

By: Shapleigh

S.B. No. 850

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an exemption from the required payment of a motor vehicle registration renewal fee for certain military personnel.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 502.189 to read as follows:

Sec. 502.189. RENEWAL FEE EXEMPTION: CERTAIN MEMBERS OF TEXAS NATIONAL GUARD, TEXAS STATE GUARD, OR MILITARY RESERVE ON ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. (a) This section applies only to a member of the Texas National Guard, the Texas State Guard, or a military reserve unit in this state who:

(1) is or was the registered owner of a motor vehicle registered in this state on the date the member receives or received orders to report to active military duty in a combat theater of operations outside the United States in support of a worldwide contingency operation of the United States armed forces; and

(2) reports or reported to active duty as ordered.

(b) A person described by Subsection (a) who is in the combat theater of operations at the end of the registration year for the vehicle is entitled to renew the registration of one motor vehicle without payment of the applicable fees for renewal, including the renewal fee for a vehicle issued specialty or personalized license plates, and including any additional or optional fee authorized or imposed by this chapter, if the person or

1 a personal representative presents evidence satisfactory to the
2 department that the person and the motor vehicle meet the
3 requirements of this section. If the person is the registered owner
4 of two or more vehicles, the person is entitled to renew the
5 registration of only one of those vehicles without payment of the
6 renewal fee.

7 (c) A person entitled to an exemption under this section who
8 pays or paid the registration fee for the motor vehicle is not
9 entitled to a refund of the fee but may require the department to
10 apply the registration fee paid to the next or a subsequent
11 registration year of the vehicle, as applicable.

12 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.