

By: Gutierrez

H.B. No. 2259

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the issuance of specially marked driver's licenses and  
3 personal identification certificates to disabled veterans.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section [521.011](#), Transportation Code, is amended  
6 to read as follows:

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

11 (1) a driver's license with a designation under  
12 Section [521.1235](#); or

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

17 SECTION 2. Section [521.101](#)(1), Transportation Code, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

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

21 (1) to voluntarily list any information ~~[military~~  
22 ~~service]~~ that may qualify the applicant to receive a personal  
23 identification certificate with a ~~[veteran's]~~ designation under  
24 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 Subsection (b-1) to  
5 read as follows:

6 (a) In this section, "disabled veteran" and "veteran" have  
7 the meanings assigned by Section 521.1235 [~~means a person who:~~

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

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

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

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

15 (b-1) If a disabled veteran provides proof sufficient to the  
16 department, the department, on request of the disabled veteran,  
17 shall include the designation "DISABLED VETERAN" on a personal  
18 identification certificate issued to the disabled veteran in an  
19 available space on the face of the personal identification  
20 certificate or on the reverse side of the personal identification  
21 certificate.

22 (c) The department shall provide to the recipient of a  
23 personal identification certificate with a [~~veteran's~~] designation  
24 under this section the informational paper described by Section  
25 521.011 at the time the certificate is issued.

26 SECTION 4. Section 521.1235, Transportation Code, is  
27 amended by amending Subsections (a) and (c) and adding Subsection

1 (b-1) to read as follows:

2 (a) In this section:

3 (1) "Disabled veteran" means a veteran who has  
4 suffered a service-connected disability with a disability rating,  
5 as defined by Section 11.22, Tax Code, of:

6 (A) at least 50 percent; or

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

9 (2) "Veteran" [~~,"veteran"~~] means a person who:

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

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

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

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

17 (b-1) If a disabled veteran provides proof sufficient to the  
18 department, the department, on request of the disabled veteran,  
19 shall include the designation "DISABLED VETERAN" on a driver's  
20 license issued to the disabled veteran in an available space on the  
21 face of the driver's license or on the reverse side of the driver's  
22 license.

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

27 SECTION 5. Section 521.142(i), Transportation Code, is

1 amended to read as follows:

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

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

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

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