

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 February 16, 2022

3 **AS AMENDED**

4 SENATE BILL NO. 1177

5 By: Simpson

6 [ **driver licenses - veterans designation on licenses**  
7 **- certain disability rating and status -**  
8 **emergency ]**

9  
10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

11 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 6-124, as  
12 amended by Section 9, Chapter 229, O.S.L. 2017, is amended to read  
13 as follows:

14 Section 6-124. A. As a way to honor and recognize the veterans  
15 who have served our country, the Department of Public Safety shall  
16 make space available in the upper left-hand corner of the front of  
17 the driver license and the identification card for a flag emblem and  
18 the word "veteran". When applicable, the Department of Public  
19 Safety shall, on the front or back of the driver license or the  
20 identification card, include a numeric designation indicating a  
21 veteran's one hundred percent (100%) disability rating granted to  
22 the veteran by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.  
23 The items required by this subsection shall ~~to~~ be designed by the  
24 Department of Public Safety ~~that will~~ and shall serve as a notation

1 of veteran status and as a notation of the existence of a United  
2 States Department of Veterans Affairs disability rating as  
3 applicable. The current spouse of a one hundred percent (100%)  
4 disabled veteran or a surviving spouse of a deceased, one hundred  
5 percent (100%) disabled veteran, who has not remarried, shall be  
6 entitled to receive a driver license or identification card  
7 indicating his or her status as an eligible current spouse or an  
8 eligible surviving spouse who has not remarried entitled to the  
9 sales tax exemption provided in Section 1357 of Title 68 of the  
10 Oklahoma Statutes. Representation of veteran status and disability  
11 rating on the driver license and the identification card shall be  
12 adequate confirmation for purposes of veterans benefits offered by  
13 public or private entities doing business within this state and no  
14 further documentation shall be required except as specifically  
15 mandated by federal law.

16 B. Upon application for issuance or renewal of the driver  
17 license or identification card and in addition to other  
18 documentation required by the Department, persons requesting the  
19 flag emblem or the flag emblem and disability notation shall be  
20 registered with the ~~veterans registry~~ Oklahoma Veterans Registry  
21 created by the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs. Provided,  
22 that if the person requesting the flag emblem has previously  
23 received a flag emblem pursuant to this subsection, no registration  
24 with the veterans registry shall be required to receive the flag

1 emblem prior to the deadline established in subsection C of this  
2 section.

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

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

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

20 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
21 February 16, 2022 - DO PASS  
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