

By: Lindsay

S.B. No. 908

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the issuance of "Be a Blood Donor" license plates;
3 creating an account and advisory committee.

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

5 SECTION 1. Chapter 162, Health and Safety Code, is amended
6 by adding Sections 162.016 and 162.017 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 162.016. BE A BLOOD DONOR ACCOUNT. (a) The be a blood
8 donor account is a separate account in the general revenue fund.
9 The account is composed of:

10 (1) money deposited to the credit of the account under
11 Section 502.304, Transportation Code; and

12 (2) gifts, grants, donations, and legislative
13 appropriations.

14 (b) The department administers the account and may spend
15 money credited to the account only to:

16 (1) make grants to nonprofit blood centers in this
17 state for programs to recruit and retain volunteer blood donors;
18 and

19 (2) defray the cost of administering the account.

20 (c) The board:

21 (1) may accept gifts, grants, and donations from any
22 source for the benefit of the account; and

23 (2) by rule shall establish guidelines for spending
24 money credited to the account.

1 Sec. 162.017. BE A BLOOD DONOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE. (a) The
2 commissioner shall appoint a five-member Be a Blood Donor Advisory
3 Committee composed of:

4 (1) one volunteer blood donor who has given at least
5 one gallon of blood in the two years preceding the appointment;

6 (2) two representatives from nonprofit blood centers;

7 (3) one person who has received a blood transfusion in
8 the five years preceding the appointment; and

9 (4) one representative from the department.

10 (b) The commissioner shall designate one member as
11 presiding officer of the committee.

12 (c) The committee shall:

13 (1) meet at least annually or as called by the
14 commissioner;

15 (2) assist the board in establishing guidelines for
16 the expenditure of money credited to the be a blood donor account;
17 and

18 (3) review, and make recommendations to the department
19 on, applications submitted to the department for grants funded with
20 money credited to the be a blood donor account.

21 (d) Members of the committee serve without compensation and
22 are not entitled to reimbursement for expenses. Members of the
23 committee serve staggered four-year terms, with the terms of as
24 near one-half as possible of the members expiring on January 31 of
25 each even-numbered year.

26 SECTION 2. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
27 is amended by adding Section 502.304 to read as follows:

1 Sec. 502.304. "BE A BLOOD DONOR" LICENSE PLATES. (a) The
2 department shall issue specially designed "Be a Blood Donor"
3 license plates for passenger cars and light trucks.

4 (b) The department shall design the license plate in
5 consultation with the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center in Houston.

6 (c) The department shall issue license plates under this
7 section to a person who:

8 (1) applies to the county tax assessor-collector of
9 the county in which the person resides on a form provided by the
10 department; and

11 (2) pays an annual fee of \$25 in addition to the fee
12 prescribed by Section 502.161, and, if personalized prestige plates
13 are issued, in addition to the fee prescribed by Section 502.251.

14 (d) Of each fee collected under Subsection (c), \$8 shall be
15 used by the department only to defray the cost of administering this
16 section. The department shall deposit the remainder of each fee
17 collected to the credit of the be a blood donor account under
18 Section 162.016, Health and Safety Code.

19 (e) If the owner of a vehicle registered under this section
20 disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, the owner
21 shall return the special license plates to the department.

22 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.