

HB 262 -- VETERAN DESIGNATION DRIVERS LICENSE

SPONSOR: Black (137)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass by Consent" by the Standing Committee on Veterans by a vote of 14 to 0. Voted "Do Pass-Consent" by the Standing Committee on Consent and House Procedure by a vote of 9 to 0.

Currently, a veteran may have a veteran designation placed on his or her driver's license if he or she provides specified information. Currently, it is up to the Department of Revenue to determine where the designation appears on the license.

This bill requires the Department to place the designation on the front of the driver's license.

This bill is similar to HB 1607 (2020).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that other states have moved the designation to the front of the license and Missouri has moved organ donor info to the front of the license already.

Additionally, supporters claimed that moving the designation to the front of the license could help veterans in avoiding a situation in which they would have to self-identify as a veteran since authority figures will be more easily alerted to veteran status. Supporters said this is preferable especially in the case of disabled veterans.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Black; Tony Shepherd; and Pat Rowe Kerr.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill submitted an online witness statement.

Testifying against the bill was Arnie Dienoff.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say the Department of Revenue is currently issuing licenses with veteran status on the front of licenses and this bill would make it statutorily required.

Testifying on the bill was the Department Of Revenue.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.