

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR ENGROSSED

SENATE BILL NO. 688

By: Stanley of the Senate

and

Steagall of the House

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to driver licenses; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 6-115, as amended by Section 55, Chapter 282, O.S.L. 2022 (47 O.S. Supp. 2022, Section 6-115), which relates to expiration and renewal of driver licenses; requiring persons of a certain age be issued an eight-year driver license; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 6-124, as amended by Section 63, Chapter 282, O.S.L. 2022 (47 O.S. Supp. 2022, Section 6-124), which relates to issuance of license or identification card to veterans; requiring certain disabled veterans' disability rating be notated on driver licenses or identification cards; allowing for spouses and unremarried surviving spouses of certain veterans to receive disability rating or veteran status notation on driver licenses or identification cards; requiring notation be accepted as proof of sales tax exemption and veterans benefits; requiring certain registration to receive notations; requiring implementation of certain information exchange process by certain date; requiring compliance with certain standards for certain licenses; directing Service Oklahoma to seek certain federal approval; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

1 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 6-115, as
2 amended by Section 55, Chapter 282, O.S.L. 2022 (47 O.S. Supp. 2022,
3 Section 6-115), is amended to read as follows:

4 Section 6-115. A. Except as otherwise provided in this
5 section, every driver license shall be issued for a period of either
6 four (4) years or eight (8) years; provided, if the applicant or
7 licensee is an alien, the license shall be issued for a period which
8 does not exceed the lesser of:

9 1. Four (4) years or eight (8) years; or

10 2. The expiration date on the valid documentation authorizing
11 the presence of the applicant or licensee in the United States, as
12 required by paragraph 9 of subsection A of Section 6-103 of this
13 title.

14 B. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the expiration
15 date of an initial license shall be no more than either four (4)
16 years or eight (8) years from the last day of the month of issuance
17 or no more than either four (4) years or eight (8) years from the
18 last day of the birth month of the applicant immediately preceding
19 the date of issuance, if requested by the applicant.

20 C. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the expiration
21 date of a renewal license shall be:

22 1. For a renewal during the month of expiration, either four
23 (4) years or eight (8) years from the last day of the month of
24 expiration of the expiring license or either four (4) or eight (8)

1 years from the last day of the birth month of the licensee
2 immediately preceding the expiration date of the expiring license,
3 if requested by the licensee; or

4 2. For a renewal prior to the month of expiration, as provided
5 by rule of Service Oklahoma, either four (4) or eight (8) years from
6 the last day of the month of expiration of the current license;
7 provided, no license shall be issued with an expiration date of more
8 than five (5) years from the date of renewal on a four (4) year
9 license or nine (9) years from the date of renewal on an eight (8)
10 year license.

11 D. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection E of Section
12 1550.42 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, any Oklahoma driver
13 license that is not more than one (1) year past the date of
14 expiration provided on the driver license shall be presumed to be a
15 valid form of identification for the purposes of renewing an
16 Oklahoma driver license.

17 E. Except as otherwise provided in this section, every driver
18 license shall be renewable by the licensee upon application to
19 either Service Oklahoma or a licensed operator, furnishing the
20 current mailing address of the person and payment of the required
21 fee, if the person is otherwise eligible for renewal. If the
22 licensee is an alien, the licensee shall appear before a driver
23 license examiner of Service Oklahoma and shall be issued a renewal
24 driver license for a period which does not exceed the lesser of:

1 1. Four (4) years or eight (8) years; or

2 2. The expiration date on the valid documentation authorizing
3 the presence of the applicant or licensee in the United States, as
4 required by paragraph 9 of subsection A of Section 6-103 of this
5 title.

6 F. All applicants for renewals of driver licenses who have
7 proven collision records or apparent physical defects may be
8 required to take an examination as specified by Service Oklahoma.

9 G. When a person makes application for a driver license, or
10 makes application to renew a driver license, and the person has been
11 convicted of, or received a deferred judgment for, any offense
12 required to register pursuant to the Sex Offenders Registration Act,
13 the driver license shall be valid for a period of one (1) year from
14 the month of issuance, but may be renewed yearly during the time the
15 person is registered on the Sex Offender Registry. Notwithstanding
16 any other provision of law, the cost for such license shall be the
17 same as for other driver licenses and renewals.

18 H. Service Oklahoma shall promulgate rules prescribing forms of
19 identification acceptable for the renewal of an Oklahoma driver
20 license.

21 I. All driver licenses issued to persons sixty-five (65) years
22 of age or older shall be issued for a period of eight (8) years.

1 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 6-124, as
2 amended by Section 63, Chapter 282, O.S.L. 2022 (47 O.S. Supp. 2022,
3 Section 6-124), is amended to read as follows:

4 Section 6-124. A. As a way to honor and recognize the veterans
5 who have served our country, Service Oklahoma shall make space
6 available in the upper left-hand corner of the front of the driver
7 license and the identification card for a flag emblem and the word
8 "veteran" ~~to~~. Similarly, when applicable, Service Oklahoma shall,
9 either on the front or back of the driver license or the
10 identification card, include a numeric designation indicating a
11 veteran's one-hundred-percent disability rating granted to the
12 veteran by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. The
13 items required by this subsection shall be designed by Service
14 Oklahoma that will serve as a notation of veteran status as well as
15 a notation of the existence of a United States Department of
16 Veterans Affairs disability rating as applicable. The current
17 spouse of a one-hundred-percent disabled veteran or an unremarried
18 surviving spouse of a deceased, one-hundred-percent disabled veteran
19 shall be entitled to receive a driver license or identification card
20 indicating his or her status as an eligible current spouse or an
21 eligible unremarried surviving spouse entitled to the sales tax
22 exemption provided in Section 1357 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma
23 Statutes. Representation of veteran status and disability rating on
24 the driver license and the identification card shall be adequate

1 confirmation for purposes of veterans benefits offered by public or
2 private entities doing business within this state and no further
3 documentation shall be required except as specifically mandated by
4 federal law.

5 B. Upon application for issuance or renewal of the driver
6 license or identification card and in addition to other
7 documentation required by Service Oklahoma, persons requesting the
8 flag emblem or the flag emblem and the disability notation shall be
9 registered with the ~~veterans registry~~ Oklahoma Veterans Registry
10 created by the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs. Provided,
11 that if the person requesting the flag emblem has previously
12 received a flag emblem pursuant to this subsection, no registration
13 with the veterans registry shall be required to receive the flag
14 emblem prior to the deadline established in subsection C of this
15 section.

16 C. Service Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Department of Veterans
17 Affairs shall implement a technology-based information exchange
18 process whereby all motor license agents are able to validate, upon
19 application for issuance or renewal of the driver license or
20 identification card, an applicant's claim of veteran status, veteran
21 disability status, status as a current spouse of an eligible,
22 disabled veteran or status as an unremarried surviving spouse of an
23 eligible, deceased disabled veteran as provided for in subsection A
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1 of this section. The requirements of this subsection shall be
2 implemented no later than July 1, 2024.

3 D. With regard to the issuance of REAL-ID compliant licenses
4 containing items described in subsection A of this section, Service
5 Oklahoma shall comply with all federal design requirements and shall
6 seek design approval from all necessary federal agencies, including
7 but not limited to the United States Department of Homeland
8 Security.

9 E. Service Oklahoma shall promulgate any rule necessary to
10 implement the provisions of this section.

11 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2023.

12 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
13 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
14 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
15 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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