BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center 80R2277 JRJ-D

S.B. 274 By: Estes Transportation & Homeland Security 3/19/2007 As Filed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

Currently, there is no special license plate for recipients of the Silver Star Medal. The Silver Star Medal is the fourth highest military decoration that can be awarded to a member of any branch of the United States Armed Forces. It is also the third highest award given for valor in the face of the enemy. This medal may be awarded to any person who, while serving in any capacity with the U.S Armed Forces, distinguishes himself or herself by extraordinary heroism through various actions.

As proposed, S.B. 274 creates a special license plate for recipients of the Silver Star Medal.

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 Section 504.315, Transportation Code, by adding Subsection (h), as follows:

(h) Requires the Texas Department of Transportation to issue special license plates that include the Silver Star Medal emblem and the words "Silver Star Medal" at the bottom of each plate for recipients of the Silver Star Medal. Provides that Section 504.702 (regarding requirements for specialty license plates authorized after January 1, 1999) does not apply to license plates authorized by this subsection.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2007.