AN ACT concerning transportation.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by adding Section 3-699.26 as follows:

(625 ILCS 5/3-699.26 new)

Sec. 3-699.26. Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal license plates.

(a) In addition to any other special license plate, the Secretary of State, upon receipt of all applicable fees and applications made in the form prescribed by the Secretary, may issue special registration plates registered as Armed Forces Expeditionary license plates to residents of Illinois who have been awarded the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for service in the United States Armed Forces after July 1, 1958 and participated in U.S. military operations, U.S. operations in direct support of the United Nations, or U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations. The special plates issued pursuant to this Section shall be affixed only to passenger vehicles of the first division, motorcycles, and motor vehicles of the second division weighing not more than 8,000 pounds. Plates issued under this Section shall expire according to the staggered multi-year procedure established by

Section 3-414.1 of this Code.

(b) The design, color, and format of the plates shall be wholly within the discretion of the Secretary. The Secretary may allow the plates to be issued as vanity plates or personalized plates in accordance with Section 3-405.1 of this Code. The plates are not required to designate "Land of Lincoln", as prescribed in subsection (b) of Section 3-412 of this Code. The Secretary shall, in his or her discretion, approve and prescribe stickers or decals as provided under Section 3-412.

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1, 2026.