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Bill Analysis
Legislative Service Commission

H.B. 434

124th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Stapleton, Schaffer, Willamowski, Flowers, Setzer, Seitz, Olman, Faber, Schmidt, Salerno, G. Smith, DeWine, Lendrum, Latta, Fedor, Rhine, Carano, Britton, Hartnett, Barnes, Coates, D. Miller, Oakar, Boccieri

BILL SUMMARY

- Authorizes the issuance of National Defense license plates bearing the words "National Defense" and a reproduction of the National Defense Service Ribbon.
- Permits any person who has been awarded the National Defense Service Medal to obtain the license plates.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Under the bill, any person who has been awarded the National Defense Service Medal may apply to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles for the registration of any passenger car, noncommercial motor vehicle, motor home, or other vehicle of a class approved by the Registrar that the person owns or leases. The application must be accompanied by any documentary evidence in support of the award that the Registrar requires, and may be combined with a request for a special reserved license plate provided in current law.

In addition to the standard letters and numbers, these license plates must be inscribed with the words "National Defense" and bear a reproduction of the National Defense Service Ribbon. National Defense Service Medal license plates must bear county identification stickers.

National Defense Service Medal license plates and/or validation stickers are issued upon payment of the regular license taxes prescribed in current law, any applicable local motor vehicle tax, and compliance with all other applicable laws relating to the registration of motor vehicles. If the application for National Defense Service Medal license plates is combined with a request for a special reserved license plate, payment also must include the additional fee prescribed for these plates. (Sec. 4503.541(A).)

The bill prohibits any person who is not a recipient of the National Defense Service Medal from willfully and falsely representing that the person is such a recipient for the purpose of obtaining National Defense Service Medal license plates. No person may own a motor vehicle bearing such license plates unless the person is eligible to be issued the plates. (R.C. 4503.541(B).)

COMMENT

The bill does not contain a penalty for a violation of its prohibition.

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	11-13-01	p. 1080

H0434-I.124/jc

