

By: Wentworth

S.B. No. 1704

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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AN ACT

relating to the registration of vehicles and the issuance of specially designed license plates by the Texas Department of Transportation.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 502.2515 to read as follows:

Sec. 502.2515. CONTRACT WITH PRIVATE VENDOR. (a) The Texas Transportation Commission may authorize the department to enter into a contract with the private vendor whose proposal is most advantageous to the state as determined from competitive sealed proposals for the marketing and sale of:

(1) personalized prestige license plates authorized by Section 502.251; or

(2) other specialized license plates authorized by this subchapter.

(b) Instead of the fees established by Section 502.251(c), if the Texas Transportation Commission authorizes the department to contract with a private vendor under Subsection (a)(1) for the marketing and sale of personalized prestige license plates, the commission by rule shall establish fees for the issuance or renewal of personalized prestige license plates that are marketed and sold by the private vendor. Fees must be reasonable and not less than the greater of:

1 (1) the amounts necessary to allow the department to
2 recover all costs to the department associated with the evaluation
3 of the competitive sealed proposals received by the department and
4 with the implementation and enforcement of the contract, including
5 direct, indirect, and administrative costs; or

6 (2) the amount established by Section 502.251(c).

7 (c) If the Texas Transportation Commission authorizes the
8 department to contract with a private vendor under Subsection
9 (a)(2) for the marketing and sale of other specialized license
10 plates authorized by this subchapter, including specialized
11 license plates that may be personalized, the commission by rule
12 shall establish the fees for the issuance or renewal of specialized
13 license plates that are marketed and sold by the private vendor.
14 Fees must be reasonable and not less than the amounts necessary to
15 allow the department to recover all costs to the department
16 associated with the evaluation of the competitive sealed proposals
17 received by the department and with the implementation and
18 enforcement of the contract, including direct, indirect, and
19 administrative costs. A fee established under this subsection is
20 in addition to:

21 (1) the registration fee and any optional registration
22 fee prescribed by this chapter for the vehicle for which the
23 specialized license plates are issued;

24 (2) any additional fee prescribed by this subchapter
25 for the issuance of the specialized license plates for that
26 vehicle; and

27 (3) any additional fee prescribed by this subchapter

1 for the issuance of personalized special license plates for that
2 vehicle.

3 (d) At any time, as necessary to comply with Subsection (b)
4 or (c), the Texas Transportation Commission may increase or
5 decrease the amount of a fee established under the applicable
6 subsection.

7 (e) A contract with a private vendor under Subsection (a)(1)
8 is payable only from amounts derived from the collection of the fee
9 established under Subsection (b). A contract with a private vendor
10 under Subsection (a)(2) is payable only from amounts derived from
11 the collection of the fee established under Subsection (c).

12 (f) The department may create new design and color
13 combinations for personalized prestige license plates that are
14 marketed or sold by a private vendor under a contract entered into
15 under Subsection (a)(1). Each approved license plate design and
16 color combination remains the property of the department.

17 (g) The department may create new design and color
18 combinations for specialized license plates, including specialized
19 license plates that may be personalized, that are marketed or sold
20 by a private vendor under a contract entered into under Subsection
21 (a)(2). Each approved license plate design and color combination
22 remains the property of the department. This subsection does not
23 authorize:

24 (1) the department to approve a design or color
25 combination for a specialized license plate that is inconsistent
26 with the design or color combination specified for the license
27 plate by the section of this subchapter that authorizes the

1 issuance of the specialized license plate; or

2 (2) the private vendor to market or sell a specialized
3 license plate with a design or color combination that is
4 inconsistent with the design or color combination specified by that
5 section.

6 (h) In connection with a license plate that is marketed or
7 sold by a private vendor under contract, the department may cancel a
8 license plate or require the discontinuation of a license plate
9 design or color combination at any time if the department
10 determines that the cancellation or discontinuation is in the best
11 interest of this state or the motoring public.

12 (i) A contract entered into by the department with a private
13 vendor under this section:

14 (1) must comply with any law generally applicable to a
15 contract for services entered into by the department;

16 (2) must require the private vendor to render at least
17 quarterly to the department periodic accounts that accurately
18 detail all material transactions, including information reasonably
19 required by the department to support fees that are collected by the
20 vendor, and to regularly remit all money payable to the department
21 under the contract; and

22 (3) may allow or require the private vendor to
23 establish an electronic infrastructure coordinated and compatible
24 with the department's registration system, by which motor vehicle
25 owners may electronically send and receive applications, other
26 documents, or required payments, and that, when secure access is
27 necessary, can be electronically validated by the department.

1 (j) From amounts received by the department, the department
2 shall deposit to the credit of the state highway fund an amount
3 sufficient to enable the department to recover its administrative
4 costs for all license plates issued under this section, including
5 any payments to the vendor under Subsection (a), and any other
6 amounts allocated to the state highway fund by another law. To the
7 extent that disposition of other amounts received from the vendor
8 are governed by another law, those amounts shall be deposited in
9 accordance with the other law, and for each type of license plate,
10 the amount charged for the license plate may not be less than the
11 amount in effect on January 1, 2003. Any additional amount received
12 from the vendor shall be deposited to the credit of the general
13 revenue fund.

14 (k) The Texas Transportation Commission may authorize the
15 department to pay a licensing fee for the use of a trademark in
16 connection with the marketing and sale of a license plate under this
17 section.

18 SECTION 2. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
19 is amended by adding Sections 502.2524 and 502.2527 to read as
20 follows:

21 Sec. 502.2524. CREATION OF NEW SPECIALTY PLATES BY THE
22 DEPARTMENT. (a) The department may create new specialty license
23 plates on its own initiative or on receipt of an application from a
24 potential sponsor. A new specialty plate created under this
25 section must meet the requirements of Section 502.2526 unless it is
26 created by the department on its own initiative. The department may
27 allow a new specialty license plate to be personalized and allow a

1 new specialty license plate to be issued for any classification of
2 vehicle.

3 (b) Any person may sponsor a new specialty plate by
4 submitting an application. An application may nominate a state
5 agency to receive funds generated by the new specialty plate. An
6 application may also identify uses to which the funds generated by
7 the new specialty plate should be appropriated.

8 (c) The department shall design each new specialty plate in
9 consultation with the sponsor, if any, that applies for creation of
10 that specialty plate. The plate design shall be the exclusive
11 property of the department. The department may refuse to create a
12 new specialty plate if the design might be offensive to any member
13 of the public, if the nominated state agency does not consent to
14 receipt of the funds generated by the plate, if the uses identified
15 for the funds could violate any statutory or constitutional
16 provision, or for any other reason established by the Texas
17 Transportation Commission. The determination rests in the sole
18 discretion of the executive director of the department and may not
19 be overturned in the absence of an abuse of that discretion. At the
20 request of the sponsor, distribution of the plate may be limited by
21 the department. If distribution of a specialty plate is limited to
22 particular persons or vehicles, the application must include
23 evidence satisfactory to the department that the applicant and the
24 applicant's vehicle are eligible.

25 (d) The department shall issue specialty plates created
26 under this section to a person who:

27 (1) applies to the county assessor-collector of the

1 county in which the person resides on a form provided by the
2 department; and

3 (2) pays an annual fee of \$30, unless otherwise
4 specified by this chapter or Texas Transportation Commission rule,
5 in addition to the fee prescribed by Section 502.161 and, if
6 personalized prestige license plates are issued, in addition to the
7 fee prescribed by Section 502.251.

8 (e) Of each fee collected under Subsection (d), the county
9 assessor-collector shall retain 50 cents for deposit to the credit
10 of the general fund of the county to pay the costs of administering
11 this section by the county and send the remainder to the department.
12 Of each \$29.50 received by the department:

13 (1) \$7.50 shall be deposited to the credit of the state
14 highway fund to reimburse the department for its administrative
15 costs in producing the specialty plate; and

16 (2) \$22 shall be deposited to the credit of:

17 (A) the specialty license plate account in the
18 general revenue fund, if the sponsor nominated a state agency to
19 receive the money; or

20 (B) the state highway fund.

21 (f) Subchapter D, Chapter 316, Government Code, and Section
22 403.095, Government Code, do not apply to fees collected under this
23 section.

24 (g) The department may report to the legislature at any time
25 concerning implementation of this section. The report may include
26 recommendations concerning the appropriations, by amount, state
27 agency, and uses, that would be necessary to implement the requests

1 of sponsors.

2 (h) If a sponsor does not name a state agency to receive the
3 funds or if there is no sponsor, the department may license a
4 trademark for inclusion within the design of the plates and may pay
5 a fee for the trademark license.

6 (i) If the specialty plates issued under this section are
7 lost, stolen, or mutilated, the owner of the vehicle for which the
8 plates were issued may obtain replacement plates from the
9 department by paying the replacement fee prescribed by Section
10 502.184(a)(2). If the owner of a vehicle registered under this
11 section disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, the
12 owner shall return the specialty plates to the department. The
13 owner of the vehicle for which the plates were issued may not
14 transfer the license plates to another person or vehicle unless the
15 department first approves the transfer.

16 (j) The Texas Transportation Commission shall adopt rules
17 and the department shall issue forms to implement this section.

18 (k) The department may prorate the fee for a specialty
19 license plate issued under this section on a monthly basis to align
20 the license plate fee to the registration period for the motor
21 vehicle for which the license plate was issued, and if a fee is
22 prorated, the allocation of the fee by this chapter to an account or
23 fund shall be prorated in proportion.

24 (l) The executive director of the department may refuse to
25 issue a specialty license plate with a design or alphanumeric
26 pattern that the director considers potentially objectionable to
27 one or more members of the public and the director's refusal may not

1 be overturned in the absence of an abuse of discretion.

2 Sec. 502.2527. SOUVENIR LICENSE PLATES. (a) The
3 department may issue a souvenir version of any specialty license
4 plate.

5 (b) The fee for a single souvenir license plate is \$10. If
6 the souvenir license plate is personalized, the fee for the plate is
7 \$30.

8 (c) A souvenir license plate may not be used on a motor
9 vehicle and is not an insignia of registration for a motor vehicle.
10 Each souvenir license plate must be identified by the department in
11 a way that identifies it to law enforcement officers and others as a
12 souvenir license plate.

13 (d) Of each fee collected under this section, \$10 shall be
14 deposited to the credit of the state highway fund.

15 SECTION 3. Subsection (c), Section 502.254, Transportation
16 Code, is amended to read as follows:

17 (c) License plates issued under this section must include:
18 (1) the letters "DV" as a prefix or suffix to the
19 numerals on the plate; ~~and~~
20 (2) the words "DISABLED VETERAN [~~VET.~~]"; and
21 (3) the words "U.S. Armed Forces" at the bottom of each
22 plate.

23 SECTION 4. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
24 is amended by adding Section 502.2581 to read as follows:

25 Sec. 502.2581. AIRBORNE PARACHUTIST LICENSE PLATES.
26 (a) The department shall issue specially designed license plates
27 for passenger cars and light trucks owned by active, retired, or

1 honorably discharged members of the United States armed forces who
2 have:

3 (1) satisfactorily completed the prescribed
4 proficiency tests while assigned or attached to an airborne unit or
5 the Airborne Department of the United States Army Infantry School;
6 or

7 (2) participated in at least one combat parachute
8 jump.

9 (b) License plates issued under this section must include a
10 likeness of the parachutist badge authorized by the Department of
11 the Army.

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

14 (1) applies to the department on a form prescribed by
15 the department;

16 (2) pays the annual fee prescribed by Subsection (d),
17 in addition to the fee prescribed by Section 502.161, and, if
18 personalized prestige license plates are issued, in addition to the
19 fee prescribed by Section 502.251; and

20 (3) submits proof that the person is eligible under
21 this section.

22 (d) The annual fee for issuance of license plates under this
23 section is:

24 (1) \$10 for the first set of license plates; and

25 (2) \$15 for each additional set of license plates.

26 (e) If the owner of a vehicle registered under this section
27 disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, the owner

1 shall return the special license plates to the department. The
2 owner may then apply for issuance of those plates to another
3 vehicle.

4 (f) Fees collected under this section shall be deposited to
5 the credit of the state highway fund.

6 SECTION 5. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
7 is amended by adding Section 502.2601 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 502.2601. DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS MEDAL
9 RECIPIENTS. (a) The department shall issue specially designed
10 license plates for passenger cars and light trucks owned by
11 recipients of the Distinguished Flying Cross medal.

12 (b) The license plates must bear a depiction of the
13 Distinguished Flying Cross medal and the words "Distinguished
14 Flying Cross" at the bottom of each plate.

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

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

20 (2) pays an annual fee of \$3 in addition to the fee
21 prescribed by Section 502.161 and, if personalized prestige license
22 plates are issued, in addition to the fee prescribed by Section
23 502.251; and

24 (3) submits proof that the person has been awarded the
25 Distinguished Flying Cross medal.

26 (d) If the owner of a vehicle registered under this section
27 disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, the owner

1 shall return the special license plates to the department. The
2 owner may then apply for issuance of those plates to another
3 vehicle.

4 (e) Fees collected under this section shall be deposited to
5 the credit of the state highway fund.

6 SECTION 6. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
7 is amended by adding Section 502.2651 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 502.2651. ENDURING FREEDOM VETERANS. (a) The
9 department shall issue specially designed license plates for
10 passenger cars and light trucks owned by persons who served in the
11 United States armed forces and participated in Operation Enduring
12 Freedom.

13 (b) License plates issued under this section must include
14 the words "Enduring Freedom."

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

17 (1) applies to the department on a form prescribed by
18 the department;

19 (2) pays the fee prescribed by Section 502.161, and,
20 if personalized prestige license plates are issued, the fee
21 prescribed by Section 502.251; and

22 (3) submits proof that the person:

23 (A) served in the United States armed forces and
24 participated in Operation Enduring Freedom; and

25 (B) is:

26 (i) an honorably discharged veteran of the
27 United States armed forces or reserve component of the United

1 States armed forces; or

2 (ii) a member of the United States armed
3 forces, the Texas National Guard, or a reserve component of the
4 United States armed forces.

5 (d) If the owner of a vehicle registered under this section
6 disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, the owner
7 shall return the special license plates to the department. The
8 owner may then apply for issuance of those plates to another
9 vehicle.

10 (e) Section 502.2526 does not apply to this section.

11 SECTION 7. (a) Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation
12 Code, is amended by adding Section 502.2664 to read as follows:

13 Sec. 502.2664. UNITED WE STAND LICENSE PLATES. (a) The
14 department shall issue specially designed patriotic license plates
15 for passenger cars and light trucks to support the Texas Military
16 Preparedness Grant Account.

17 (b) The license plates must bear the words "United We Stand"
18 and use only the colors red, white, blue, and black.

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

21 (1) applies to the tax assessor-collector of the
22 county in which the person resides on the form for original
23 registration or annual renewal of registration provided by the
24 department; and

25 (2) pays an annual fee of \$30, in addition to the fee
26 prescribed by Section 502.161 and, if personalized prestige license
27 plates are issued, in addition to the fee prescribed by Section

1 502.251.

2 (d) The department shall deposit \$22 of each fee collected
3 under this section to the credit of the Texas Military Preparedness
4 Grant Account in the general revenue fund and \$8 shall be deposited
5 to the credit of the state highway fund and used by the department
6 only to defray the cost of administering this section.

7 (b) Subsection (a) of this section takes effect only if
8 another Act of the 78th Legislature, Regular Session, 2003, creates
9 the Texas Military Preparedness Grant Account and becomes law. If
10 no Act of the 78th Legislature, Regular Session, 2003, creates that
11 account and becomes law, Subsection (a) of this section has no
12 effect.

13 SECTION 8. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
14 is amended by adding Section 502.2705 to read as follows:

15 Sec. 502.2705. TEXAS PGA JUNIOR GOLF LICENSE PLATES.

16 (a) The department shall issue specially designed "Texas PGA
17 Junior Golf" license plates for passenger cars and light trucks.

18 (b) The department shall design the license plates in
19 consultation with Texas PGA Junior Golf.

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

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

25 (2) pays an annual fee of \$30, in addition to the fee
26 prescribed by Section 502.161 and, if personalized prestige license
27 plates are issued, in addition to the fee prescribed by Section

1 502.251.

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

3 (1) \$22 shall be deposited to the credit of the general
4 revenue fund and used only by the Parks and Wildlife Department in
5 making grants to benefit Texas PGA Junior Golf for the purpose of
6 providing scholarships to students; and

7 (2) \$8 shall be deposited to the credit of the state
8 highway fund and used by the department only to defray the cost of
9 administering this section.

10 SECTION 9. Subsections (a) and (d), Section 502.2732,
11 Transportation Code, are amended to read as follows:

12 (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), the department
13 shall issue specially designed license plates for motorcycles,
14 passenger cars, and light trucks to support the activities of a
15 nonprofit organization designated by the Parks and Wildlife
16 Department that has as its principal purpose the improvement or
17 preservation of Big Bend National Park.

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

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

23 (2) pays a fee of \$30 [~~\$50~~] for an original issuance of
24 license plates under this section or \$30 [~~\$40~~] for a renewal of
25 issuance of license plates under this section, in addition to the
26 fee prescribed by Section 502.160, 502.161, or 502.162, and, if
27 personalized prestige license plates are issued, in addition to the

1 fee prescribed by Section 502.251.

2 SECTION 10. Section 502.2734, Transportation Code, is
3 amended by amending Subsections (a), (c), and (g) and adding
4 Subsection (i) to read as follows:

5 (a) The department shall issue one or more specially
6 designed conservation license plates for the following vehicles
7 [~~passenger cars and light trucks~~] to support Texas Parks and
8 Wildlife Department activities:

9 (1) passenger cars and light trucks;

10 (2) trailers used primarily for the transport of
11 watercraft as defined by Section 49.01, Penal Code;

12 (3) vehicles primarily designed as temporary living
13 quarters for recreational camping or travel use, including travel
14 trailers, travel semitrailers, camping trailers, camping
15 semitrailers, and motor homes;

16 (4) farm tractors, farm trailers, and farm
17 semitrailers; and

18 (5) truck-tractors, semitrailers, and commercial
19 motor vehicles.

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

22 (1) applies to the county assessor-collector of the
23 county in which the person resides on an original or renewal
24 registration application form provided by the department; and

25 (2) pays an annual fee of \$25, in addition to the fee
26 prescribed by Section 502.161, 502.162, 502.163, 502.166, or
27 502.167, and, if personalized prestige license plates are issued,

1 in addition to the fee prescribed by Section 502.251.

2 (g) There is no limit to the number of vehicles [~~passenger~~
3 ~~cars or light trucks~~] for which a person may apply for the issuance
4 of license plates under this section.

5 (i) The department may vary the design of license plates
6 issued under this section according to the type of vehicle for which
7 the license plates are issued.

8 SECTION 11. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
9 is amended by adding Section 502.2736 to read as follows:

10 Sec. 502.2736. AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION LICENSE PLATES.

11 (a) The department shall issue specially designed license plates
12 for passenger cars and light trucks that bear the words "Air Force
13 Association."

14 (b) The department shall design the license plates in
15 consultation with the Air Force Association of Texas.

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

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

20 (2) pays an annual fee of \$30, in addition to the fee
21 prescribed by Section 502.161 and, if personalized prestige license
22 plates are issued, in addition to the fee prescribed by Section
23 502.251.

24 (d) Of each fee collected under Subsection (c)(2), \$8 shall
25 be deposited to the credit of the state highway fund and used by the
26 department only to defray the cost of administering this section.
27 The department shall deposit the remainder of each fee collected to

1 the credit of the Air Force Association of Texas account in the
2 state treasury. Money in the account may be used by the Texas
3 Veterans Commission in making grants to benefit projects sponsored
4 by the Air Force Association of Texas.

5 (e) If the owner of a vehicle for which license plates were
6 issued under this section disposes of the vehicle during a
7 registration year, the owner shall return the special license
8 plates to the department.

9 SECTION 12. (a) Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation
10 Code, is amended by adding Section 502.2737 to read as follows:

11 Sec. 502.2737. TEXAS STATE RIFLE ASSOCIATION LICENSE
12 PLATES. Notwithstanding Section 502.273(e), if the department
13 issues Texas State Rifle Association license plates under Section
14 502.273, the fee for issuance of those plates is \$30. The
15 department shall use \$8 of the annual fee collected for each set of
16 those license plates only to defray the cost of administering this
17 section and shall deposit this amount to the credit of the state
18 highway fund. The remainder of the fee shall be deposited to the
19 credit of an account in the general revenue fund and may be
20 appropriated only to The Texas A&M University System to supplement
21 existing and future scholarship programs supported by the Texas
22 State Rifle Association and to provide grants to 4-H Club shooting
23 sports programs to promote safety education.

24 (b) Section 502.2737, Transportation Code, as added by
25 Subsection (a) of this section, applies only to an annual fee for
26 the issuance of Texas State Rifle Association license plates that
27 is collected on or after that date.

1 SECTION 13. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
2 is amended by adding Section 502.2738 to read as follows:

3 Sec. 502.2738. URBAN FORESTRY LICENSE PLATES. (a) The
4 department shall issue specially designed license plates for
5 passenger cars and light trucks.

6 (b) The department shall design the license plates in
7 consultation with any organization described in Subsection (d).

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

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

12 (2) pays an annual fee of \$30, in addition to the fee
13 prescribed by Section 502.161 and, if personalized prestige license
14 plates are issued, in addition to the fee prescribed by Section
15 502.251.

16 (d) Of each fee collected under Subsection (c)(2), \$8 shall
17 be deposited to the credit of the state highway fund and used by the
18 department only to defray the cost of administering this section.
19 The department shall deposit the remainder of each fee collected to
20 the credit of the urban forestry account in the state treasury.
21 Money in the account may be used by the Texas Forest Service in
22 making grants to support the activities of a nonprofit organization
23 located in Texas whose primary purpose is to sponsor projects
24 involving urban and community:

25 (1) tree planting;

26 (2) tree preservation; and

27 (3) tree education programs.

1 (e) If the owner of a vehicle for which license plates were
2 issued under this section disposes of the vehicle during a
3 registration year, the owner shall return the special license
4 plates to the department.

5 SECTION 14. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
6 is amended by adding Section 502.2739 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 502.2739. SHARE THE ROAD LICENSE PLATES. (a) The
8 department shall issue specially designed license plates for
9 passenger cars and light trucks that include:

10 (1) the words "Share The Road"; and

11 (2) an image of a bicycle or a bicycle with a rider.

12 (b) The department shall design the license plates in
13 consultation with the Texas Bicycle Coalition Education Fund.

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

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

18 (2) pays an annual fee of \$30, in addition to the fee
19 prescribed by Section 502.161, and if personalized prestige license
20 plates are issued, in addition to the fee prescribed by Section
21 502.251.

22 (d) Of each fee collected under Subsection (c)(2):

23 (1) \$8 shall be deposited to the credit of the state
24 highway fund and used by the department only to defray the cost of
25 administering:

26 (A) this section; and

27 (B) any bicycle-related programs of the

1 department;

2 (2) \$5 shall be deposited to the credit of an account
3 in the general revenue fund that may be appropriated only to the
4 Texas Education Agency to promote motorist awareness of bicyclists
5 in driver and traffic safety education; and

6 (3) \$17 shall be deposited to the credit of the share
7 the road account in the state treasury to be used by the Texas
8 Education Agency to support the activities of a nonprofit
9 organization whose primary purpose is to promote bicyclist safety,
10 education, and access through:

11 (A) education and awareness programs; and

12 (B) training, workshops, educational materials,
13 and media events.

14 (e) Up to 25 percent of the amount in Subsection (d)(3) may
15 be used to support the activities of the nonprofit organization in
16 marketing and promoting the share the road concept and license
17 plates.

18 (f) The Texas Education Agency may establish reporting and
19 other mechanisms necessary to ensure that the money collected under
20 this section is spent for purposes for which it is dedicated.

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

24 SECTION 15. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
25 is amended by adding Section 502.2741 to read as follows:

26 Sec. 502.2741. SAN ANTONIO MISSIONS NATIONAL HISTORICAL
27 PARK LICENSE PLATES. (a) The department shall issue specially

1 designed San Antonio Missions National Historical Park license
2 plates for passenger cars and light trucks.

3 (b) The department shall design the license plates in
4 consultation with Los Compadres de San Antonio Missions National
5 Historical Park.

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

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

11 (2) pays an annual fee of \$30, in addition to the fee
12 prescribed by Section 502.161, and, if personalized prestige
13 license plates are issued, in addition to the fee prescribed by
14 Section 502.251.

15 (d) The department shall deposit \$22 of each fee collected
16 under this section to the credit of Los Compadres de San Antonio
17 Missions National Historical Park account in the state treasury.
18 Money in the account may be used only by the Texas Historical
19 Commission in making grants to Los Compadres de San Antonio
20 Missions National Historical Park to be used for the purpose of the
21 preservation and rehabilitation of the San Antonio Missions
22 National Historical Park.

23 (e) The remainder of each fee collected under this section,
24 after deposit as provided by Subsection (d), shall be deposited to
25 the credit of the state highway fund and used only to defray the
26 cost of administering this section.

27 (f) If the owner of a vehicle registered under this section

1 disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, the owner
2 shall return the special license plates to the department.

3 SECTION 16. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
4 is amended by adding Section 502.2742 to read as follows:

5 Sec. 502.2742. EL PASO MISSION VALLEY LICENSE PLATES.

6 (a) The department shall issue specially designed El Paso Mission
7 Valley license plates for passenger cars and light trucks.

8 (b) The department shall design the license plates in
9 consultation with the Socorro Mission Restoration Effort.

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

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

15 (2) pays an annual fee of \$30, in addition to the fee
16 prescribed by Section 502.161, and, if personalized prestige
17 license plates are issued, in addition to the fee prescribed by
18 Section 502.251.

19 (d) The department shall deposit \$22 of each fee collected
20 under this section to the credit of the El Paso Mission Restoration
21 account in the state treasury. Money in the account may be used
22 only by the Texas Historical Commission in making grants to the
23 Socorro Mission Restoration Effort to be used for the purpose of the
24 preservation and rehabilitation of the Socorro Mission.

25 (e) The remainder of each fee collected under this section,
26 after deposit as provided by Subsection (d), shall be deposited to
27 the credit of the state highway fund and used only to defray the

1 cost of administering this section.

2 (f) If the owner of a vehicle registered under this section
3 disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, the owner
4 shall return the special license plates to the department.

5 SECTION 17. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
6 is amended by adding Section 502.2762 to read as follows:

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

10 (1) farm vehicles, including farm truck-tractors,
11 farm trailers, and farm semitrailers;

12 (2) passenger cars and light trucks; and

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

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

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

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

23 (2) pays an annual fee of \$30, in addition to the fee
24 prescribed by Section 502.161, 502.162, 502.163, or 502.166 and, if
25 personalized prestige license plates are issued, in addition to the
26 fee prescribed by Section 502.251.

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

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

9 (2) \$8 shall be deposited to the credit of the state
10 highway fund and used by the department only to defray the cost of
11 administering this section.

12 SECTION 18. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
13 is amended by adding Section 502.2934 to read as follows:

14 Sec. 502.2934. DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS LICENSE
15 PLATES. (a) The department shall issue specially designed
16 Daughters of the Republic of Texas license plates for passenger
17 cars and light trucks.

18 (b) The license plates must include the words "Native Texan"
19 and be of a color, quality, and design approved by the Daughters of
20 the Republic of Texas.

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

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

26 (2) pays an annual fee of \$30, in addition to the fee
27 prescribed by Section 502.161, and, if personalized prestige

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

3 (d) The department shall deposit \$22 of each fee collected
4 under this section to the credit of the Daughters of the Republic of
5 Texas account in the state treasury. Money in the account may be
6 used only by the Texas Department of Economic Development or its
7 successor agency in making grants to the Daughters of the Republic
8 of Texas to be used only for the purpose of:

9 (1) preserving Texas historic sites; or

10 (2) funding educational programs that teach Texas
11 history.

12 (e) The remainder of each fee collected under this section,
13 after deposit as provided by Subsection (d), shall be deposited to
14 the credit of the state highway fund and used only to defray the
15 cost of administering this section.

16 (f) If the owner of a vehicle registered under this section
17 disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, the owner
18 shall return the special license plates to the department.

19 SECTION 19. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
20 is amended by adding Section 502.2935 to read as follows:

21 Sec. 502.2935. KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS. (a) The department
22 shall issue specially designed Knights of Columbus license plates
23 for passenger cars and light trucks.

24 (b) The license plates must include the emblem of the Order
25 of the Knights of Columbus and the words "Knights of Columbus."

26 (c) The department shall design the license plates in
27 consultation with the Knights of Columbus.

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

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

6 (2) pays an annual fee of \$30 in addition to the fee
7 prescribed by Section 502.161 and, if personalized prestige license
8 plates are issued, in addition to the fee prescribed by Section
9 502.251.

10 (e) Of each fee collected under Subsection (d):

11 (1) \$22 shall be deposited to the credit of the State
12 Council Charities account in the general revenue fund to be used
13 only by the Texas Education Agency to make grants to State Council
14 Charities to carry out the purposes of that organization; and

15 (2) \$8 shall be deposited to the credit of the state
16 highway fund and used by the department only to defray the cost of
17 administering this section.

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

21 SECTION 20. Subsections (a), (b), (c), and (e), Section
22 502.2951, Transportation Code, are amended to read as follows:

23 (a) The department shall design and provide for the issuance
24 of special license plates for passenger cars and light trucks that
25 are owned by persons who are county judges of this state or retired
26 county judges of this state.

27 (b) License plates issued [~~to county judges~~] under this

1 section shall bear the words "County Judge."

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

4 (1) applies to the county tax collector in the county
5 of the person's residence on a form prescribed by the department;

6 (2) pays the fee prescribed by Subsection (d); and

7 (3) submits with the application proof that the person
8 is a county judge of this state or a retired county judge of this
9 state.

10 (e) Registration under this section is valid for one year
11 and expires in the same manner as do regular motor vehicle
12 registrations[~~, except as provided by Subsection (f)~~].

13 SECTION 21. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation
14 Code, is amended by adding Section 502.2952 to read as follows:

15 Sec. 502.2952. TEXAS CONSTABLE LICENSE PLATES. (a) The
16 department shall design and provide for the issuance of special
17 license plates for a passenger car or light truck that is owned by a
18 person who is a constable or deputy constable of this state.

19 (b) License plates issued under this section shall bear the
20 words "Texas Constable."

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

23 (1) applies to the county tax collector in the county
24 of the person's residence on a form prescribed by the department;

25 (2) pays the fee prescribed by Subsection (d); and

26 (3) submits with the application proof that the person
27 is a constable or deputy constable of this state.

1 (d) The fee for registration under this section and issuance
2 of the special license plates is the fee otherwise prescribed by
3 this chapter for the vehicle.

4 (e) Registration under this section is valid for one year
5 and expires in the same manner as do regular motor vehicle
6 registrations, except as provided by Subsection (f).

7 (f) Registration under this section expires when the owner
8 of the vehicle for which the special plates were issued ceases to be
9 a constable or deputy constable. The owner shall return the special
10 license plates to the department.

11 (g) If the owner of a vehicle for which plates are issued
12 under this section disposes of the vehicle during a registration
13 year, the person shall return the special plates to the department
14 and at that time may apply for issuance of those plates to another
15 vehicle.

16 SECTION 22. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
17 is amended by adding Section 502.2991 to read as follows:

18 Sec. 502.2991. TEXAS MUSIC. (a) The department shall
19 issue specially designed license plates for passenger cars and
20 light trucks to support the activities of the Austin Music
21 Foundation, other Texas-based nonprofit members of its Affiliates
22 Program, and the Texas Music Office.

23 (b) The license plates must bear the words "Texas Music" and
24 be of a color, design, appearance, and quality acceptable to and
25 approved by the Austin Music Foundation in consultation with the
26 department.

27 (c) The department shall issue license plates under this

1 section to a person who:

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

5 (2) pays an annual fee of \$30 for an original issuance
6 of license plates under this section or \$30 for a renewal of
7 issuance of license plates under this section, in addition to the
8 fee prescribed by Section 502.161 and, if personalized prestige
9 license plates are issued, in addition to the fee prescribed by
10 Section 502.251.

11 (d) Of each fee collected under Subsection (c)(2), \$8 shall
12 be deposited to the credit of the state highway fund and used by the
13 department only to defray the cost of administering this section.
14 The department shall deposit the remainder of each fee collected to
15 the credit of the Austin Music Foundation account established by
16 Section 7.026, Education Code.

17 (e) If the owner of a vehicle for which license plates were
18 issued under this section disposes of the vehicle during a
19 registration year, the owner shall return the special license
20 plates to the department.

21 SECTION 23. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
22 is amended by adding Section 502.300 to read as follows:

23 Sec. 502.300. SPACE SHUTTLE COLUMBIA LICENSE PLATES.

24 (a) The department shall issue specially designed "Space Shuttle
25 Columbia" license plates for passenger cars and light trucks.

26 (b) The department shall design the license plates in
27 consultation with the Aviation and Space Foundation of Texas.

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

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

6 (2) pays an annual fee of \$30 and, if personalized
7 prestige license plates are issued, the fee prescribed by Section
8 502.251.

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

10 (1) \$22 shall be deposited to the credit of the general
11 revenue fund and used only by the Texas Aerospace Commission or its
12 successor agency in making grants to benefit the Aviation and Space
13 Foundation of Texas for the purposes of furthering aviation and
14 space activities in Texas and providing Columbia Crew memorial
15 scholarships to students; and

16 (2) \$8 shall be deposited to the credit of the state
17 highway fund and used by the department only to defray the cost of
18 administering this section.

19 (e) If license plates issued under this section are lost,
20 stolen, or mutilated, the owner of the vehicle for which the license
21 plates were issued may obtain replacement plates from the
22 department by paying a replacement fee of \$5. If the owner of a
23 vehicle registered under this section disposes of the vehicle
24 during the registration year, the owner shall return the special
25 license plates to the department.

26 SECTION 24. Subsection (c), Section 502.303,
27 Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

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

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

6 (2) pays a fee of \$25 [~~\$50~~] for an original issuance or
7 renewal of issuance of license plates under this section [~~or \$40 for~~
8 ~~a renewal of issuance of license plates under this section~~], in
9 addition to the fee prescribed by Section 502.161 or 502.162, and,
10 if personalized prestige license plates are issued, in addition to
11 the fee prescribed by Section 502.251.

12 SECTION 25. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
13 is amended by adding Section 502.305 to read as follows:

14 Sec. 502.305. "BE A BLOOD DONOR" LICENSE PLATES. (a) The
15 department shall issue specially designed "Be a Blood Donor"
16 license plates for passenger cars and light trucks.

17 (b) The department shall design the license plates in
18 consultation with the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center in Houston.

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

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

24 (2) pays an annual fee of \$30 in addition to the fee
25 prescribed by Section 502.161, and, if personalized prestige plates
26 are issued, in addition to the fee prescribed by Section 502.251.

27 (d) Of each fee collected under Subsection (c), \$8 shall be

1 deposited to the credit of the state highway fund and used by the
2 department only to defray the cost of administering this section.
3 The department shall deposit the remainder of each fee collected to
4 the credit of the be a blood donor account under Section 162.016,
5 Health and Safety Code.

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

9 SECTION 26. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
10 is amended by adding Section 502.310 to read as follows:

11 Sec. 502.310. TEXAS COUNTY CHILD WELFARE BOARDS. (a) The
12 department shall issue specially designed Texas County Child
13 Welfare Boards license plates for passenger cars and light trucks.

14 (b) The department shall design the license plates in
15 consultation with the Texas Council of Child Welfare Boards,
16 Incorporated.

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

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

22 (2) pays an annual fee of \$30, in addition to the fee
23 prescribed by Section 502.161 and, if personalized prestige license
24 plates are issued, in addition to the fee prescribed by Section
25 502.251.

26 (d) Of each fee collected under Subsection (c), the
27 department shall:

1 (1) deposit \$22 to the credit of a special account for
2 abused and neglected children established at the Department of
3 Protective and Regulatory Services; and

4 (2) use \$8 only to defray the cost of administering
5 this section and shall deposit this amount to the credit of the
6 state highway fund.

7 (e) Money deposited to the credit of the Department of
8 Protective and Regulatory Services special account may be used only
9 by that department to fund programs and services supporting abused
10 and neglected children pursuant to Section 264.004, Family Code.

11 (f) If the owner of a vehicle registered under this section
12 disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, the owner
13 shall return the special license plates to the department.

14 SECTION 27. Subchapter B, Chapter 7, Education Code, is
15 amended by adding Section 7.026 to read as follows:

16 Sec. 7.026. AUSTIN MUSIC FOUNDATION ACCOUNT. (a) The
17 Austin Music Foundation account is established as a separate
18 account in the general revenue fund. The account is composed of
19 money deposited to the credit of the account under Section
20 502.2991, Transportation Code. Money in that account may be used
21 only for the purposes of this section.

22 (b) The Music, Film, Television, and Multimedia Office in
23 the governor's office shall administer the account. The agency may
24 spend money credited to the account only to make grants to benefit
25 the educational and community programs sponsored by the Austin
26 Music Foundation and other Texas-based nonprofit members of the
27 Austin Music Foundation's Affiliates Program. An administration

1 fee of \$5 per plate shall be retained by the Music, Film,
2 Television, and Multimedia Office for performance of
3 administrative duties.

4 SECTION 28. Chapter 162, Health and Safety Code, is amended
5 by adding Sections 162.016 and 162.017 to read as follows:

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

9 (1) money deposited to the credit of the account under
10 Section 502.305, Transportation Code; and

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

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

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

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

19 (c) The board:

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

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

24 Sec. 162.017. BE A BLOOD DONOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

25 (a) The commissioner shall appoint a five-member Be a Blood Donor
26 Advisory Committee composed of:

27 (1) one volunteer blood donor who has given at least

1 one gallon of blood in the two years preceding the appointment;

2 (2) two representatives from nonprofit blood centers;

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

5 (4) one representative from the department.

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

8 (c) The committee shall:

9 (1) meet at least annually or as called by the
10 commissioner;

11 (2) assist the board in establishing guidelines for
12 the expenditure of money credited to the be a blood donor account;
13 and

14 (3) review and make recommendations to the department
15 on applications submitted to the department for grants funded with
16 money credited to the be a blood donor account.

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

22 SECTION 29. Subsection (f), Section 502.2951, and
23 Subsection (d), Section 502.303, Transportation Code, are
24 repealed.

25 SECTION 30. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.