HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: PCS for HB 1029 Purple Heart Recipient Parking Spaces
SPONSOR(S): Tourism, Infrastructure & Energy Subcommittee
TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 1320

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
Orig. Comm.: Tourism, Infrastructure & Energy Subcommittee		Johnson	Keating

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The Purple Heart medal is presented to service members who have been wounded or killed as a result of enemy action while serving in the U.S. military.

Around the United States parking spaces are being created in parking lots, which are reserved for combat injured veterans. While not officially reserved or protected, these spaces are designed to honor those who were wounded in combat.

The PCS authorizes each state agency or political subdivision having jurisdiction over street parking or publicly owned or operated parking facilities to designate Purple Heart recipient parking spaces. Each designated parking space must be designed in a manner that is consistent with the standards of the controlling jurisdiction for other parking spaces, except that it may be outlined in purple paint or posted with a sign identifying the parking space as a Purple Heart recipient parking space.

The PCS does not appear to impact state or local government revenues or state government expenditures. To the extent a local government creates a program designating parking spaces for Purple Heart recipients, there may be some insignificant expenditures associated with creating those spaces.

The PCS has an effective date of July 1, 2021.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Current Situation

The Purple Heart medal is presented to service members who while serving in the U.S. military have been wounded or killed as a result of enemy action. A Purple Heart is a solemn distinction and means a service member has greatly sacrificed themselves, or paid the ultimate price, while in the line of duty.[1]

According to the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, more than 1.8 million Purple Heart medals have been presented to service members since the award was created in 1782.[2]

Around the United States, purple parking spaces are being created for combat injured veterans. While not officially reserved or protected, the spaces are designed to honor those who were wounded in combat.[3]

Currently, there is nothing in state law regarding Purple Heart recipient parking spaces.

Effect of the Bill

The PCS creates s. 316.1968, F.S., authorizing each state agency or political subdivision having jurisdiction over street parking or publicly-owned or operated parking facilities to designate parking spaces as Purple Heart recipient parking spaces. Each designated parking space must be designed in a manner that is consistent with the standards of the controlling jurisdiction for other parking spaces, except that it may be prominently outlined in purple paint or posted with an above-grade sign identifying the parking space as a Purple Heart recipient parking space. Use of these spaces would operate on an honor system.

The PCS has an effective date of July 1, 2021.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1 Creates s. 316.1968, F.S., relating to Purple Heart recipient parking spaces.

Section 2 Provide an effective date of July, 1, 2021.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

   None.

2. Expenditures:

   None.

[1] USO, *8 Things You Need to Know about the Purple Heart Medal,* August 3, 2020, https://www.uso.org/stories/2276-8-purple-heart-facts (last visited March 26, 2021).
[2] *Id*.
[3] The Veteran Site, *Purple Parking Spots are Great News for Veterans,* https://blog.theveteranssite.greatergood.com/veteran-parking-spots/#:~:text=Spearheaded%20by%20the%20Wounded%20Warriors,in%20combat%20for%20their%20country. (last visited March 26, 2021).

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not applicable. This PCS does not appear to require counties or municipalities to spend funds or take action requiring the expenditures of funds, reduce the authority that counties or municipalities have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

The PCS does not provide a grant of rulemaking, nor does it require rulemaking.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/ COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES