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| BILL ANALYSIS |

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| H.B. 3589 |
| By: Wilson |
| Defense & Veterans' Affairs |
| Committee Report (Unamended) |

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| **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**  Interested parties contend that individuals who have received a Purple Heart from the Department of Public Safety or another law enforcement agency in Texas deserve additional recognition. H.B. 3589 seeks to provide for the issuance of a specialty license plate and certain other privileges for these Purple Heart recipients. |
| **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**  H.B. 3589 amends the Transportation Code to require the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles to issue specialty license plates for recipients of a Purple Heart awarded by the Department of Public Safety or another law enforcement agency in Texas. The bill sets a fee of $3 for issuance of one set of the license plates and requires a person issued such specialty license plates to be issued one set of the license plates without payment of the required vehicle registration fee. The bill includes a vehicle registered with such plates among the vehicles for which the discount program of a toll project entity is required to include free or discounted use of the entity's toll project and among the vehicles exempt from the payment of a parking fee collected through a parking meter charged by a governmental authority other than a branch of the federal government when being operated by or for the transportation of the person who registered the vehicle. |
| **EFFECTIVE DATE**  September 1, 2017. |