14

15                 NEW SECTION. Section 14. Termination. [Sections 1 through 6] terminate June 30, 1999.

16

-END-