

By: Wilson

H.B. No. 1023

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the design and issuance of specialty license plates to  
3 honor members of the military and for recipients of certain  
4 military awards.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Section 504.202(e-1), Transportation Code, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (e-1) Other than license plates issued under Subsection  
9 (h), license plates issued under this section may include, on  
10 request:

- 11 (1) the emblem of the veteran's branch of service; or  
12 (2) one emblem from another license plate to which the  
13 person is entitled under Section 504.308, 504.309, 504.310(b),  
14 504.311, 504.312, 504.313, 504.3135, 504.314, 504.315, 504.316,  
15 504.3161, 504.318, 504.319, 504.320, 504.323, 504.325, [~~e~~]  
16 504.327, 504.331, 504.332, 504.333, 504.334, or 504.335.

17 SECTION 2. Section 504.301, Transportation Code, is amended  
18 by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

19 (a-1) The department may consider recommendations for the  
20 design of specialty license plates under Subsection (a) from  
21 persons who are eligible to be issued a specialty license plate  
22 under this subchapter.

23 SECTION 3. Section 504.3015, Transportation Code, is  
24 amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (a-1) and

1 (a-2) to read as follows:

2 (a) A person applying for a set of license plates under this  
3 subchapter shall pay:

4 (1) except as provided by Subsections (a-1) and (a-2),  
5 the registration fee required under Chapter 502; and

6 (2) any [the] applicable special plate fee required  
7 under this section.

8 (a-1) The department shall issue one set of license plates[~~r~~  
9 ~~except that one set of license plates shall be issued]~~ without the  
10 payment of the registration fee required under Chapter 502 for the  
11 first registration period and for each renewal of registration for  
12 which the vehicle is registered with license plates issued under:

13 (1) Section 504.308;

14 (2) Section 504.310(b);

15 (3) Section 504.315, other than Subsections (c) and  
16 (q) of that section; and

17 (4) Section 504.319.

18 (a-2) The department shall issue one set of license plates  
19 without the payment of the registration fee required under Chapter  
20 502 for the first registration period for which the vehicle is  
21 registered with license plates issued under:

22 (1) Section 504.331;

23 (2) Section 504.332;

24 (3) Section 504.333;

25 (4) Section 504.334; and

26 (5) Section 504.335.

27 SECTION 4. Subchapter D, Chapter 504, Transportation Code,

1 is amended by adding Sections 504.331, 504.332, 504.333, 504.334,  
2 and 504.335 to read as follows:

3 Sec. 504.331. TEXAS HOMELAND DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL. The  
4 department shall issue specialty license plates for recipients of  
5 the Texas Homeland Defense Service Medal. The license plates must  
6 include the Texas Homeland Defense Service Medal emblem and must  
7 include the words "Texas Homeland Defense Service Medal" at the  
8 bottom of each plate.

9 Sec. 504.332. TEXAS SUPERIOR SERVICE MEDAL. The department  
10 shall issue specialty license plates for recipients of the Texas  
11 Superior Service Medal. The license plates must include the Texas  
12 Superior Service Medal emblem and must include the words "Texas  
13 Superior Service Medal" at the bottom of each plate.

14 Sec. 504.333. LONE STAR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL. The  
15 department shall issue specialty license plates for recipients of  
16 the Lone Star Distinguished Service Medal. License plates issued  
17 under this subsection must include the Lone Star Distinguished  
18 Service Medal emblem and must include the words "Lone Star  
19 Distinguished Service Medal" at the bottom of each plate.

20 Sec. 504.334. TEXAS OUTSTANDING SERVICE MEDAL. The  
21 department shall issue specialty license plates for recipients of  
22 the Texas Outstanding Service Medal. License plates issued under  
23 this subsection must include the Texas Outstanding Service Medal  
24 emblem and must include the words "Texas Outstanding Service Medal"  
25 at the bottom of each plate.

26 Sec. 504.335. TEXAS MEDAL OF MERIT. The department shall  
27 issue specialty license plates for recipients of the Texas Medal of

1 Merit. License plates issued under this subsection must include the  
2 Texas Medal of Merit emblem and must include the words "Texas Medal  
3 of Merit" at the bottom of each plate.

4 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.