

The Florida Senate  
**COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA**  
**MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, SPACE, AND**  
**DOMESTIC SECURITY**  
**Senator Altman, Chair**  
**Senator Gibson, Vice Chair**

**MEETING DATE:** Monday, January 11, 2016  
**TIME:** 4:00—6:00 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Mallory Horne Committee Room, 37 Senate Office Building

**MEMBERS:** Senator Altman, Chair; Senator Gibson, Vice Chair; Senators Evers, Sachs, and Stargel

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	<b>CS/SB 518</b> Transportation / Soto (Compare H 511, S 588)	Special License Plates; Creating a special license plate for recipients of the Bronze Star medal; requiring any revenue generated from the sale of Woman Veteran license plates to be deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund, instead of the Operations and Maintenance Trust Fund; requiring certain homes to deposit all moneys received from the sale of Woman Veteran license plates into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund, etc.  TR 12/03/2015 Fav/CS MS 01/11/2016 Favorable FP	Favorable Yeas 5 Nays 0
2	<b>SB 666</b> Legg (Identical H 505)	Voter Identification; Expanding the list of acceptable forms of identification for certain voter registration applicants to include veteran health identification cards and licenses to carry a concealed weapon or firearm, etc.  EE 12/01/2015 Favorable MS 01/11/2016 Favorable RC	Favorable Yeas 5 Nays 0

Other Related Meeting Documents

**The Florida Senate**  
**BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

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Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security

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BILL: CS/SB 518

INTRODUCER: Transportation Committee and Senators Soto and Hutson

SUBJECT: Special License Plates

DATE: January 8, 2016

REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Jones</u>	<u>Eichin</u>	<u>TR</u>	<b>Fav/CS</b>
2.	<u>Sanders</u>	<u>Ryon</u>	<u>MS</u>	<b>Favorable</b>
3.	_____	_____	<u>FP</u>	_____

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**Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:**

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

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**I. Summary:**

CS/SB 518 creates a special military license plate for recipients of the Bronze Star Medal. Revenue generated from the sale of this license plate will be deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund and the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund.

The bill also redirects revenue generated from the sale of the Woman Veteran special license plate from the Operations and Maintenance Trust Fund to the Grants and Donations Trust Fund. The bill specifies that revenue credited to the Grants and Donations Trust Fund from the sale of the Woman Veteran license plate must be expended solely for the purpose of creating and implementing programs that benefit women veterans.

**II. Present Situation:**

**Special License Plates**

Current law provides for several types of license plates. In addition to plates issued for governmental or business purposes, the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) offers four basic types of plates to the general public:

- Standard plates;
- Specialty license plates;
- Personalized prestige license plates; and
- Special use license plates.

Certain members of the general public may be eligible to apply for special use license plates if they are able to document their eligibility pursuant to various sections of ch. 320, F.S. Special use license plates primarily include special military license plates as well as plates for the disabled.

Currently, there are 21 special license plates authorized in s. 320.089, F.S., available to military service members or veterans for the following types of service:<sup>1</sup>

- Veteran of the United States Armed Forces;
- Active or retired member of the Florida National Guard;
- Survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor;
- Recipient of the Purple Heart Medal;
- Active or retired member of any branch of the United States Armed Forces Reserve;
- Recipient of the Combat Infantry Badge;
- Recipient of the Combat Medical Badge;
- Recipient of the Combat Action Badge;
- Recipient of the Combat Action Ribbon;
- Recipient of the Air Force Combat Medal;
- Recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross;
- Former Prisoner of War;
- Veteran of the Korean War;
- Veteran of the Vietnam War;
- Service member or veteran of Operation Desert Shield;
- Service member or veteran of Operation Desert Storm;
- Service member or veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom;
- Service member or veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom;
- Veteran of World War II;
- Navy Submariner; and
- Woman Veteran.

Special license plates authorized under s. 320.089, F.S., are stamped with words consistent with the type of special plate issued. For example, a special plate issued to a current or former member of the Florida National Guard is stamped with the words “National Guard.” Additionally, a likeness of the related campaign medal or badge appears on the plate.<sup>2</sup>

Applicants for special use license plates in s. 320.089, F.S., are required to pay the annual license tax in s. 320.08, F.S., with the exception of certain disabled veterans who qualify for the Pearl Harbor, Purple Heart, or Prisoner of War plate, to whom such plates are issued at no cost.<sup>3</sup> With the exception of Woman Veteran plates, the first \$100,000 of the general revenue generated annually from the issuance of special use military plates is deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund under the Veterans’ Nursing Homes of Florida Act, as described in s.

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<sup>1</sup> Section 320.089, F.S.

<sup>2</sup> For plate samples, see Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, *Military License Plates*, <http://www.flhsmv.gov/specialtytags/miltags.html> (last visited Dec. 18, 2015).

<sup>3</sup> Section 320.089(1)(c) and (2)(a), F.S.

296.38(2), F.S. Additional general revenue is deposited into the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund and used to construct, operate, and maintain domiciliary and nursing homes for veterans.<sup>4</sup>

For Fiscal Year 2014-2015, the total revenue from military special plates was \$2,711,574.<sup>5</sup>

### **Woman Veteran License Plate**

During the 2015 Regular Session, the Legislature created the Woman Veteran special military license plate.<sup>6</sup> The Legislature instructed that revenue generated from the sale of the Woman Veteran plate is to be deposited into the Operations and Maintenance Trust Fund administered by the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs (FDVA) pursuant to s. 20.375(3), F.S.<sup>7</sup> The moneys generated from the sale of the plate must be used solely for the creation and implementation of programs that benefit women veterans. The FDVA has since determined that the Grants and Donations Trust Fund is more appropriate to receive distribution of these revenues.<sup>8</sup>

### **Bronze Star Medal**

The Bronze Star Medal was established on February 4, 1944 to recognize those who served after December 6, 1941 in any capacity in or with the Armed Forces of the United States, or a friendly foreign nation. The Bronze Star Medal is awarded to a person who distinguished himself or herself by heroic or meritorious service, not involving participation in aerial flight, in connection with military operations against an armed enemy; or while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party. Recipients of the Bronze Star Medal must be receiving imminent danger pay while serving in a geographic area authorized for special pay.<sup>9</sup> In order of precedence, the Department of Defense (DoD) places the Bronze Star Medal seventh amongst DoD wide military decorations and awards following the Distinguished Fly Cross and preceding the Purple Heart.<sup>10</sup>

## **III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

The bill creates a special military license plate for recipients of the Bronze Star Medal. The plate will be stamped with the words "Bronze Star" and a likeness of the Bronze Star Medal. To receive a Bronze Star special license plate the individual must submit an application for the plate to the DHSMV, provide proof that he or she is a Bronze Star Medal recipient, and pay the appropriate license tax as provided in s. 320.08, F.S. Revenue generated from the sale of the Bronze Star plate funds the Grants and Donations Trust Fund and the State Home for Veterans Trust Fund.

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<sup>4</sup> Section 320.089(1)(b), F.S.

<sup>5</sup> E-mail from Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs, (Nov. 23, 2015) (on file with the Senate Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security).

<sup>6</sup> See ch. 2015-91, Laws of Fla.

<sup>7</sup> Section 320.089(1)(c), F.S.

<sup>8</sup> E-mail from Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs, (Dec. 2, 2015) (on file with the Senate Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security).

<sup>9</sup> Army Regulation 600-8-22. 25 June 2015. "Military Awards".

<sup>10</sup> Department of Defense Manual No. 1348.33, Vol. 2. 15 May 2015. "Manual of Military Decorations and Awards: DoD Service Awards – Campaign, Expeditionary, and Service Medals." The order of precedence for military awards varies by branch of service.

The bill also redirects revenue from the sale of the Woman Veteran plate from the Operations and Maintenance Trust Fund administered by the FDVA to the Grants and Donations Trust Fund administered by the FDVA. Additionally, the bill specifies in both the Veterans' Nursing Home of Florida Act<sup>11</sup> and the Veterans' Domiciliary Home of Florida Act<sup>12</sup> that funds generated from the sale of this plate must be expended solely for the creation and implementation of programs that benefit women veterans.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2016.

#### **IV. Constitutional Issues:**

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

#### **V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Individuals who choose to receive the Bronze Star or Woman Veteran license plate will pay the same tax and fees as if he or she were issued a standard license plate.<sup>13</sup>

There is a \$28 new license plate fee if the special military plate is replacing any plate prior to the 10-year forced replacement of the current license plate.<sup>14</sup>

C. Government Sector Impact:

The DHSMV estimates an initial startup cost of \$2,882 for the creation and manufacture of 1,000 Bronze Star license plates to be distributed to Tax Collector offices statewide to

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<sup>11</sup> Ch. 296, part II, F.S.

<sup>12</sup> Ch. 296, part I, F.S.

<sup>13</sup> License taxes vary based on type and weight of vehicle. *See* s. 320.08, F.S.

<sup>14</sup> Section 320.0607(3), F.S.

meet public demand.<sup>15</sup> It is indeterminate how many individuals will be eligible and choose to receive a special license plate.

The bill could have a positive impact on the Grants and Donations Trust Fund and the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund.

#### **VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

Sections 2 and 3 of the bill provide that the veterans' nursing homes and the veterans' domiciliary home shall deposit moneys generated from the sale of the Woman Veteran license plate into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund. However, the veterans' nursing homes and domiciliary home would not be the direct recipients of the revenue generated from the sale of the license plate. These moneys would be deposited directly from the point of sale to the designated trust fund administered by the FDVA.

#### **VII. Related Issues:**

None.

#### **VIII. Statutes Affected:**

This bill amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 320.089, 296.11, and 296.38.

#### **IX. Additional Information:**

- A. **Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**  
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

##### **CS by Transportation on December 12, 2015:**

The CS requires that funds received from the sale of Woman Veteran special license plates are to be deposited in the Grants and Donations Trust Fund administered by the FDVA, instead of the Operations and Maintenance Trust Fund. Additional language is added to ensure funds received from the sale of the Woman Veteran plate must be expended solely for the creation and implementation of programs that benefit women veterans.

- B. **Amendments:**

None.

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This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

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<sup>15</sup> Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, *SB 518 Agency Bill Analysis*, (Oct. 20, 2015) (on file with the Senate Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security).

By the Committee on Transportation; and Senators Soto and Hutson

596-01806-16

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1 A bill to be entitled  
 2 An act relating to special license plates; amending s.  
 3 320.089, F.S.; creating a special license plate for  
 4 recipients of the Bronze Star medal; requiring any  
 5 revenue generated from the sale of Woman Veteran  
 6 license plates to be deposited into the Grants and  
 7 Donations Trust Fund, instead of the Operations and  
 8 Maintenance Trust Fund; conforming a cross-reference;  
 9 amending ss. 296.11 and 296.38, F.S.; requiring  
 10 certain homes to deposit all moneys received from the  
 11 sale of Woman Veteran license plates into the Grants  
 12 and Donations Trust Fund; requiring that such moneys  
 13 be expended for certain purposes; providing an  
 14 effective date.  
 15  
 16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
 17  
 18 Section 1. Section 320.089, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
 19 read:  
 20 320.089 Veterans of the United States Armed Forces; members  
 21 of National Guard; survivors of Pearl Harbor; Purple Heart and  
 22 Bronze Star medal recipients; active or retired United States  
 23 Armed Forces reservists; Combat Infantry Badge, Combat Medical  
 24 Badge, or Combat Action Badge recipients; Combat Action Ribbon  
 25 recipients; Air Force Combat Action Medal recipients;  
 26 Distinguished Flying Cross recipients; former prisoners of war;  
 27 Korean War Veterans; Vietnam War Veterans; Operation Desert  
 28 Shield Veterans; Operation Desert Storm Veterans; Operation  
 29 Enduring Freedom Veterans; Operation Iraqi Freedom Veterans;

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**CODING:** Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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30 Women Veterans; World War II Veterans; and Navy Submariners;  
 31 special license plates; fee.—  
 32 (1) (a) Each owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
 33 private use or recreational vehicle as specified in s.  
 34 320.08(9) (c) or (d), which is not used for hire or commercial  
 35 use, who is a resident of the state and a veteran of the United  
 36 States Armed Forces, a Woman Veteran, a World War II Veteran, a  
 37 Navy Submariner, an active or retired member of the Florida  
 38 National Guard, a survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor, a  
 39 recipient of the Purple Heart medal, a recipient of the Bronze  
 40 Star medal, an active or retired member of any branch of the  
 41 United States Armed Forces Reserve, or a recipient of the Combat  
 42 Infantry Badge, Combat Medical Badge, Combat Action Badge,  
 43 Combat Action Ribbon, Air Force Combat Action Medal, or  
 44 Distinguished Flying Cross, upon application to the department,  
 45 accompanied by proof of release or discharge from any branch of  
 46 the United States Armed Forces, proof of active membership or  
 47 retired status in the Florida National Guard, proof of  
 48 membership in the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association or proof of  
 49 active military duty in Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, proof  
 50 of being a Purple Heart or Bronze Star medal recipient, proof of  
 51 active or retired membership in any branch of the United States  
 52 Armed Forces Reserve, or proof of membership in the Combat  
 53 Infantrymen's Association, Inc., proof of being a recipient of  
 54 the Combat Infantry Badge, Combat Medical Badge, Combat Action  
 55 Badge, Combat Action Ribbon, Air Force Combat Action Medal, or  
 56 Distinguished Flying Cross, and upon payment of the license tax  
 57 for the vehicle as provided in s. 320.08, shall be issued a  
 58 license plate as provided by s. 320.06 which, in lieu of the

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59 serial numbers prescribed by s. 320.06, is stamped with the  
 60 words "Veteran," "Woman Veteran," "WWII Veteran," "Navy  
 61 Submariner," "National Guard," "Pearl Harbor Survivor," "Combat-  
 62 wounded veteran," "Bronze Star," "U.S. Reserve," "Combat  
 63 Infantry Badge," "Combat Medical Badge," "Combat Action Badge,"  
 64 "Combat Action Ribbon," "Air Force Combat Action Medal," or  
 65 "Distinguished Flying Cross," as appropriate, and a likeness of  
 66 the related campaign medal or badge, followed by the serial  
 67 number of the license plate. Additionally, the Purple Heart  
 68 plate may have the words "Purple Heart" stamped on the plate and  
 69 the likeness of the Purple Heart medal appearing on the plate.

70 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the  
 71 contrary, beginning with fiscal year 2002-2003 and annually  
 72 thereafter, the first \$100,000 in general revenue generated from  
 73 the sale of license plates issued under this section shall be  
 74 deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund, as described  
 75 in s. 296.38(2), to be used for the purposes established by law  
 76 for that trust fund. Any additional general revenue generated  
 77 from the sale of such plates shall be deposited into the State  
 78 Homes for Veterans Trust Fund and used solely to construct,  
 79 operate, and maintain domiciliary and nursing homes for  
 80 veterans, subject to the requirements of chapter 216.

81 (c) Any revenue generated from the sale of Woman Veteran  
 82 license plates must be deposited into the Grants and Donations  
 83 ~~Operations and Maintenance~~ Trust Fund administered by the  
 84 Department of Veterans' Affairs pursuant to s. 20.375(2) ~~s.~~  
 85 ~~20.375(3)~~ and must be used solely for the purpose of creating  
 86 and implementing programs to benefit women veterans.  
 87 Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, an

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88 applicant for a Pearl Harbor Survivor license plate or a Purple  
 89 Heart license plate who also qualifies for a disabled veteran's  
 90 license plate under s. 320.084 shall be issued the appropriate  
 91 special license plate without payment of the license tax imposed  
 92 by s. 320.08.

93 (2) Each owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
 94 private use, a truck weighing not more than 7,999 pounds, or a  
 95 recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d),  
 96 which is not used for hire or commercial use who is a resident  
 97 of this state and who is a former prisoner of war, or his or her  
 98 unremarried surviving spouse, upon application to the  
 99 department, shall be issued a license plate as provided in s.  
 100 320.06, stamped with the words "Ex-POW" followed by the serial  
 101 number. Each application shall be accompanied by proof that the  
 102 applicant meets the qualifications specified in paragraph (a) or  
 103 paragraph (b).

104 (a) A citizen of the United States who served as a member  
 105 of the Armed Forces of the United States or the armed forces of  
 106 a nation allied with the United States who was held as a  
 107 prisoner of war at such time as the Armed Forces of the United  
 108 States were engaged in combat, or his or her unremarried  
 109 surviving spouse, may be issued the special license plate  
 110 provided for in this subsection without payment of the license  
 111 tax imposed by s. 320.08.

112 (b) A person who was serving as a civilian with the consent  
 113 of the United States Government, or a person who was a member of  
 114 the Armed Forces of the United States while he or she was not a  
 115 United States citizen and was held as a prisoner of war when the  
 116 Armed Forces of the United States were engaged in combat, or his



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117 or her unremarried surviving spouse, may be issued the special  
 118 license plate provided for in this subsection upon payment of  
 119 the license tax imposed by s. 320.08.

120 (3) Each owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
 121 private use, a truck weighing not more than 7,999 pounds, or a  
 122 recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d),  
 123 which is not used for hire or commercial use who is a resident  
 124 of this state and who is the unremarried surviving spouse of a  
 125 recipient of the Purple Heart medal, upon application to the  
 126 department accompanied by the payment of the required fees,  
 127 shall be issued a license plate as provided in s. 320.06 which  
 128 is stamped with the words "Purple Heart" and the likeness of the  
 129 Purple Heart medal followed by the serial number. Each  
 130 application shall be accompanied by proof that the applicant is  
 131 the unremarried surviving spouse of a recipient of the Purple  
 132 Heart medal.

133 (4) The owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
 134 private use, a truck weighing not more than 7,999 pounds, or a  
 135 recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d)  
 136 which is not used for hire or commercial use who is a resident  
 137 of this state and a current or former member of the United  
 138 States Armed Forces who was deployed and served in Korea during  
 139 the Korean War as defined in s. 1.01(14), upon application to  
 140 the department accompanied by proof of active membership or  
 141 former active duty status during the Korean War and payment of  
 142 the license tax for the vehicle as provided in s. 320.08, shall  
 143 be issued a license plate as provided by s. 320.06 which, in  
 144 lieu of the registration license number prescribed by s. 320.06,  
 145 is stamped with the words "Korean War Veteran" and a likeness of

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146 the Korean Service Medal, followed by the registration license  
 147 number of the plate. Proof that the applicant was awarded the  
 148 Korean Service Medal is sufficient to establish eligibility for  
 149 the license plate.

150 (5) The owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
 151 private use, a truck weighing not more than 7,999 pounds, or a  
 152 recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d)  
 153 which is not used for hire or commercial use who is a resident  
 154 of this state and a current or former member of the United  
 155 States military who was deployed and served in Vietnam during  
 156 United States military deployment in Indochina, upon application  
 157 to the department accompanied by proof of active membership or  
 158 former active duty status during these operations and payment of  
 159 the license tax for the vehicle as provided in s. 320.08, shall  
 160 be issued a license plate as provided by s. 320.06 which, in  
 161 lieu of the registration license number prescribed by s. 320.06,  
 162 is stamped with the words "Vietnam War Veteran" and a likeness  
 163 of the Vietnam Service Medal, followed by the registration  
 164 license number of the plate. Proof that the applicant was  
 165 awarded the Vietnam Service Medal is sufficient to establish  
 166 eligibility for the license plate.

167 (6) The owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
 168 private use, a truck weighing not more than 7,999 pounds, or a  
 169 recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d)  
 170 which is not used for hire or commercial use who is a resident  
 171 of this state and a current or former member of the United  
 172 States military who was deployed and served in Saudi Arabia,  
 173 Kuwait, or another area of the Persian Gulf during Operation  
 174 Desert Shield or Operation Desert Storm; in Afghanistan during

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175 Operation Enduring Freedom; or in Iraq during Operation Iraqi  
 176 Freedom, upon application to the department accompanied by proof  
 177 of active membership or former active duty status during one of  
 178 these operations and payment of the license tax for the vehicle  
 179 as provided in s. 320.08, shall be issued a license plate as  
 180 provided by s. 320.06 which, in lieu of the registration license  
 181 number prescribed by s. 320.06, is stamped with the words  
 182 "Operation Desert Shield," "Operation Desert Storm," "Operation  
 183 Enduring Freedom," or "Operation Iraqi Freedom," as appropriate,  
 184 and a likeness of the related campaign medal followed by the  
 185 registration license number of the plate. Proof that the  
 186 applicant was awarded the Southwest Asia Service Medal, Iraq  
 187 Campaign Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, or Global War on  
 188 Terrorism Expeditionary Medal is sufficient to establish  
 189 eligibility for the appropriate license plate.

190 Section 2. Present subsection (3) of section 296.11,  
 191 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (4), and a new  
 192 subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:

193 296.11 Funds of home and disposition of moneys.-

194 (3) The home shall deposit all moneys received pursuant to  
 195 s. 320.089(1) (c) from the sale of Woman Veteran license plates  
 196 into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund. Notwithstanding  
 197 subsection (2), all such moneys must be expended solely for the  
 198 purpose of creating and implementing programs that benefit women  
 199 veterans.

200 Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 296.38, Florida  
 201 Statutes, is amended to read:

202 296.38 Funds of home and disposition of moneys.-

203 (2) (a) The home may ~~shall be empowered to~~ receive and

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204 accept gifts, grants, and endowments ~~in the name of the home.~~  
 205 All such gifts, grants, and endowments shall ~~are to~~ be used for  
 206 the benefit of the home and its residents. In the absence of a  
 207 specific directive from the benefactor, the administrator and,  
 208 ~~together with the director may, shall have the authority to~~  
 209 determine how these gifts, grants, and endowments will ~~could~~  
 210 best benefit the home and its residents ~~unless the benefactor~~  
 211 ~~requests or instructs that the gift, grant, or endowment be used~~  
 212 ~~for a specific purpose.~~ The home shall deposit all moneys  
 213 received pursuant to this subsection into the Grants and  
 214 Donations Trust Fund. Moneys in the Grants and Donations Trust  
 215 Fund shall be expended for the common benefit of the residents  
 216 of the home, such as recreational equipment and supplies,  
 217 improved facilities, ~~recreational supplies,~~ and goods and  
 218 services offered or available to all residents.

219 (b) The home shall deposit all moneys received pursuant to  
 220 s. 320.089(1) (c) from the sale of Woman Veteran license plates  
 221 into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund. Notwithstanding  
 222 paragraph (a), all such moneys must be expended solely for the  
 223 purpose of creating and implementing programs that benefit women  
 224 veterans.

225 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

1/11/2016

Meeting Date

SB 518

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Special License Plates

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Colonel Mike Prendergast

Job Title Executive Director

Address The Capitol, Suite 2105

Phone (850) 487-1533

Tallahassee FL 32399

Email exdir@fdva.state.fl.us

Speaking: [ ] For [ ] Against [ ] Information

Waive Speaking: [x] In Support [ ] Against (The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing The Florida Dept. of Veterans' Affairs

Appearing at request of Chair: [ ] Yes [x] No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: [x] Yes [ ] No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

THE FLORIDA SENATE  
**APPEARANCE RECORD**

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Jan 11, 2016  
Meeting Date

518  
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic \_\_\_\_\_

Amendment Barcode (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Name American Legion Commander

Job Title Jim Ramos

Address 6609 SE 85<sup>th</sup> Ave Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Street

Newberry FL 32669 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information

Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against  
*(The Chair will read this information into the record.)*

Representing \_\_\_\_\_

Appearing at request of Chair:  Yes  No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature:  Yes  No

*While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.*

**This form is part of the public record for this meeting.**

**The Florida Senate**  
**BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

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Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security

---

BILL: SB 666

INTRODUCER: Senator Legg

SUBJECT: Voter Identification

DATE: January 8, 2016

REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Carlton</u>	<u>Roberts</u>	<u>EE</u>	<b>Favorable</b>
2.	<u>Sanders</u>	<u>Ryon</u>	<u>MS</u>	<b>Favorable</b>
3.	_____	_____	<u>RC</u>	_____

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**I. Summary:**

SB 666 allows two new forms of identification to be used for the purposes of voter registration and identification at the polls. Specifically, it allows a voter to use his or her Florida concealed weapon or firearm license and a Veteran Health Identification Card issued by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

**II. Present Situation:**

A voter registration applicant who has never previously voted in Florida and who has not been issued a current and valid Florida driver license, Florida ID card, or social security card is allowed to register to vote by mail.<sup>1</sup> However, he or she is required to provide a copy of a current and valid identification, or indicate that he or she is exempt. The following forms of identification are allowed in support of their applications if they contain the name and photograph of the applicant and have not expired:

- U.S. Passport;
- Debit or credit card;
- Military ID;
- Student ID;
- Retirement center ID;
- Neighborhood association ID; and
- Public assistance ID.<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Section 97.0535(1), F.S.

<sup>2</sup> Section 97.0535(3)(a), F.S.

Additionally, the following forms of identification are allowed in support of their applications if they contain the name and current residence address of the applicant:

- Utility bill;
- Bank statement;
- Government check;
- Paycheck; or
- Other government document (excluding voter identification card).<sup>3</sup>

Currently, s. 101.043, F.S. requires a voter to produce identification at the polls. That section allows the following forms of identification to satisfy that requirement:

- Florida driver license;
- Florida identification card issued by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles;
- U.S. Passport;
- Debit or credit card;
- Military ID;
- Student ID;
- Retirement center ID;
- Neighborhood association ID; and
- Public assistance ID.<sup>4</sup>

### **License to Carry Concealed Weapon or Firearm**

Recipients of a Florida concealed weapon or firearm license must be 21 years of age or older; demonstrate competency with a firearm; and, unless currently serving overseas in the United States Armed Forces, currently reside in the United States as a U.S. citizen or a lawful permanent resident alien.<sup>5</sup> Candidates for a concealed weapon or firearm license may be ineligible dependent on the provisions listed in s. 790.06, F.S.<sup>6</sup> The license is required to bear a color photograph of the licensee.<sup>7</sup>

### **Veteran Health Identification Card**

The Veteran Health Identification Card (VHIC) is issued by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) to veterans who are enrolled in the USDVA health care system for identification and check-in at USDVA appointments.<sup>8</sup> In order to receive a VHIC, the veteran must apply for enrollment in the USDVA health care system and provide a primary and

---

<sup>3</sup> Section 97.0535(3)(b), F.S.

<sup>4</sup> Section 101.043(1), F.S.

<sup>5</sup> Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, *Concealed Weapon License: Eligibility Requirements*, available at <http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Licensing/Concealed-Weapon-License/Eligibility-Requirements> (last visited Dec. 18, 2015).

<sup>6</sup> See section 790.06, F.S.

<sup>7</sup> Section 790.06(1), F.S.

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, *Health Benefits*, available at <http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/vhic/index.asp> (last visited Dec. 18, 2015).

secondary form of identification.<sup>9</sup> Once the veteran's enrollment is verified, he or she must have their picture taken at the local USDVA medical center for inclusion on the VHIC.<sup>10</sup>

### **III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

SB 666 allows the narrow class of voter registration applicants addressed in s. 97.0535, F.S. to provide a Veteran Health Identification Card issued by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or Florida license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm as a form of identification in support of their voter registration application. The bill also authorizes those two forms of identification to be used as identification at the polls as required by s. 101.043, F.S. Finally, the bill makes conforming changes to the absentee ballot and special absentee ballot instructions.

### **IV. Constitutional Issues:**

#### **A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

#### **B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:**

None.

#### **C. Trust Funds Restrictions:**

None.

### **V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**

#### **A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

#### **B. Private Sector Impact:**

None.

#### **C. Government Sector Impact:**

None.

### **VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

### **VII. Related Issues:**

None.

---

<sup>9</sup> Id.

<sup>10</sup> *Supra* note 8

**VIII. Statutes Affected:**

This bill substantially amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 97.0535, 101.043, 101.68, and 101.6923.

**IX. Additional Information:**

**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

**B. Amendments:**

None.

---

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

---



By Senator Legg

17-00694A-16

2016666\_\_

1 A bill to be entitled  
 2 An act relating to voter identification; amending s.  
 3 97.0535, F.S.; expanding the list of acceptable forms  
 4 of identification for certain voter registration  
 5 applicants to include veteran health identification  
 6 cards and licenses to carry a concealed weapon or  
 7 firearm; amending s. 101.043, F.S.; expanding the list  
 8 of acceptable forms of identification at a polling  
 9 place or early voting site to include veteran health  
 10 identification cards and licenses to carry a concealed  
 11 weapon or firearm; amending ss. 101.68 and 101.6923,  
 12 F.S.; revising absentee ballot and special absentee  
 13 ballot instructions, respectively, to conform to  
 14 changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

15  
 16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

17  
 18 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section  
 19 97.0535, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20 97.0535 Special requirements for certain applicants.—

21 (3)(a) The following forms of identification shall be  
 22 considered current and valid if they contain the name and  
 23 photograph of the applicant and have not expired:

- 24 1. United States passport.
- 25 2. Debit or credit card.
- 26 3. Military identification.
- 27 4. Student identification.
- 28 5. Retirement center identification.
- 29 6. Neighborhood association identification.

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30 7. Public assistance identification.  
 31 8. Veteran health identification card issued by the United  
 32 States Department of Veterans Affairs.  
 33 9. A license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm issued  
 34 pursuant to s. 790.06.  
 35 Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
 36 101.043, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:  
 37 101.043 Identification required at polls.—  
 38 (1)(a) The precinct register, as prescribed in s. 98.461,  
 39 shall be used at the polls for the purpose of identifying the  
 40 elector at the polls before allowing him or her to vote. The  
 41 clerk or inspector shall require each elector, upon entering the  
 42 polling place, to present one of the following current and valid  
 43 picture identifications:  
 44 1. Florida driver license.  
 45 2. Florida identification card issued by the Department of  
 46 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.  
 47 3. United States passport.  
 48 4. Debit or credit card.  
 49 5. Military identification.  
 50 6. Student identification.  
 51 7. Retirement center identification.  
 52 8. Neighborhood association identification.  
 53 9. Public assistance identification.  
 54 10. Veteran health identification card issued by the United  
 55 States Department of Veterans Affairs.  
 56 11. A license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm issued  
 57 pursuant to s. 790.06.

58 Section 3. Paragraph (d) of subsection (4) of section

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59 101.68, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

60 101.68 Canvassing of absentee ballot.—

61 (4)

62 (d) Instructions must accompany the absentee ballot  
63 affidavit in substantially the following form:

64  
65 READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING THE  
66 AFFIDAVIT. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY CAUSE YOUR  
67 BALLOT NOT TO COUNT.

68  
69 1. In order to ensure that your absentee ballot will be  
70 counted, your affidavit should be completed and returned as soon  
71 as possible so that it can reach the supervisor of elections of  
72 the county in which your precinct is located no later than 5  
73 p.m. on the 2nd day before the election.

74 2. You must sign your name on the line above (Voter's  
75 Signature).

76 3. You must make a copy of one of the following forms of  
77 identification:

78 a. Identification that includes your name and photograph:  
79 United States passport; debit or credit card; military  
80 identification; student identification; retirement center  
81 identification; neighborhood association identification; ~~or~~  
82 public assistance identification; veteran health identification  
83 card issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs;  
84 or a Florida license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm; or

85 b. Identification that shows your name and current  
86 residence address: current utility bill, bank statement,  
87 government check, paycheck, or government document (excluding

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88 voter identification card).

89 4. Place the envelope bearing the affidavit into a mailing  
90 envelope addressed to the supervisor. Insert a copy of your  
91 identification in the mailing envelope. Mail, deliver, or have  
92 delivered the completed affidavit along with the copy of your  
93 identification to your county supervisor of elections. Be sure  
94 there is sufficient postage if mailed and that the supervisor's  
95 address is correct.

96 5. Alternatively, you may fax or e-mail your completed  
97 affidavit and a copy of your identification to the supervisor of  
98 elections. If e-mailing, please provide these documents as  
99 attachments.

100 Section 4. Subsection (2) of section 101.6923, Florida  
101 Statutes, is amended to read:

102 101.6923 Special absentee ballot instructions for certain  
103 first-time voters.—

104 (2) A voter covered by this section shall be provided with  
105 printed instructions with his or her absentee ballot in  
106 substantially the following form:

107  
108 READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE MARKING YOUR  
109 BALLOT. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY CAUSE  
110 YOUR BALLOT NOT TO COUNT.

111  
112 1. In order to ensure that your absentee ballot will be  
113 counted, it should be completed and returned as soon as possible  
114 so that it can reach the supervisor of elections of the county  
115 in which your precinct is located no later than 7 p.m. on the  
116 date of the election. However, if you are an overseas voter

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117 casting a ballot in a presidential preference primary or general  
118 election, your absentee ballot must be postmarked or dated no  
119 later than the date of the election and received by the  
120 supervisor of elections of the county in which you are  
121 registered to vote no later than 10 days after the date of the  
122 election.

123 2. Mark your ballot in secret as instructed on the ballot.  
124 You must mark your own ballot unless you are unable to do so  
125 because of blindness, disability, or inability to read or write.

126 3. Mark only the number of candidates or issue choices for  
127 a race as indicated on the ballot. If you are allowed to "Vote  
128 for One" candidate and you vote for more than one, your vote in  
129 that race will not be counted.

130 4. Place your marked ballot in the enclosed secrecy  
131 envelope and seal the envelope.

132 5. Insert the secrecy envelope into the enclosed envelope  
133 bearing the Voter's Certificate. Seal the envelope and  
134 completely fill out the Voter's Certificate on the back of the  
135 envelope.

136 a. You must sign your name on the line above (Voter's  
137 Signature).

138 b. If you are an overseas voter, you must include the date  
139 you signed the Voter's Certificate on the line above (Date) or  
140 your ballot may not be counted.

141 c. An absentee ballot will be considered illegal and will  
142 not be counted if the signature on the Voter's Certificate does  
143 not match the signature on record. The signature on file at the  
144 start of the canvass of the absentee ballots is the signature  
145 that will be used to verify your signature on the Voter's

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146 Certificate. If you need to update your signature for this  
147 election, send your signature update on a voter registration  
148 application to your supervisor of elections so that it is  
149 received no later than the start of canvassing of absentee  
150 ballots, which occurs no earlier than the 15th day before  
151 election day.

152 6. Unless you meet one of the exemptions in Item 7., you  
153 must make a copy of one of the following forms of  
154 identification:

155 a. Identification which must include your name and  
156 photograph: United States passport; debit or credit card;  
157 military identification; student identification; retirement  
158 center identification; neighborhood association identification;  
159 ~~or~~ public assistance identification; veteran health  
160 identification card issued by the United States Department of  
161 Veterans Affairs; or a Florida license to carry a concealed  
162 weapon or firearm; or

163 b. Identification which shows your name and current  
164 residence address: current utility bill, bank statement,  
165 government check, paycheck, or government document (excluding  
166 voter identification card).

167 7. The identification requirements of Item 6. do not apply  
168 if you meet one of the following requirements:

169 a. You are 65 years of age or older.

170 b. You have a temporary or permanent physical disability.

171 c. You are a member of a uniformed service on active duty  
172 who, by reason of such active duty, will be absent from the  
173 county on election day.

174 d. You are a member of the Merchant Marine who, by reason

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175 of service in the Merchant Marine, will be absent from the  
176 county on election day.

177 e. You are the spouse or dependent of a member referred to  
178 in paragraph c. or paragraph d. who, by reason of the active  
179 duty or service of the member, will be absent from the county on  
180 election day.

181 f. You are currently residing outside the United States.

182 8. Place the envelope bearing the Voter's Certificate into  
183 the mailing envelope addressed to the supervisor. Insert a copy  
184 of your identification in the mailing envelope. DO NOT PUT YOUR  
185 IDENTIFICATION INSIDE THE SECRECY ENVELOPE WITH THE BALLOT OR  
186 INSIDE THE ENVELOPE WHICH BEARS THE VOTER'S CERTIFICATE OR YOUR  
187 BALLOT WILL NOT COUNT.

188 9. Mail, deliver, or have delivered the completed mailing  
189 envelope. Be sure there is sufficient postage if mailed.

190 10. FELONY NOTICE. It is a felony under Florida law to  
191 accept any gift, payment, or gratuity in exchange for your vote  
192 for a candidate. It is also a felony under Florida law to vote  
193 in an election using a false identity or false address, or under  
194 any other circumstances making your ballot false or fraudulent.

195 Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

THE FLORIDA SENATE  
**APPEARANCE RECORD**

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Jan 11, 2016  
Meeting Date

666  
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic \_\_\_\_\_

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Jim Ramos

Job Title American Legion Commander

Address 6609 SE 85<sup>th</sup> Ave

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street

Newberry

FL

32669

City

State

Zip

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Speaking:  For  Against  Information

Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against  
*(The Chair will read this information into the record.)*

Representing \_\_\_\_\_

Appearing at request of Chair:  Yes  No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature:  Yes  No

*While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.*

**This form is part of the public record for this meeting.**

THE FLORIDA SENATE  
**APPEARANCE RECORD**

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

1/10/16

Meeting Date

644

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Voter ID

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name RON LABASKY

Job Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address 225 S. ADAMS ST

Phone 222-7718

Street

TALL

City

FL

State

32312

Zip

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Speaking:  For  Against  Information

Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against  
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing FLA. STATE ASSOC. OF SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Appearing at request of Chair:  Yes  No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature:  Yes  No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)



## THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

**COMMITTEES:**  
Education Pre-K - 12, Chair  
Ethics and Elections, Vice Chair  
Appropriations Subcommittee on Education  
Fiscal Policy  
Government Oversight and Accountability  
Higher Education

**SENATOR JOHN LEGG**  
17th District

Legg.John.web@FLSenate.gov

January 11, 2016

The Honorable Thad Altman  
Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security, Chair  
215 Knott Building  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

**RE: SB 666 - Voter Identification**

Dear Chair Altman:

SB 666: Voter Identification is on the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security agenda January 11, 2016. I will be at the Committee on Government Oversight and Accountability meeting, and I will be unable to attend.

Please recognize my Legislative Assistant, Rich Reidy, to present SB 666 on my behalf. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Your consideration is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Legg".

John Legg  
State Senator, District 17

cc: Elizabeth Ryon, Staff Director  
Lois Graham, Administrative Assistant

**REPLY TO:**

- 262 Crystal Grove Boulevard, Lutz, Florida 33548 (813) 909-9919
- 316 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5017

Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**ANDY GARDINER**  
President of the Senate

**GARRETT RICHTER**  
President Pro Tempore

# CourtSmart Tag Report

**Room:** LL 37

**Case No.:**

**Type:**

**Caption:** Senate Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security Committee

**Judge:**

**Started:** 1/11/2016 4:02:25 PM

**Ends:** 1/11/2016 4:08:55 PM **Length:** 00:06:31

**4:02:24 PM** Chairman Altman calls meeting to order  
**4:02:43 PM** CAA Lois Graham calls the roll and announces a quorum  
**4:03:56 PM** Chairman Altman calls for Tab 1 - CS/SB 518 Special License Plates by Senator Soto  
**4:03:58 PM** Senator Soto explains the bill  
**4:04:19 PM** Chairman Altman calls for questions and recognizes appearances  
**4:04:25 PM** Appearance-Colonel Mike Prendergast, Executive Director, Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs  
**4:04:38 PM** Colonel Prendergast waives in support  
**4:04:41 PM** Appearance -Mr. Jim Ramos, American Legion Commander  
**4:04:47 PM** Mr. Ramos waives in support  
**4:05:01 PM** Chairman Altman calls for questions/debate  
**4:05:07 PM** Senator Soto closes on bill  
**4:05:39 PM** Chairman Altman with comments  
**4:05:43 PM** Senator Soto with comments  
**4:05:55 PM** CAA Graham calls the roll on CS/SB 518  
**4:06:06 PM** CS/SB 518 reported favorably  
**4:06:23 PM** Chairman Altman moves to Tab 2 - SB 666 Voter Identification by Legg  
**4:06:48 PM** Senator Legg's Aide Rich Reidy explains the bill  
**4:07:29 PM** Chairman Altman calls for questions  
**4:07:36 PM** Appearance - Mr. Jim Ramos, American Legion Commander waives in support  
**4:07:54 PM** Appearance - Mr. Ron Labasky waives in support  
**4:08:06 PM** Chairman Calls for debate on the bill  
**4:08:16 PM** Mr. Reidy waives closing  
**4:08:19 PM** Chairman Altman calls for vote  
**4:08:24 PM** CAA Graham call the roll on SB 666  
**4:08:30 PM** SB 666 reported favorably  
**4:08:37 PM** Chairman Altman with comments; Senator Evers moves to rise  
**4:08:55 PM** Meeting Adjourned