

1 ENGROSSED SENATE  
2 BILL NO. 1177

By: Simpson of the Senate

and

West (Josh) of the House

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6 An Act relating to driver licenses; amending 47 O.S.  
7 2021, Section 6-124, which relates to veterans  
8 designation on licenses; requiring Department of  
9 Public Safety to include certain identifications to  
10 indicate certain disability rating and status;  
11 authorizing certain persons to receive license or  
12 identification indicating certain status; authorizing  
13 certain status to be valid for confirmation of  
14 veterans benefits to certain entities; requiring  
15 certain registration; requiring certain departments  
16 to implement technology to validate certain claims by  
17 a certain date; and declaring an emergency.

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

19 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 6-124, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 Section 6-124. A. As a way to honor and recognize the veterans  
22 who have served our country, the Department of Public Safety shall  
23 make space available in the upper left-hand corner of the front of  
24 the driver license and the identification card for a flag emblem and  
the word "veteran". When applicable, the Department of Public  
Safety shall, on the front or back of the driver license or the  
identification card, include a numeric designation indicating a  
veteran's one hundred percent (100%) disability rating granted to

1 the veteran by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.  
2 The items required by this subsection shall ~~to~~ be designed by the  
3 Department of Public Safety that will and shall serve as a notation  
4 of veteran status and as a notation of the existence of a United  
5 States Department of Veterans Affairs disability rating as  
6 applicable. The current spouse of a one-hundred-percent disabled  
7 veteran or a surviving spouse of a deceased, one-hundred-percent  
8 disabled veteran, who has not remarried, shall be entitled to  
9 receive a driver license or identification card indicating his or  
10 her status as an eligible current spouse or an eligible surviving  
11 spouse who has not remarried entitled to the sales tax exemption  
12 provided in Section 1357 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes.  
13 Representation of veteran status and disability rating on the driver  
14 license and the identification card shall be adequate confirmation  
15 for purposes of veterans benefits offered by public or private  
16 entities doing business within this state and no further  
17 documentation shall be required except as specifically mandated by  
18 federal law.

19 B. Upon application for issuance or renewal of the driver  
20 license or identification card and in addition to other  
21 documentation required by the Department, persons requesting the  
22 flag emblem or the flag emblem and disability notation shall be  
23 registered with the ~~veterans registry~~ Oklahoma Veterans Registry  
24 created by the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs. Provided,

1 that if the person requesting the flag emblem has previously  
2 received a flag emblem pursuant to this subsection, no registration  
3 with the veterans registry shall be required to receive the flag  
4 emblem prior to the deadline established in subsection C of this  
5 section.

6 C. The Department of Public Safety and the Oklahoma Department  
7 of Veterans Affairs shall implement a technology-based information  
8 exchange process where the Department of Public Safety and all motor  
9 license agents are able to validate, upon application for issuance  
10 or renewal of the driver license or identification card, an  
11 applicant's claim of veteran status, veteran disability status,  
12 status as a current spouse of an eligible disabled veteran, or  
13 status as an eligible surviving spouse of an eligible deceased  
14 disabled veteran as provided for in subsection A of this section.  
15 The requirements of this subsection shall be implemented no later  
16 than July 1, 2023.

17 D. The Department of Public Safety shall promulgate any rule  
18 necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

19 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
20 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
21 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
22 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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1 Passed the Senate the 7th day of March, 2022.

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4 Presiding Officer of the Senate

5 Passed the House of Representatives the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
6 2022.

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9 Presiding Officer of the House  
10 of Representatives