

By: Wilson

H.B. No. 3589

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to specialty license plates to honor certain Purple Heart recipients.

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

SECTION 1. The heading to Section 372.053, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 372.053. ~~[VETERAN]~~ DISCOUNT PROGRAM FOR CERTAIN VETERANS AND PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS.

SECTION 2. Section 372.053(a), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A toll project entity may establish a discount program for electronic toll collection customers. The program must include free or discounted use of the entity's toll project by an electronic toll collection customer whose account relates to a vehicle registered under Section 504.202, ~~[or]~~ 504.315(f) or (g), or 504.5115.

SECTION 3. Subchapter F, Chapter 504, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 504.5115 to read as follows:

Sec. 504.5115. CERTAIN PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS. (a) The department shall issue specialty license plates for recipients of a Purple Heart awarded by the Department of Public Safety or another law enforcement agency in this state.

(b) The fee for issuance of one set of the license plates is \$3.

1 (c) A person issued specialty license plates under this
2 section shall be issued one set of the license plates without
3 payment of the registration fee required under Chapter 502.

4 SECTION 4. The heading to Section 681.008, Transportation
5 Code, is amended to read as follows:

6 Sec. 681.008. PARKING PRIVILEGES: CERTAIN VETERANS AND
7 [~~MILITARY~~] AWARD RECIPIENTS.

8 SECTION 5. Section 681.008(b), Transportation Code, is
9 amended to read as follows:

10 (b) A vehicle on which license plates described by
11 Subsection (a)(2) or issued under Section 504.202, 504.308,
12 504.310, 504.315, 504.316, [~~or~~] 504.319, or 504.5115 are displayed
13 is exempt from the payment of a parking fee collected through a
14 parking meter charged by a governmental authority other than a
15 branch of the federal government, when being operated by or for the
16 transportation of:

17 (1) the person who registered the vehicle under
18 Section 504.202(a), 504.308, 504.310, 504.315, 504.316, [~~or~~]
19 504.319, or 504.5115;

20 (2) a person described in Section 504.202(b) if the
21 vehicle is registered under that subsection; or

22 (3) the owner or operator of a vehicle displaying
23 license plates described by Subsection (a)(2).

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