

1                   **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2                                   STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3                                   2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

4   ENGROSSED SENATE

5   BILL NO. 1177

                                  By: Simpson of the Senate

  and

  West (Josh) and **Burns** of  
  the House

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

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

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

24                   Section 6-124.   A.   As a way to honor and recognize the veterans  
                                  who have served our country, the Department of Public Safety shall  
                                  make space available in the upper left-hand corner of the front of  
                                  the driver license and the identification card for a flag emblem and

1 the word "veteran". When applicable, the Department of Public  
2 Safety shall, on the front or back of the driver license or the  
3 identification card, include a numeric designation indicating a  
4 veteran's one hundred percent (100%) disability rating granted to  
5 the veteran by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.  
6 The items required by this subsection shall ~~to~~ be designed by the  
7 Department of Public Safety that will and shall serve as a notation  
8 of veteran status and as a notation of the existence of a United  
9 States Department of Veterans Affairs disability rating as  
10 applicable. The current spouse of a one-hundred-percent disabled  
11 veteran or a surviving spouse of a deceased, one-hundred-percent  
12 disabled veteran, who has not remarried, shall be entitled to  
13 receive a driver license or identification card indicating his or  
14 her status as an eligible current spouse or an eligible surviving  
15 spouse who has not remarried entitled to the sales tax exemption  
16 provided in Section 1357 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes.  
17 Representation of veteran status and disability rating on the driver  
18 license and the identification card shall be adequate confirmation  
19 for purposes of veterans benefits offered by public or private  
20 entities doing business within this state and no further  
21 documentation shall be required except as specifically mandated by  
22 federal law.

23 B. Upon application for issuance or renewal of the driver  
24 license or identification card and in addition to other

1 documentation required by the Department, persons requesting the  
2 flag emblem or the flag emblem and disability notation shall be  
3 registered with the ~~veterans registry~~ Oklahoma Veterans Registry  
4 created by the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs. Provided,  
5 that if the person requesting the flag emblem has previously  
6 received a flag emblem pursuant to this subsection, no registration  
7 with the veterans registry shall be required to receive the flag  
8 emblem prior to the deadline established in subsection C of this  
9 section.

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

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

23 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
24 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby

1 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
2 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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4 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS,  
5 dated 04/06/2022 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.

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