

AN ACT

relating to fees for issuance of specialty license plates to members and former members of the United States armed forces and their surviving spouses.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 502.184(b), (c), and (d), Transportation Code, are amended to read as follows:

(b) No fee is required for the replacement of lost, stolen, or mutilated specialized license plates issued under Sections 504.308 and 504.315(e) and (f). The fee for replacement of certain specialized license plates is:

License plates issued under:	Fee:
[Section 504.202	\$1
[Section 504.315(c) or (e)	No Fee]
Section [504.305 or] 504.411	\$2
Section 504.409	\$9

(c) The fee for replacement of license plates issued under Section 504.507 ~~[502.280]~~ is the amount prescribed by the department as necessary to recover the cost of providing the replacement plates.

(d) If license plates approved under Section 504.501(b) or 504.502(c) ~~[502.274(b)]~~ are lost, stolen, or mutilated, the owner of the vehicle may obtain approval of another set of license plates as provided by Section 504.501 or 504.502, respectively ~~[502.274]~~.

1 The fee for approval of replacement license plates is \$5.

2 SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 504, Transportation Code,
3 is amended by adding Section 504.3015 to read as follows:

4 Sec. 504.3015. FEES FOR MILITARY SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATES.

5 (a) A person applying for a set of license plates under this
6 subchapter shall pay the registration fee required under Chapter
7 502 and the applicable special plate fee required under this
8 section, except that one set of license plates shall be issued under
9 Section 504.308 or 504.315 without the payment of the registration
10 fee.

11 (b) The fee for the issuance of one set of specialty license
12 plates issued under Section 504.315(c), (d), or (g) is \$3. There is
13 no additional fee for a specialty license plate issued under
14 another provision of this subchapter.

15 (c) A surviving spouse applying for a set of license plates
16 under Section 504.302 shall pay the fees required for the type of
17 license plate for which the surviving spouse is eligible.

18 SECTION 3. Section 504.305(a), Transportation Code, is
19 amended to read as follows:

20 (a) The department shall issue ~~[without charge]~~ specialty
21 license plates for:

22 (1) active members of the Texas National Guard or
23 Texas State Guard;

24 (2) retired members of the Texas National Guard or
25 Texas State Guard who have completed 20 or more years of
26 satisfactory federal service; and

27 (3) members of a reserve component of the United

1 States armed forces.

2 SECTION 4. Section 504.306, Transportation Code, is amended
3 to read as follows:

4 Sec. 504.306. PERSONS RETIRED FROM SERVICE IN MERCHANT
5 MARINE OF THE UNITED STATES. ~~[(a)]~~ The department shall issue
6 specialty license plates for persons retired from service in the
7 merchant marine of the United States. The license plates must
8 include the words "Merchant Marine." ~~[A person may be issued only
9 one set of license plates under this section.]~~

10 ~~[(b) The fee for issuance of the license plates is \$10.]~~

11 SECTION 5. Section 504.309, Transportation Code, is amended
12 to read as follows:

13 Sec. 504.309. MILITARY ACADEMY LICENSE PLATES. The
14 department shall issue ~~[without charge]~~ specialty license plates
15 for persons who:

16 (1) are graduates of the United States Military
17 Academy, the United States Naval Academy, or the United States Air
18 Force Academy; and

19 (2) are current or former commissioned officers of the
20 United States armed forces.

21 SECTION 6. Section 504.310, Transportation Code, is amended
22 to read as follows:

23 Sec. 504.310. WORLD WAR II VETERANS. The department shall
24 issue ~~[without charge]~~ specialty license plates for persons who
25 served in the United States or Allied armed forces during World War
26 II. The license plates must include the words "WWII Veteran."

27 SECTION 7. Section 504.311, Transportation Code, is amended

to read as follows:

Sec. 504.311. KOREAN WAR VETERANS. The department shall issue ~~[without charge]~~ specialty license plates for persons who served in the United States armed forces after June 26, 1950, and before February 1, 1955. License plates issued under this section must include the words "Korea Veteran."

SECTION 8. Section 504.312(a), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The department shall issue ~~[without charge]~~ specialty license plates for persons who served in the United States armed forces during:

(1) the period beginning on February 28, 1961, and ending on May 7, 1975, in the case of a veteran who served in the Republic of Vietnam during that period; or

(2) the period beginning on August 5, 1964, and ending on May 7, 1975, in all other cases.

SECTION 9. Section 504.313, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 504.313. DESERT SHIELD OR DESERT STORM VETERANS. The department shall issue ~~[without charge]~~ specialty license plates for persons who served in the United States armed forces after August 1, 1990, and before April 12, 1991. License plates issued under this section must include the words "Desert Storm."

SECTION 10. Section 504.3135, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 504.3135. OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. The department shall issue ~~[without charge]~~ specialty license plates for persons

1 who served in the United States armed forces and participated in
2 Operation Iraqi Freedom. License plates issued under this section
3 must include the words "Operation Iraqi Freedom."

4 SECTION 11. Section 504.314, Transportation Code, is
5 amended to read as follows:

6 Sec. 504.314. ENDURING FREEDOM VETERANS. The department
7 shall issue [~~without charge~~] specialty license plates for persons
8 who served in the United States armed services and participated in
9 Operation Enduring Freedom. The license plates must include the
10 words "Enduring Freedom."

11 SECTION 12. Section 504.315, Transportation Code, is
12 amended by adding Subsection (h) to read as follows:

13 (h) A vehicle registered under this section must be for the
14 use of the applicant who qualifies under this section.

15 SECTION 13. Sections 504.303(b), 504.304(c), 504.307(c),
16 504.308(b), and 504.315(a) and (b), Transportation Code, are
17 repealed.

18 SECTION 14. This Act is intended to provide consistency and
19 uniformity in the amounts charged for the issuance of specialty
20 plates to members and former members of the United States armed
21 forces or surviving spouses. To the extent this Act is inconsistent
22 with a fee charged for the issuance of a similar specialty plate
23 under a provision added to Subchapter D, Chapter 504,
24 Transportation Code, by another Act of the 80th Legislature,
25 Regular Session, this Act controls.

26 SECTION 15. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 191 was passed by the House on May 9, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 142, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 191 on May 25, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 140, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 191 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 23, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor