

By: Merritt

H.B. No. 3988

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the issuance of disabled veteran license plates to  
3 surviving spouses and of certain military license plates to the  
4 surviving spouses of military servicemembers who die while on  
5 active duty.

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

7 SECTION 1. Section 504.202, Transportation Code, is amended  
8 by adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

9 (b-1) The surviving spouse of a veteran who at the time of  
10 death had a vehicle registered under Subsection (a) may continue to  
11 register one vehicle under this section as long as the spouse  
12 remains unmarried. An applicant for registration under this  
13 subsection must submit proof of the applicant's eligibility for the  
14 registration.

15 SECTION 2. Section 504.302, Transportation Code, is amended  
16 by adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

17 (b-1) In this subsection, "military servicemember" means a  
18 member of the armed forces of the United States, the Texas National  
19 Guard, or a reserve component of the armed forces of the United  
20 States. The surviving spouse of a military servicemember who died  
21 while serving on active duty is entitled to register one vehicle  
22 under any provision of this subchapter as long as the spouse remains  
23 unmarried, if at the time of death the deceased servicemember was  
24 eligible to be issued license plates under the applicable provision

1 of this subchapter or posthumously became qualified for issuance of  
2 license plates under that provision. A surviving spouse applying  
3 for registration under this subsection must submit proof of the  
4 applicant's eligibility for the registration and of the deceased  
5 servicemember's eligibility for the applicable license plates.  
6 Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the fee for a  
7 set of license plates under this subsection is \$3. If a license  
8 plate issued to a surviving spouse under this subsection is lost,  
9 stolen, or mutilated, on application and payment of a \$1 fee the  
10 department shall issue a set of replacement plates. To the extent  
11 of a conflict between this subsection and another provision of this  
12 chapter, this subsection prevails.

13 SECTION 3. Section 504.3015(c), Transportation Code, is  
14 repealed.

15 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.