

By: Hefner, Miller, Blanco, Flynn, Gutierrez,
et al.

H.B. No. 1641

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the issuance of specially marked driver's licenses and
personal identification certificates to disabled veterans.

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

SECTION 1. Section 521.011, Transportation Code, is amended
to read as follows:

Sec. 521.011. SERVICES INFORMATION FOR VETERANS. The
department and the Texas Veterans Commission shall jointly develop
a one-page informational paper about veterans services provided by
this state for veterans who receive:

(1) a driver's license with a designation under
Section 521.1235; or

(2) a personal identification certificate with a
[~~veteran's~~] designation under Section 521.102 [~~a one-page
informational paper about veterans services provided by this
state~~].

SECTION 2. Section 521.101(1), Transportation Code, is
amended to read as follows:

(1) The application for the personal identification
certificate must provide space for the applicant:

(1) to voluntarily list any information [~~military
service~~] that may qualify the applicant to receive a personal
identification certificate with a [~~veteran's~~] designation under
Section 521.102; and

1 (2) to include proof required by the department to
2 determine the applicant's eligibility to receive that designation.

3 SECTION 3. Section 521.102, Transportation Code, is amended
4 by amending Subsections (a) and (c) and adding Subsections (b-1),
5 (d), (e), and (f) to read as follows:

6 (a) In this section:

7 (1) "Disability rating" has the meaning assigned by
8 Section 11.22, Tax Code.

9 (2) "Disabled veteran" and~~[7]~~ "veteran" have the
10 meanings assigned by Section 521.1235 ~~[means a person who:~~

11 ~~[(1) has served in:~~

12 ~~[(A) the army, navy, air force, coast guard, or~~
13 ~~marine corps of the United States; or~~

14 ~~[(B) the Texas National Guard as defined by~~
15 ~~Section 431.001, Government Code; and~~

16 ~~[(2) has been honorably discharged from the branch of~~
17 ~~the service in which the person served].~~

18 (b-1) If a disabled veteran provides proof sufficient to the
19 department, the department, on request of the disabled veteran,
20 shall include on a personal identification certificate issued to
21 the disabled veteran in any available space on the face of the
22 personal identification certificate or on the reverse side of the
23 personal identification certificate:

24 (1) a disabled veteran designation; and

25 (2) the branch of the service in which the disabled
26 veteran served.

27 (c) The department shall provide to the recipient of a

1 personal identification certificate with a [~~veteran's~~] designation
2 under this section the informational paper described by Section
3 [521.011](#) at the time the certificate is issued.

4 (d) Notwithstanding any other law and except as provided by
5 Subsection (e), for purposes of obtaining a service or benefit
6 available for disabled veterans in this state, a disabled veteran
7 may use a personal identification certificate described by
8 Subsection (b-1) as satisfactory proof:

9 (1) that the disabled veteran has a disability rating
10 described by Section [521.1235](#)(a)(2)(A) or (B), as applicable; and

11 (2) of branch of service and honorable discharge.

12 (e) A personal identification certificate described by
13 Subsection (b-1) is not satisfactory proof of the disabled
14 veteran's disability rating for purposes of obtaining a property
15 tax exemption provided by Chapter [11](#), Tax Code.

16 (f) A disabled veteran who renews a personal identification
17 certificate described by Subsection (b-1) shall provide proof
18 sufficient to the department of the disabled veteran's disability
19 rating.

20 SECTION 4. Section [521.1235](#), Transportation Code, is
21 amended by amending Subsections (a) and (c) and adding Subsections
22 (b-1), (d), (e), and (f) to read as follows:

23 (a) In this section:

24 (1) "Disability rating" has the meaning assigned by
25 Section [11.22](#), Tax Code.

26 (2) "Disabled veteran" means a veteran who has
27 suffered a service-connected disability with a disability rating

1 of:

2 (A) at least 50 percent; or

3 (B) 40 percent if the rating is due to the
4 amputation of a lower extremity.

5 (3) "Veteran" [~~,"veteran"~~] means a person who:

6 (A) [~~(1)~~] has served in:

7 (i) [~~(A)~~] the army, navy, air force, coast
8 guard, or marine corps of the United States; or

9 (ii) [~~(B)~~] the Texas National Guard as
10 defined by Section 437.001, Government Code; and

11 (B) [~~(2)~~] has been honorably discharged from the
12 branch of the service in which the person served.

13 (b-1) If a disabled veteran provides proof sufficient to the
14 department, the department, on request of the disabled veteran,
15 shall include on a driver's license issued to the disabled veteran
16 in any available space on the face of the driver's license or on the
17 reverse side of the driver's license:

18 (1) a disabled veteran designation; and

19 (2) the branch of the service in which the disabled
20 veteran served.

21 (c) The department shall provide to the recipient of a
22 driver's license with a [~~veteran's~~] designation under this section
23 the informational paper described by Section 521.011 at the time
24 the license is issued.

25 (d) Notwithstanding any other law and except as provided by
26 Subsection (e), for purposes of obtaining a service or benefit
27 available for disabled veterans in this state, a disabled veteran

1 may use a driver's license described by Subsection (b-1) as
2 satisfactory proof:

3 (1) that the disabled veteran has a disability rating
4 described by Subsection (a)(2)(A) or (B), as applicable; and
5 (2) of branch of service and honorable discharge.

6 (e) A driver's license described by Subsection (b-1) is not
7 satisfactory proof of the disabled veteran's disability rating for
8 purposes of obtaining a property tax exemption provided by Chapter
9 11, Tax Code.

10 (f) A disabled veteran who renews a driver's license
11 described by Subsection (b-1) shall provide proof sufficient to the
12 department of the disabled veteran's disability rating.

13 SECTION 5. Section [521.142\(i\)](#), Transportation Code, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (i) The application must provide space for the applicant:

16 (1) to voluntarily list any information [~~military~~
17 ~~service~~] that may qualify the applicant to receive a license with a
18 [~~veteran's~~] designation under Section [521.1235](#); and

19 (2) to include proof required by the department to
20 determine the applicant's eligibility to receive that designation.

21 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.