

LEGISLATIVE BILL 138

Approved by the Governor May 08, 2019

Introduced by Blood, 3; Linehan, 39; Crawford, 45; Pansing Brooks, 28.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to government; to amend section 60-3,102, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 55-601, 60-301, 60-393, 60-395, 60-396, 60-3,104, 60-3,122, 60-3,122.02, 60-3,122.03, 60-3,122.04, 60-3,123, 60-3,124, 60-3,125, and 60-3,130.04, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2018; to state intent; to create a veterans' program coordinator in the Department of Labor and provide duties; to provide duties for the Department of Veterans' Affairs and the Department of Labor related to veterans employment; to add a member to the Commission on Military and Veteran Affairs; to change and eliminate certain armed services-related license plate fees; to eliminate obsolete provisions; to provide for additional Military Honor Plates and Support Our Troops Plates; to create a fund; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. (1) The Legislature finds and declares that:

(a) Nebraska is a welcoming state for veterans and their families; and

(b) Nebraska is committed to workforce development initiatives that help attract and retain veterans and their families.

(2) It is the intent of the Legislature to:

(a) Increase efforts to create public awareness among veterans and their families about the benefits of living and working in Nebraska, including special initiatives enacted to make Nebraska a veteran-friendly state; and

(b) Develop new initiatives to better connect veterans to Nebraska's job market and the workforce development needs of employers.

(3) The position of veterans' program coordinator shall be maintained by the Department of Labor. The coordinator shall be a veteran and a full-time employee of the Department of Labor and shall:

(a) Seek advice and input from the Commission on Military and Veteran Affairs related to veterans' workforce development issues;

(b) Be a nonvoting, ex officio member of the Commission on Military and Veteran Affairs; and

(c) Submit an annual progress report to the Commission on Military and Veteran Affairs.

(4) The Department of Labor shall provide the necessary staff to assist the veterans' program coordinator in carrying out the purposes of this section.

(5) The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall:

(a) Develop a web site, in collaboration with the Department of Labor, with a job-search tool specific to veterans. Such web site shall be implemented on a date designated by the Director of Veterans' Affairs when sufficient cash funds have accumulated in the Veterans Employment Program Fund to develop such web site, but no later than June 30, 2024; and

(b) Research best practices and web sites specific to veterans from other states.

Sec. 2. Section 55-601, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2018, is amended to read:

55-601 (1) The Commission on Military and Veteran Affairs is created. The commission shall consist of the following voting members:

(a) The Director of Economic Development;

(b) The Adjutant General or his or her designee;

(c) The Director of Veterans' Affairs; and

(d) Three residents of the State of Nebraska, one from each congressional district. At least one of the three residents shall have current or prior military experience and at least one shall have a background in business.

(2) The commission shall have the following nonvoting, ex officio members:

(a) The veterans' program coordinator of the Department of Labor;

(b) ~~(a)~~ The chair of the State Committee of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve;

(c) ~~(b)~~ The commander of the 55th Wing of the Air Combat Command or his or her designee;

(d) ~~(c)~~ The commander of the United States Strategic Command or his or her designee; and

(e) ~~(d)~~ The commander of the 557th Weather Wing of the United States Air Force or his or her designee.

(3) The members of the commission described in subdivision (1)(d) of this section shall be appointed by the Governor. The Governor shall designate the initial terms of the members described in subdivision (1)(d) of this section so that one member serves for a term of two years, one member serves for a term of three years, and one member serves for a term of four years. Succeeding appointments shall be for terms of four years and shall be made in the same manner as the original appointments. The terms of the members shall begin on October 1 of the year in which they are appointed unless appointed to fill a vacancy. Appointments to fill a vacancy, occurring other than by the expiration

of a term of office, shall be made for the unexpired term of the member whose office is vacated.

Sec. 3. Section 60-301, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2018, is amended to read:

60-301 Sections 60-301 to 60-3,235 and sections 17 and 18 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Motor Vehicle Registration Act.

Sec. 4. Section 60-393, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2018, is amended to read:

60-393 Any owner who has two or more motor vehicles or trailers required to be registered under the Motor Vehicle Registration Act may register all such motor vehicles or trailers on a calendar-year basis or on an annual basis for the same registration period beginning in a month chosen by the owner. When electing to establish the same registration period for all such motor vehicles or trailers, the owner shall pay the registration fee, the motor vehicle tax imposed in section 60-3,185, the motor vehicle fee imposed in section 60-3,190, and the alternative fuel fee imposed in section 60-3,191 on each motor vehicle for the number of months necessary to extend its current registration period to the registration period under which all such motor vehicles or trailers will be registered. Credit shall be given for registration paid on each motor vehicle or trailer when the motor vehicle or trailer has a later expiration date than that chosen by the owner except as otherwise provided in sections 60-3,121, 60-3,122.02, 60-3,122.04, 60-3,128, 60-3,224, 60-3,227, 60-3,233, and 60-3,235 and section 18 of this act. Thereafter all such motor vehicles or trailers shall be registered on an annual basis starting in the month chosen by the owner.

Sec. 5. Section 60-395, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2018, is amended to read:

60-395 (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) of this section and sections 60-3,121, 60-3,122.02, 60-3,122.04, 60-3,128, 60-3,224, 60-3,227, 60-3,231, 60-3,233, and 60-3,235 and section 18 of this act, the registration shall expire and the registered owner or lessee may, by returning the registration certificate, the license plates, and, when appropriate, the validation decals and by either making application on a form prescribed by the department to the county treasurer of the occurrence of an event described in subdivisions (a) through (e) of this subsection or, in the case of a change in situs, displaying to the county treasurer the registration certificate of such other state as evidence of a change in situs, receive a refund of that part of the unused fees and taxes on motor vehicles or trailers based on the number of unexpired months remaining in the registration period from the date of any of the following events:

- (a) Upon transfer of ownership of any motor vehicle or trailer;
- (b) In case of loss of possession because of fire, theft, dismantlement, or junking;
- (c) When a salvage branded certificate of title is issued;
- (d) Whenever a type or class of motor vehicle or trailer previously registered is subsequently declared by legislative act or court decision to be illegal or ineligible to be operated or towed on the public roads and no longer subject to registration fees, the motor vehicle tax imposed in section 60-3,185, the motor vehicle fee imposed in section 60-3,190, and the alternative fuel fee imposed in section 60-3,191;
- (e) Upon a trade-in or surrender of a motor vehicle under a lease; or
- (f) In case of a change in the situs of a motor vehicle or trailer to a location outside of this state.

(2) If the date of the event falls within the same calendar month in which the motor vehicle or trailer is acquired, no refund shall be allowed for such month.

(3) If the transferor or lessee acquires another motor vehicle at the time of the transfer, trade-in, or surrender, the transferor or lessee shall have the credit provided for in this section applied toward payment of the motor vehicle fees and taxes then owing. Otherwise, the transferor or lessee shall file a claim for refund with the county treasurer upon an application form prescribed by the department.

(4) The registered owner or lessee shall make a claim for refund or credit of the fees and taxes for the unexpired months in the registration period within sixty days after the date of the event or shall be deemed to have forfeited his or her right to such refund or credit.

(5) For purposes of this section, the date of the event shall be: (a) In the case of a transfer or loss, the date of the transfer or loss; (b) in the case of a change in the situs, the date of registration in another state; (c) in the case of a trade-in or surrender under a lease, the date of trade-in or surrender; (d) in the case of a legislative act, the effective date of the act; and (e) in the case of a court decision, the date the decision is rendered.

(6) Application for registration or for reassignment of license plates and, when appropriate, validation decals to another motor vehicle or trailer shall be made within thirty days of the date of purchase.

(7) If a motor vehicle or trailer was reported stolen under section 60-178, a refund under this section shall not be reduced for a lost plate charge and a credit under this section may be reduced for a lost plate charge but the applicant shall not be required to pay the plate fee for new plates.

(8) The county treasurer shall refund the motor vehicle fee and registration fee from the fees which have not been transferred to the State Treasurer. The county treasurer shall make payment to the claimant from the undistributed motor vehicle taxes of the taxing unit where the tax money was

originally distributed. No refund of less than two dollars shall be paid.

Sec. 6. Section 60-396, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2018, is amended to read:

60-396 Whenever the registered owner files an application with the county treasurer showing that a motor vehicle or trailer is disabled and has been removed from service, the registered owner may, by returning the registration certificate, the license plates, and, when appropriate, the validation decals or, in the case of the unavailability of such registration certificate or certificates, license plates, or validation decals, then by making an affidavit to the county treasurer of such disablement and removal from service, receive a credit for a portion of the registration fee from the fee deposited with the State Treasurer at the time of registration based upon the number of unexpired months remaining in the registration year except as otherwise provided in sections 60-3,121, 60-3,122.02, 60-3,122.04, 60-3,128, 60-3,224, 60-3,227, 60-3,233, ~~and 60-3,235 and section 18 of this act.~~ The owner shall also receive a credit for the unused portion of the motor vehicle tax and fee based upon the number of unexpired months remaining in the registration year. When the owner registers a replacement motor vehicle or trailer at the time of filing such affidavit, the credit may be immediately applied against the registration fee and the motor vehicle tax and fee for the replacement motor vehicle or trailer. When no such replacement motor vehicle or trailer is so registered, the county treasurer shall forward the application and affidavit, if any, to the State Treasurer who shall determine the amount, if any, of the allowable credit for the registration fee and issue a credit certificate to the owner. For the motor vehicle tax and fee, the county treasurer shall determine the amount, if any, of the allowable credit and issue a credit certificate to the owner. When such motor vehicle or trailer is removed from service within the same month in which it was registered, no credits shall be allowed for such month. The credits may be applied against taxes and fees for new or replacement motor vehicles or trailers incurred within one year after cancellation of registration of the motor vehicle or trailer for which the credits were allowed. When any such motor vehicle or trailer is reregistered within the same registration year in which its registration has been canceled, the taxes and fees shall be that portion of the registration fee and the motor vehicle tax and fee for the remainder of the registration year.

Sec. 7. Section 60-3,102, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

60-3,102 (1) ~~Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, whenever~~ Whenever new license plates, including duplicate or replacement license plates, are issued to any person, a fee per plate shall be charged in addition to all other required fees. The license plate fee shall be determined by the department and shall only cover the cost of the license plate and validation decals but shall not exceed three dollars and fifty cents. All fees collected pursuant to this section shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Highway Trust Fund.

(2) Beginning January 1, 2021, no license plate fee under this section shall be charged for license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,122, 60-3,122.02, 60-3,123, 60-3,124, or 60-3,125.

Sec. 8. Section 60-3,104, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2018, is amended to read:

60-3,104 The department shall issue the following types of license plates:

- (1) Amateur radio station license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,126;
- (2) Apportionable vehicle license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,203;
- (3) Autocycle license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,100;
- (4) Boat dealer license plates issued pursuant to section 60-379;
- (5) Breast Cancer Awareness Plates issued pursuant to sections 60-3,230 and 60-3,231;
- (6) Bus license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,144;
- (7) Choose Life License Plates issued pursuant to sections 60-3,232 and 60-3,233;
- (8) Commercial motor vehicle license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,147;
- (9) Dealer or manufacturer license plates issued pursuant to sections 60-3,114 and 60-3,115;
- (10) Disabled veteran license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,124;
- (11) Farm trailer license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,151;
- (12) Farm truck license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,146;
- (13) Farm trucks with a gross weight of over sixteen tons license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,146;
- (14) Fertilizer trailer license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,151;
- (15) Gold Star Family license plates issued pursuant to sections 60-3,122.01 and 60-3,122.02;
- (16) Handicapped or disabled person license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,113;
- (17) Historical vehicle license plates issued pursuant to sections 60-3,130 to 60-3,134;
- (18) Local truck license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,145;
- (19) Metropolitan utilities district license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,228;
- (20) Military Honor Plates issued pursuant to sections 60-3,122.03 and

60-3,122.04;

- (21) Minitruck license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,100;
- (22) Motor vehicle license plates for motor vehicles owned or operated by the state, counties, municipalities, or school districts issued pursuant to section 60-3,105;
- (23) Motor vehicles exempt pursuant to section 60-3,107;
- (24) Motorcycle license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,100;
- (25) Mountain Lion Conservation Plates issued pursuant to sections 60-3,226 and 60-3,227;
- (26) Native American Cultural Awareness and History Plates issued pursuant to sections 60-3,234 and 60-3,235;
- (27) Nebraska Cornhusker Spirit Plates issued pursuant to sections 60-3,127 to 60-3,129;
- (28) Nebraska 150 Sesquicentennial Plates issued pursuant to sections 60-3,223 to 60-3,225;
- (29) Nonresident owner thirty-day license plates issued pursuant to section 60-382;
- (30) Passenger car having a seating capacity of ten persons or less and not used for hire issued pursuant to section 60-3,143 other than autocycles;
- (31) Passenger car having a seating capacity of ten persons or less and used for hire issued pursuant to section 60-3,143 other than autocycles;
- (32) Pearl Harbor license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,122;
- (33) Personal-use dealer license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,116;
- (34) Personalized message license plates for motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers, except motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers registered under section 60-3,198, issued pursuant to sections 60-3,118 to 60-3,121;
- (35) Prisoner-of-war license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,123;
- (36) Public power district license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,228;
- (37) Purple Heart license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,125;
- (38) Recreational vehicle license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,151;
- (39) Repossession license plates issued pursuant to section 60-375;
- (40) Special interest motor vehicle license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,135.01;
- (41) Specialty license plates issued pursuant to sections 60-3,104.01 and 60-3,104.02;
- (42) Support Our Troops Plates issued pursuant to sections 17 and 18 of this act;
- ~~(43) (42) Trailer license plates issued for trailers owned or operated by the state, counties, municipalities, or school districts issued pursuant to section 60-3,106;~~
- ~~(44) (43) Trailer license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,100;~~
- ~~(45) (44) Trailer license plates issued for trailers owned or operated by a metropolitan utilities district or public power district pursuant to section 60-3,228;~~
- ~~(46) (45) Trailers exempt pursuant to section 60-3,108;~~
- ~~(47) (46) Transporter license plates issued pursuant to section 60-378;~~
- ~~(48) (47) Trucks or combinations of trucks, truck-tractors, or trailers which are not for hire and engaged in soil and water conservation work and used for the purpose of transporting pipe and equipment exclusively used by such contractors for soil and water conservation construction license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,149;~~
- ~~(49) (48) Utility trailer license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,151; and~~
- ~~(50) (49) Well-boring apparatus and well-servicing equipment license plates issued pursuant to section 60-3,109.~~

Sec. 9. Section 60-3,122, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2018, is amended to read:

60-3,122 (1) Any person may, in addition to the application required by section 60-385, apply to the department for license plates designed by the department to indicate that he or she is a survivor of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor if he or she:

- (a) Was a member of the United States Armed Forces on December 7, 1941;
- (b) Was on station on December 7, 1941, during the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Hawaii time at Pearl Harbor, the island of Oahu, or offshore at a distance not to exceed three miles;
- (c) Was discharged or otherwise separated with a characterization of honorable from the United States Armed Forces; and
- (d) Holds a current membership in a Nebraska Chapter of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association.

(2) Pearl Harbor The license plates shall be issued upon the applicant paying the regular license plate fee as provided in subsection (3) of this section and furnishing proof satisfactory to the department that the applicant fulfills the requirements provided by subsection (1) of this section. Any number of motor vehicles, trailers, or semitrailers owned by the applicant may be so licensed at any one time. Motor vehicles and trailers registered under section 60-3,198 shall not be so licensed.

(3) Until January 1, 2021, the applicant for Pearl Harbor license plates shall pay the license plate fee required under section 60-3,102. Beginning January 1, 2021, no license plate fee shall be required for Pearl Harbor license plates.

(4) ~~(3)~~ If the license plates issued pursuant to this section are lost, stolen, or mutilated, the recipient of the plates shall be issued replacement license plates upon request and without charge.

(5) Beginning January 1, 2021, license plates issued under this section shall not require the payment of any additional license plate fees and shall be permanently attached to the vehicle to which the plates are registered as long as the vehicle is properly registered by the applicant annually.

Sec. 10. Section 60-3,122.02, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2018, is amended to read:

60-3,122.02 (1) A person may apply to the department for Gold Star Family plates in lieu of regular license plates on an application prescribed and provided by the department for any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer, except for a motor vehicle or trailer registered under section 60-3,198. An applicant receiving a Gold Star Family plate for a farm truck with a gross weight of over sixteen tons shall affix the appropriate tonnage decal to the plate. The department shall make forms available for such applications through the county treasurers. Gold Star Family The license plates shall be issued upon payment of the license fee described in subsection (2) of this section and furnishing proof satisfactory to the department that the applicant is a surviving spouse, whether remarried or not, or an ancestor, including a stepparent, a descendant, including a stepchild, a foster parent or a person in loco parentis, or a sibling of a person who died while in good standing on active duty in the military service of the United States.

(2)(a)(i) Until January 1, 2021, each ~~(2)(a)~~ Each application for initial issuance of consecutively numbered Gold Star Family plates shall be accompanied by a fee of five dollars. An application for renewal of such plates shall be accompanied by a fee of five dollars. County treasurers collecting fees for renewals pursuant to this subdivision shall remit them to the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall credit five dollars of the fee for initial issuance and renewal of such plates to the Nebraska Veteran Cemetery System Operation Fund.

(ii) Beginning January 1, 2021, no additional fee shall be required for consecutively numbered Gold Star Family plates issued under this section and such plates shall not require the payment of any additional license plate fees and shall be permanently attached to the vehicle to which the plates are registered as long as the vehicle is properly registered by the applicant annually.

(b)(i) (b) Each application for initial issuance of personalized message Gold Star Family plates shall be accompanied by a fee of forty dollars. An application for renewal of such plates shall be accompanied by a fee of forty dollars. County treasurers collecting fees for renewals pursuant to this subdivision shall remit them to the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall credit twenty-five percent of the fee for initial issuance and renewal of such plates to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund and seventy-five percent of the fee to the Nebraska Veteran Cemetery System Operation Fund.

(ii) Beginning January 1, 2021:

(A) No license plate fee under section 60-3,102 shall be required for personalized message Gold Star Family plates issued under this section, other than the renewal fee provided for in subdivision (2)(b)(i) of this section; and

(B) Such plates shall be permanently attached to the vehicle to which the plates are registered as long as the vehicle is properly registered by the applicant annually and the renewal fee provided for in subdivision (2)(b)(i) of this section is paid.

~~(3) When~~ Until January 1, 2019, ~~when the department receives an application for Gold Star Family plates, the department shall deliver the plates to the county treasurer of the county in which the motor vehicle or trailer is registered. Beginning January 1, 2019,~~ when the department receives an application for Gold Star Family plates, the department may deliver the plates and registration certificate to the applicant by United States mail or to the county treasurer of the county in which the motor vehicle or trailer is registered and the delivery of the plates and registration certificate shall be made through a secure process and system. The county treasurer or the department shall issue Gold Star Family plates in lieu of regular license plates when the applicant complies with the other provisions of the Motor Vehicle Registration Act for registration of the motor vehicle or trailer. If Gold Star Family plates are lost, stolen, or mutilated, the licensee shall be issued replacement license plates upon request and without charge.

(4) The owner of a motor vehicle or trailer bearing Gold Star Family plates may apply to the county treasurer to have such plates transferred to a motor vehicle other than the vehicle for which such plates were originally purchased if such vehicle is owned by the owner of the plates. The owner may have the unused portion of the fee for the plates, if any, credited to the other vehicle which will bear the plates at the rate of eight and one-third percent per month for each full month left in the registration period. Until January 1, 2021, application ~~Application~~ for such transfer shall be accompanied by a fee of three dollars. Beginning January 1, 2021, no such fee shall be required. Fees collected pursuant to this subsection shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund.

(5) If the cost of manufacturing Gold Star Family plates at any time exceeds the amount charged for license plates pursuant to section 60-3,102, any money to be credited to the Nebraska Veteran Cemetery System Operation Fund shall instead be credited first to the Highway Trust Fund in an amount equal to the difference between the manufacturing costs of Gold Star Family plates and

the amount charged pursuant to section 60-3,102 with respect to such plates and the remainder shall be credited to the Nebraska Veteran Cemetery System Operation Fund.

Sec. 11. Section 60-3,122.03, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2018, is amended to read:

60-3,122.03 (1) The department shall design license plates to be known as Military Honor Plates.

(2)(a) Until January 1, 2021, the department shall create designs honoring persons who have served or are serving in the United States Army, United States Army Reserve, United States Navy, United States Navy Reserve, United States Marine Corps, United States Marine Corps Reserve, United States Coast Guard, United States Coast Guard Reserve, United States Air Force, United States Air Force Reserve, or National Guard; and

(b) Beginning January 1, 2021, the department shall create designs honoring persons who have served or are serving in the United States Army, United States Army Reserve, United States Navy, United States Navy Reserve, United States Marine Corps, United States Marine Corps Reserve, United States Coast Guard, United States Coast Guard Reserve, United States Air Force, United States Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard, or Army National Guard.

(3) There shall be eleven such designs until January 1, 2021, and twelve such designs beginning January 1, 2021, one for each of such armed forces reflecting its official emblem, official seal, or other official image. The issuance of plates for each of such armed forces shall be conditioned on the approval of the armed forces owning the copyright to the official emblem, official seal, or other official image.

(4) By January 1, 2021, the department shall create five additional designs honoring persons who are serving or have served in the armed forces of the United States and who have been awarded the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, or Vietnam Service Medal.

(5) A person may qualify for a Military Honor Plate by registering with the Department of Veterans' Affairs pursuant to section 80-414. The Department of Motor Vehicles shall verify the applicant's eligibility for a plate created pursuant to this section by consulting the registry established by the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

(6) (2) The design shall be selected on the basis of limiting the manufacturing cost of each plate to an amount less than or equal to the amount charged for license plates pursuant to section 60-3,102. The Department of Motor Vehicles shall make applications available for each type of plate when it is designed. The department may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out this section and section 60-3,122.04.

(7) (3) One type of Military Honor Plates shall be alphanumeric plates. The department shall:

(a) Assign a designation up to five characters; and

(b) Not use a county designation.

(8) (4) One type of Military Honor Plates shall be personalized message plates. Such plates shall be issued subject to the same conditions specified for personalized message license plates in section 60-3,118, except that a maximum of five characters may be used.

Sec. 12. Section 60-3,122.04, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2018, is amended to read:

60-3,122.04 (1) An eligible person may apply to the department for Military Honor Plates in lieu of regular license plates on an application prescribed and provided by the department for any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer, except for a motor vehicle or trailer registered under section 60-3,198. An applicant receiving a Military Honor Plate for a farm truck with a gross weight of over sixteen tons shall affix the appropriate tonnage decal to the plate. The department shall make forms available for such applications through the county treasurers. The license plates shall be issued upon payment of the license fee described in subsection (2) of this section and verification by the department of an applicant's eligibility using the registry established by the Department of Veterans' Affairs pursuant to section 80-414. To be eligible an applicant shall be (a) active duty or reserve duty armed forces personnel serving in any of the armed forces listed in subsection (2) (1) of section 60-3,122.03, (b) a veteran of any of such armed forces who was discharged or otherwise separated with a characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions), ~~or~~ (c) a current or former commissioned officer of the United States Public Health Service or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration who has been detailed directly to any branch of such armed forces for service on active or reserve duty and who was discharged or otherwise separated with a characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions) as proven with valid orders from the United States Department of Defense, a statement of service provided by the United States Public Health Service, or a report of transfer or discharge provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or (d) a person who is serving or has served in the armed forces of the United States and who has been awarded the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, or Vietnam Service Medal. Any person using Military Honor Plates shall surrender the plates to the county treasurer if such person is no longer eligible for the plates. Regular plates shall be issued to any such person upon surrender of the Military Honor Plates for a three-dollar transfer fee and forfeiture of any of the remaining annual fee. The three-dollar transfer fee shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for

credit to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund.

(2)(a) In addition to all other fees required for registration under the Motor Vehicle Registration Act, each application for initial issuance or renewal of alphanumeric Military Honor Plates shall be accompanied by a fee of five dollars. County treasurers collecting fees pursuant to this subdivision shall remit them to the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall credit five dollars of the fee to the Nebraska Veteran Cemetery System Operation Fund.

(b) In addition to all other fees required for registration under the Motor Vehicle Registration Act, each application for initial issuance or renewal of personalized message Military Honor Plates shall be accompanied by a fee of forty dollars. County treasurers collecting fees pursuant to this subdivision shall remit them to the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall credit twenty-five percent of the fee for initial issuance and renewal of such plates to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund and seventy-five percent of the fee to the Nebraska Veteran Cemetery System Operation Fund.

~~(3) When Until January 1, 2019, when the Department of Motor Vehicles receives an application for Military Honor Plates, the department shall deliver the plates to the county treasurer of the county in which the motor vehicle or trailer is registered. Beginning January 1, 2019, when the department receives an application for Military Honor Plates, the department may deliver the plates and registration certificate to the applicant by United States mail or to the county treasurer of the county in which the motor vehicle or trailer is registered and the delivery of the plates and registration certificate shall be made through a secure process and system. The county treasurer or the department shall issue Military Honor Plates in lieu of regular license plates when the applicant complies with the other provisions of the Motor Vehicle Registration Act for registration of the motor vehicle or trailer. If Military Honor Plates are lost, stolen, or mutilated, the licensee shall be issued replacement license plates upon request pursuant to section 60-3,157.~~

(4) The owner of a motor vehicle or trailer bearing Military Honor Plates may apply to the county treasurer to have such plates transferred to a motor vehicle or trailer other than the motor vehicle or trailer for which such plates were originally purchased if such motor vehicle or trailer is owned by the owner of the plates. The owner may have the unused portion of the fee for the plates credited to the other motor vehicle or trailer which will bear the plates at the rate of eight and one-third percent per month for each full month left in the registration period. Application for such transfer shall be accompanied by a fee of three dollars. Fees collected pursuant to this subsection shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund.

(5) If the cost of manufacturing Military Honor Plates at any time exceeds the amount charged for license plates pursuant to section 60-3,102, any money to be credited to the Nebraska Veteran Cemetery System Operation Fund shall instead be credited first to the Highway Trust Fund in an amount equal to the difference between the manufacturing costs of Military Honor Plates and the amount charged pursuant to section 60-3,102 with respect to such plates and the remainder shall be credited to the Nebraska Veteran Cemetery System Operation Fund.

(6) If the director discovers evidence of fraud in an application for Military Honor Plates or that the holder is no longer eligible to have Military Honor Plates, the director may summarily cancel the plates and registration and send notice of the cancellation to the holder of the license plates.

Sec. 13. Section 60-3,123, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2018, is amended to read:

60-3,123 (1) Any person who was captured and incarcerated by an enemy of the United States during a period of conflict with such enemy and who was discharged or otherwise separated with a characterization of honorable from or is currently serving in the United States Armed Forces may, in addition to the application required in section 60-385, apply to the department for license plates designed to indicate that he or she is a former prisoner of war.

(2) The license plates shall be issued upon the applicant paying the ~~regular~~ license plate fee as provided in subsection (3) of this section and furnishing proof satisfactory to the department that the applicant was formerly a prisoner of war. Any number of motor vehicles, trailers, or semitrailers owned by the applicant may be so licensed at any one time. Motor vehicles and trailers registered under section 60-3,198 shall not be so licensed.

(3) Until January 1, 2021, the applicant for license plates under this section shall pay the license plate fee required under section 60-3,102. Beginning January 1, 2021, no license plate fee shall be required for license plates under this section.

~~(4) (3)~~ If the license plates issued under this section are lost, stolen, or mutilated, the recipient of the license plates shall be issued replacement license plates upon request and without charge.

(5) Beginning January 1, 2021, license plates issued under this section shall not require the payment of any additional license plate fees and shall be permanently attached to the vehicle to which the plates are registered as long as the vehicle is properly registered by the applicant annually.

Sec. 14. Section 60-3,124, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2018, is amended to read:

60-3,124 (1) Any person who is a veteran of the United States Armed Forces, who was discharged or otherwise separated with a characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions), and who is classified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs as one hundred percent service-

connected disabled may, in addition to the application required in section 60-385, apply to the Department of Motor Vehicles for license plates designed by the department to indicate that the applicant is a disabled veteran. The inscription on the license plates shall be D.A.V. immediately below the license plate number to indicate that the holder of the license plates is a disabled veteran.

(2) The plates shall be issued upon the applicant paying the regular license plate fee as provided in subsection (3) of this section and furnishing proof satisfactory to the department that the applicant is a disabled veteran. Any number of motor vehicles, trailers, or semitrailers owned by the applicant may be so licensed at any one time. Motor vehicles and trailers registered under section 60-3,198 shall not be so licensed.

(3) Until January 1, 2021, the applicant for license plates under this section shall pay the license plate fee required under section 60-3,102. Beginning January 1, 2021, no license plate fee shall be required for license plates under this section.

(4) (3) If the license plates issued under this section are lost, stolen, or mutilated, the recipient of the plates shall be issued replacement license plates as provided in section 60-3,157.

(5) Beginning January 1, 2021, license plates issued under this section shall not require the payment of any additional license plate fees and shall be permanently attached to the vehicle to which the plates are registered as long as the vehicle is properly registered by the applicant annually.

Sec. 15. Section 60-3,125, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2018, is amended to read:

60-3,125 (1) Any person may, in addition to the application required by section 60-385, apply to the department for license plates designed by the department to indicate that the applicant has received from the federal government an award of a Purple Heart. The inscription of the plates shall be designed so as to include a facsimile of the award and beneath any numerical designation upon the plates pursuant to section 60-370 the words Purple Heart separately on one line and the words Combat Wounded on the line below.

(2) The license plates shall be issued upon payment of the regular license plate fee as provided in subsection (3) of this section and furnishing proof satisfactory to the department that the applicant was awarded the Purple Heart. Any number of motor vehicles, trailers, or semitrailers owned by the applicant may be so licensed at any one time. Motor vehicles and trailers registered under section 60-3,198 shall not be so licensed.

(3) Until January 1, 2021, the applicant for license plates under this section shall pay the license plate fee required under section 60-3,102. Beginning January 1, 2021, no license plate fee shall be required for license plates under this section.

(4) (3) If license plates issued pursuant to this section are lost, stolen, or mutilated, the recipient of the plates shall be issued replacement license plates upon request and without charge.

(5) Beginning January 1, 2021, license plates issued under this section shall not require the payment of any additional license plate fees and shall be permanently attached to the vehicle to which the plates are registered as long as the vehicle is properly registered by the applicant annually.

Sec. 16. Section 60-3,130.04, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2018, is amended to read:

60-3,130.04 (1) An owner of a historical vehicle eligible for registration under section 60-3,130 may use a license plate or plates designed by this state in the year corresponding to the model year when the vehicle was manufactured in lieu of the plates designed pursuant to section 60-3,130.03 subject to the approval of the department. The department shall inspect the plate or plates and may approve the plate or plates if it is determined that the model-year license plate or plates are legible and serviceable and that the license plate numbers do not conflict with or duplicate other numbers assigned and in use. An original-issued license plate or plates that have been restored to original condition may be used when approved by the department.

(2) The department may consult with a recognized car club in determining whether the year of the license plate or plates to be used corresponds to the model year when the vehicle was manufactured.

(3) If only one license plate is used on the vehicle, the license plate shall be placed on the rear of the vehicle. The owner of a historical vehicle may use only one plate on the vehicle even for years in which two license plates were issued for vehicles in general.

(4) License plates used pursuant to this section corresponding to the year of manufacture of the vehicle shall not be personalized message license plates, Pearl Harbor license plates, prisoner-of-war license plates, disabled veteran license plates, Purple Heart license plates, amateur radio station license plates, Nebraska Cornhusker Spirit Plates, handicapped or disabled person license plates, specialty license plates, special interest motor vehicle license plates, Military Honor Plates, Nebraska 150 Sesquicentennial Plates, Breast Cancer Awareness Plates, Mountain Lion Conservation Plates, Choose Life License Plates, ~~or~~ Native American Cultural Awareness and History Plates, or Support Our Troops Plates.

Sec. 17. (1) The department shall design license plates to be known as Support Our Troops Plates. The department shall create a design reflecting support for troops from all branches of the armed forces. The design shall be selected on the basis of limiting the manufacturing cost of each plate to an amount less than or equal to the amount charged for license plates pursuant to

section 60-3,102. The department shall make applications available for this type of plate by January 1, 2021. The department may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out this section and section 18 of this act.

(2) One type of Support Our Troops Plates shall be alphanumeric plates. The department shall:

(a) Assign a designation up to five characters; and

(b) Not use a county designation.

(3) One type of Support Our Troops Plates shall be personalized message plates. Such plates shall be issued subject to the same conditions specified for personalized message license plates in section 60-3,118, except that a maximum of five characters may be used.

Sec. 18. (1) Beginning January 1, 2021, a person may apply to the department for Support Our Troops Plates in lieu of regular license plates on an application prescribed and provided by the department for any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer, except for a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer registered under section 60-3,198. An applicant receiving a Support Our Troops Plate for a farm truck with a gross weight of over sixteen tons shall affix the appropriate tonnage decal to the plate. The department shall make forms available for such applications through the county treasurers. The license plates shall be issued upon payment of the license fee described in subsection (2) of this section.

(2)(a) In addition to all other fees required for registration under the Motor Vehicle Registration Act, each application for initial issuance of alphanumeric Support Our Troops Plates shall be accompanied by a fee of five dollars. An application for renewal of such plates shall be accompanied by a fee of five dollars. County treasurers collecting fees pursuant to this subdivision shall remit such fees to the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall credit five dollars of the fee to the Veterans Employment Program Fund.

(b) In addition to all other fees required for registration under the Motor Vehicle Registration Act, each application for initial issuance or renewal of personalized message Support Our Troops Plates shall be accompanied by a fee of seventy dollars. County treasurers collecting fees pursuant to this subdivision shall remit such fees to the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall credit twenty-five percent of the fee for initial issuance and renewal of such plates to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund and seventy-five percent of the fee to the Veterans Employment Program Fund.

(3) When the department receives an application for Support Our Troops Plates, the department may deliver the plates and registration certificate to the applicant by United States mail or to the county treasurer of the county in which the motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer is registered and the delivery of the plates and registration certificate shall be made through a secure process and system. The county treasurer or the department shall issue Support Our Troops Plates in lieu of regular license plates when the applicant complies with the other provisions of the Motor Vehicle Registration Act for registration of the motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer. If Support Our Troops Plates are lost, stolen, or mutilated, the licensee shall be issued replacement license plates upon request pursuant to section 60-3,157.

(4) The owner of a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer bearing Support Our Troops Plates may apply to the county treasurer to have such plates transferred to a motor vehicle other than the vehicle for which such plates were originally purchased if such vehicle is owned by the owner of the plates. The owner may have the unused portion of the fee for the plates credited to the other vehicle which will bear the plates at the rate of eight and one-third percent per month for each full month left in the registration period. Application for such transfer shall be accompanied by a fee of three dollars. Fees collected pursuant to this subsection shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund.

(5) If the cost of manufacturing Support Our Troops Plates at any time exceeds the amount charged for license plates pursuant to section 60-3,102, any money to be credited to the Veterans Employment Program Fund shall instead be credited first to the Highway Trust Fund in an amount equal to the difference between the manufacturing costs of Support Our Troops Plates and the amount charged pursuant to section 60-3,102 with respect to such plates and the remainder shall be credited to the Veterans Employment Program Fund.

Sec. 19. The Veterans Employment Program Fund is created. The fund shall consist of money credited pursuant to section 18 of this act and any other money as appropriated by the Legislature. The fund shall be administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, which shall use the fund for recruiting and education to attract veterans recently released from service to live and work in Nebraska, including the development and implementation of a web site as required by section 1 of this act. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act.

Sec. 20. Original section 60-3,102, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 55-601, 60-301, 60-393, 60-395, 60-396, 60-3,104, 60-3,122, 60-3,122.02, 60-3,122.03, 60-3,122.04, 60-3,123, 60-3,124, 60-3,125, and 60-3,130.04, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2018, are repealed.