HB 727 2022

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to exemptions from toll payment for disabled veterans; providing a short title; amending s. 338.155, F.S.; exempting certain disabled veterans from paying a toll on a toll facility; requiring the Department of Transportation to issue certain passes; providing requirements for exemption while operating a rented motor vehicle; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Veterans Driving with Dignity Act."

Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 338.155, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.155 Payment of toll on toll facilities required; exemptions.—

(3) (a) A person with a disability who has a valid driver license, who operates a vehicle specially equipped for use by persons with disabilities, and who is certified by a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 or by comparable licensing in another state or by the Adjudication Office of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor as being severely physically disabled and having permanent upper limb mobility or dexterity impairments that substantially impair

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the person's ability to deposit coins in toll baskets shall be allowed to pass free through all tollgates and over all toll bridges and ferries in this state. Such person shall, upon application, be issued a vehicle window sticker by the Department of Transportation.

- (b) A person who is determined by the United States

  Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor to have a service-connected 100-percent total and permanent disability rating shall be allowed to pass free through all tollgates and over all toll bridges and ferries in this state.
- 1. The Department of Transportation shall issue such person, upon application, a pass for up to two motor vehicles registered to the person. Each pass shall be issued free of charge.
- 2. To be eligible for an exemption pursuant to this paragraph while operating a rented motor vehicle, such person must provide the motor vehicle rental company with proof of a service-connected 100-percent total and permanent disability rating by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor, and the rental transaction must be in the exempted person's name.
  - Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.