

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE BILL 1177

By: Simpson

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to driver licenses; amending 47 O.S.
8 2021, Section 6-124, as amended by Section 9, Chapter
9 229, O.S.L. 2017, which relates to veterans
10 designation on licenses; requiring Department of
11 Public Safety to include certain identifications to
12 indicate certain disability rating and status;
13 authorizing certain persons to receive license or
14 identification indicating certain status; authorizing
15 certain status to be valid for confirmation of
16 veterans benefits to certain entities; requiring
17 certain registration; requiring certain departments
18 to implement technology to validate certain claims by
19 a certain date; and declaring an emergency.

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

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

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

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

22 B. Upon application for issuance or renewal of the driver
23 license or identification card and in addition to other
24 documentation required by the Department, persons requesting the

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

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

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

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