

**BILL ANALYSIS**

C.S.H.B. 1702  
By: Blanco  
Defense & Veterans' Affairs  
Committee Report (Substituted)

**BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

State law provides for the issuance of Gold Star specialty license plates for certain family members of a person who died while serving in the U.S. armed forces. However, it is noted that many family members who would like to honor the sacrifice of their loved one by displaying these license plates cannot afford the associated fee. C.S.H.B. 1702 seeks to remove this barrier.

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

**RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

**ANALYSIS**

C.S.H.B. 1702 repeals Section 504.512(b), Transportation Code, which sets the fee for the issuance of the Gold Star Mother, Gold Star Father, Gold Star Spouse, or Gold Star Family specialty license plate at \$10.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

January 1, 2016.

**COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL AND SUBSTITUTE**

While C.S.H.B. 1702 may differ from the original in minor or nonsubstantive ways, the following comparison is organized and formatted in a manner that indicates the substantial differences between the introduced and committee substitute versions of the bill.

INTRODUCED	HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
SECTION 1. Section 504.512(b), Transportation Code, is repealed.	SECTION 1. Same as introduced version.
SECTION 2. This Act takes effect <b>September 1, 2015.</b>	SECTION 2. This Act takes effect <b>January 1, 2016.</b>