

1-1 By: Guerra, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Eckhardt) H.B. No. 3132
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 8, 2023;
1-3 May 9, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Transportation; May 17, 2023, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 17, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to an optional designation on a driver's license or
1-20 personal identification certificate indicating that a person is
1-21 deaf or hard of hearing.

1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-23 SECTION 1. Sections 521.060(a) and (c), Transportation
1-24 Code, are amended to read as follows:

1-25 (a) The department shall maintain in its files a record of
1-26 the name, address, and telephone number of each individual
1-27 identified by the holder of a driver's license or personal
1-28 identification certificate as an individual the holder authorizes
1-29 to be contacted in the event that the holder is injured or dies in or
1-30 as a result of a vehicular accident or another emergency situation.
1-31 In addition, the department shall maintain in its files a record of
1-32 any medical information described by Section 521.125(a) that is
1-33 provided to the department under Subsection (c) or any health
1-34 condition information that is voluntarily provided to the
1-35 department under Sections 521.1251 and ~~[Section]~~ 521.142(h).

1-36 (c) An application for an original, renewal, or duplicate
1-37 driver's license or personal identification certificate must:

1-38 (1) be designed to allow, but not require, the
1-39 applicant to provide:

1-40 (A) the name, address, and telephone number of
1-41 not more than two individuals to be contacted if the applicant is
1-42 injured or dies in a circumstance described by Subsection (a); and

1-43 (B) in addition to health condition information
1-44 voluntarily provided under Sections 521.1251 and ~~[Section]~~
1-45 521.142(h), medical information described by Section 521.125(a);
1-46 and

1-47 (2) include a statement that:

1-48 (A) describes the confidential nature of the
1-49 information; and

1-50 (B) states that by providing the department with
1-51 the information, the applicant consents to the limited disclosure
1-52 and use of the information.

1-53 SECTION 2. Subchapter F, Chapter 521, Transportation Code,
1-54 is amended by adding Section 521.1251 to read as follows:

1-55 Sec. 521.1251. OPTIONAL DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING
1-56 DESIGNATION. (a) The department shall provide to each applicant
1-57 for the issuance of an original, renewal, corrected, or duplicate
1-58 driver's license or personal identification certificate who
1-59 applies in person the opportunity to voluntarily indicate on a
1-60 driver's license or personal identification certificate that the
1-61 person is deaf or hard of hearing as evidenced by a written

2-1 statement from a licensed physician.

2-2 (b) The department shall include a designation that
2-3 indicates the person is deaf or hard of hearing on each driver's
2-4 license or personal identification certificate issued to a person
2-5 who:

2-6 (1) makes an election under this section; and

2-7 (2) provides sufficient evidence under Subsection (a)
2-8 to qualify for the designation.

2-9 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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