

**BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
80R9962 JLL-F

H.B. 2398  
By: Delisi et al. (Wentworth)  
Veteran Affairs & Military Installations  
4/30/2007  
Engrossed

**AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT**

Currently, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) provides a "Gold Star Mother" specialty license plate honoring the mothers of individuals who die while serving in the United States armed forces. However, this program does not recognize the spouses or immediate family members of those individuals.

H.B. 2398 requires TxDOT to expand the "Gold Star" program to include "Gold Star Spouse" and "Gold Star Family" license plates for spouses and family members, respectively, of individuals who die while serving in the United States armed forces.

**RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

**SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends the heading to Section 504.408, Transportation Code, as follows:

Sec. 504.408. GOLD STAR MOTHER, SPOUSE, OR FAMILY MEMBER.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 504.408, Transportation Code, by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1), as follows:

(a) Requires the Texas Department of Transportation to issue a specialty license plate, rather than plates, for the mother, surviving spouse, or immediate family member of a person who died while serving in the United States armed forces. Requires such a place to include the words "Gold Star Mother," "Gold Star Spouse," or "Gold Star Family."

(a-1) Defines "immediate family member."

SECTION 3. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2007.