

1-1 By: Campbell S.B. No. 2376  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 10, 2023; March 23, 2023, read  
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Transportation;  
 1-4 May 11, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 8,  
 1-5 Nays 0; May 11, 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 the issuance of Support Adoption specialty license  
 1-20 plates and to the Support Adoption account and certain voluntary  
 1-21 contributions to that account.

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

1-23 SECTION 1. The heading to Section 402.036, Government Code,  
 1-24 is amended to read as follows:

1-25 Sec. 402.036. SUPPORT ADOPTION [~~CHOOSE LIFE~~] ACCOUNT.

1-26 SECTION 2. Sections 402.036(a), (b), (b-1), (e), (f), and  
 1-27 (g), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

1-28 (a) The Support Adoption [~~Choose Life~~] account is a separate  
 1-29 account in the general revenue fund. The account is composed of:

1-30 (1) money deposited to the credit of the account under  
 1-31 Sections [~~Section~~] 504.662 and 521.015, Transportation Code; and

1-32 (2) gifts, grants, donations, and legislative  
 1-33 appropriations.

1-34 (b) The attorney general administers the Support Adoption  
 1-35 [~~Choose Life~~] account. The attorney general may spend money  
 1-36 credited to the account only to:

1-37 (1) make grants to an eligible organization; and

1-38 (2) defray the cost of administering the account,  
 1-39 including the cost of advertising authorized by Subsection (b-1).

1-40 (b-1) The attorney general may advertise that fees paid for  
 1-41 the issuance of a license plate in accordance with Section 504.662,  
 1-42 Transportation Code, may be used to fund the grants described by  
 1-43 Subsection (b)(1), provided that the money spent under this  
 1-44 subsection does not exceed two percent of the amount of gross  
 1-45 receipts deposited to the Support Adoption [~~Choose Life~~] account  
 1-46 during the preceding state fiscal year.

1-47 (e) The attorney general by rule shall establish:

1-48 (1) guidelines for the expenditure of money credited  
 1-49 to the Support Adoption [~~Choose Life~~] account; and

1-50 (2) reporting and other mechanisms necessary to ensure  
 1-51 that the money is spent in accordance with this section.

1-52 (f) Money received by an eligible organization under this  
 1-53 section may be spent only to provide for the material needs of  
 1-54 pregnant women who are considering placing their children for  
 1-55 adoption, including the provision of clothing, housing, prenatal  
 1-56 care, food, utilities, and transportation, to provide for the needs  
 1-57 of children [~~infants~~] who are awaiting placement with adoptive  
 1-58 parents, to provide training and advertising relating to adoption,  
 1-59 and to provide pregnancy testing or pre-adoption or postadoption  
 1-60 counseling, but may not be used to pay an administrative, legal, or  
 1-61 capital expense.

2-1 (g) In this section, "eligible organization" means an  
2-2 organization in this state that:

2-3 (1) is exempt from federal income taxation under  
2-4 Section 501(a), Internal Revenue Code of 1986, by being listed as an  
2-5 exempt charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of that  
2-6 code;

2-7 (2) provides counseling and material assistance to  
2-8 pregnant women who are considering placing their children for  
2-9 adoption or to prospective adoptive parents;

2-10 (3) does not charge for services provided, except for  
2-11 adoption-related costs or fees;

2-12 (4) does not provide abortions or abortion-related  
2-13 services or make referrals to abortion providers;

2-14 (5) is not affiliated with an organization that  
2-15 provides abortions or abortion-related services or makes referrals  
2-16 to abortion providers; and

2-17 (6) does not contract with an organization that  
2-18 provides abortions or abortion-related services or makes referrals  
2-19 to abortion providers.

2-20 SECTION 3. The heading to Section 402.037, Government Code,  
2-21 is amended to read as follows:

2-22 Sec. 402.037. SUPPORT ADOPTION [~~CHOOSE LIFE~~] ADVISORY  
2-23 COMMITTEE.

2-24 SECTION 4. Sections 402.037(a) and (b), Government Code,  
2-25 are amended to read as follows:

2-26 (a) The attorney general shall appoint a seven-member  
2-27 Support Adoption [~~Choose Life~~] advisory committee.

2-28 (b) The committee shall:

2-29 (1) meet at least twice a year or as called by the  
2-30 attorney general;

2-31 (2) assist the attorney general in developing rules  
2-32 under Section 402.036(e); and

2-33 (3) review and make recommendations to the attorney  
2-34 general on applications submitted to the attorney general for  
2-35 grants funded with money credited to the Support Adoption [~~Choose~~  
2-36 ~~Life~~] account.

2-37 SECTION 5. Section 504.662, Transportation Code, is amended  
2-38 to read as follows:

2-39 Sec. 504.662. SUPPORT ADOPTION [~~CHOOSE LIFE~~] LICENSE  
2-40 PLATES. (a) The department shall issue specially designed  
2-41 license plates that include the words "Support Adoption [~~Choose~~  
2-42 ~~Life~~]." The department shall design the license plates in  
2-43 consultation with the attorney general.

2-44 (b) After deduction of the department's administrative  
2-45 costs, the department shall deposit the remainder of the fee for  
2-46 issuance of license plates under this section in the state treasury  
2-47 to the credit of the Support Adoption [~~Choose Life~~] account  
2-48 established by Section 402.036, Government Code.

2-49 SECTION 6. Subchapter A, Chapter 521, Transportation Code,  
2-50 is amended by adding Section 521.015 to read as follows:

2-51 Sec. 521.015. VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION TO SUPPORT  
2-52 ADOPTION. (a) When a person applies for an original or renewal  
2-53 driver's license or personal identification certificate under this  
2-54 chapter, the person may contribute any amount to the Support  
2-55 Adoption account established by Section 402.036, Government Code,  
2-56 to support adoption.

2-57 (b) The department shall:

2-58 (1) include space on the first page of each  
2-59 application for an original or renewal driver's license or personal  
2-60 identification certificate that allows a person applying for an  
2-61 original or renewal driver's license or personal identification  
2-62 certificate to indicate the amount that the person is voluntarily  
2-63 contributing to the account; and

2-64 (2) provide an opportunity for the person to  
2-65 contribute to the account during the application process for an  
2-66 original or renewal driver's license or personal identification  
2-67 certificate on the department's Internet website.

2-68 (c) The department shall send any contribution made under  
2-69 this section to the comptroller for deposit to the credit of the

3-1 Support Adoption account established by Section [402.036](#),  
3-2 Government Code, not later than the 14th day of each month. Before  
3-3 sending the money to the comptroller, the department may deduct  
3-4 money equal to the amount of reasonable expenses for administering  
3-5 this section.

3-6 SECTION 7. Not later than December 31, 2023, the Department  
3-7 of Public Safety shall provide an opportunity for a person who  
3-8 applies for an original or renewal driver's license or personal  
3-9 identification certificate to make a voluntary contribution to  
3-10 support adoption, as required by Section 521.015, Transportation  
3-11 Code, as added by this Act.

3-12 SECTION 8. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

3-13 \* \* \* \* \*