

By: Duncan

S.B. No. 960

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the issuance of cotton boll license plates to benefit the scholarship program of Texas Cotton Producers, Inc.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 502.2762 to read as follows:

Sec. 502.2762. COTTON BOLL LICENSE PLATES. (a) The department shall issue specially designed cotton boll license plates for the following vehicles:

(1) farm vehicles, including farm tractors, farm trailers, and farm semitrailers;

(2) passenger cars and light trucks; and

(3) truck-tractors, semitrailers, and other commercial motor vehicles.

(b) The license plates must depict a graphic image of a cotton boll and be designed by the department in consultation with Texas Cotton Producers, Inc.

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

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

(2) pays an annual fee of \$30, in addition to the fee prescribed by Section 502.161, 502.162, 502.163, or 502.166 and, if

1 personalized prestige license plates are issued, in addition to the
2 fee prescribed by Section 502.251.

3 (d) Of each fee collected under this section:

4 (1) \$22 shall be deposited to the credit of the general
5 revenue fund and used only by the Texas Higher Education
6 Coordinating Board in making grants to benefit Texas Cotton
7 Producers, Inc., for the sole purpose of providing scholarships to
8 students who are pursuing a degree in an agricultural field related
9 to the cotton industry while enrolled in an institution of higher
10 education as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code; and

11 (2) \$8 shall be deposited to the credit of the state
12 highway fund to defray the cost of administering this section.

13 (e) If license plates issued under this section are lost,
14 stolen, or mutilated, the owner of the vehicle for which the license
15 plates were issued may obtain replacement plates from the
16 department by paying a replacement fee of \$5. If the owner of a
17 vehicle registered under this section disposes of the vehicle
18 during the registration year, the owner shall return the special
19 license plates to the department.

20 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.