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Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and fellow members of the Committee,

I have introduced this bill in response by several military veterans in my district. They have gone to apply for the Veteran License Plates and been told the only form of identification accepted as being eligible for the plates was the DD 214 Service Discharge Form. This form is an 8x10 page that is not something veterans carry around with them. Several of these veterans had to return home and get the form out of their files to go back to the courthouse to apply for the plates. The usual time to wait in line at the DMV is about 20-30 minutes. To wait that long to be told you must provide something that is not readily available is frustrating for our veterans. The DMV is operating under the current law, so it is not their fault.

What this bill does is provide other means for veterans to prove their status with IDs they currently carry all the time. The DD 2 Form is the Retirees Military ID and proof that the person is a qualified veteran. The new Real ID Driver's License has the Veteran Status on it. To get that identification on the driver's license, they must show their DD214. Thus, the State has already identified the person as a veteran. This bill will update the current statute with these two additional forms of identification.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I will stand for questions.