| **House Bill 377**  Senate Amendments  Section-by-Section Analysis | | |
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| HOUSE VERSION | SENATE VERSION (IE) | CONFERENCE |
| SECTION 1. Section 504.302, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) and amending Subsection (b) to read as follows:  (a-1) The surviving spouse of a person who would be eligible for a specialty license plate under Section 504.308, 504.310, 504.315, 504.316, or 504.319 is entitled to register one vehicle under the applicable section as long as the spouse remains unmarried.  (b) An applicant [~~for registration~~] under this section must submit proof of the eligibility of the applicant's deceased spouse for the applicable specialty license plate. | SECTION 1. Same as House version. |  |
| No equivalent provision. | SECTION \_\_. Section 504.308, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:  Sec. 504.308. DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS MEDAL RECIPIENTS. [~~(a)~~] The department shall issue specialty license plates for persons who have received the Distinguished Flying Cross medal and Distinguished Flying Cross medal with Valor. The license plates must bear a depiction of the Distinguished Flying Cross medal and the words "Distinguished Flying Cross" at the bottom of each license plate. License plates issued under this section to recipients of the Distinguished Flying Cross medal with Valor that are not personalized must also include the letter "V" as a prefix or suffix to the numerals on each plate. [FA1] |  |
| No equivalent provision. | SECTION \_\_. Section 504.317, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:  (b-1) A person is eligible to receive specialty license plates under this section if the person is the surviving spouse of a person who had been entitled to specialty plates for veterans with disabilities under Section 504.202, regardless of whether the deceased spouse was issued plates under that section. [FA2] |  |
| No equivalent provision. | SECTION \_\_. 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~~]. [FA3] |  |
| No equivalent provision. | SECTION \_\_. Section 521.101(l), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:  (l) 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  (2) to include proof required by the department to determine the applicant's eligibility to receive that designation. [FA3] |  |
| No equivalent provision. | SECTION \_\_. Section 521.102, Transportation Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (c) and adding Subsections (b-1), (d), (e), and (f) to read as follows:  (a) In this section:  (1) "Disability rating" has the meaning assigned by Section 11.22, Tax Code.  (2) "Disabled veteran" and[~~,~~] "veteran" have the meanings assigned by Section 521.1235 [~~means a person who:~~  [~~(1) has served in:~~  [~~(A) the army, navy, air force, coast guard, or marine corps of the United States; or~~  [~~(B) the Texas National Guard as defined by Section 431.001, Government Code; and~~  [~~(2) has been honorably discharged from the branch of the service in which the person served~~].  (b-1) If a disabled veteran provides proof sufficient to the department, the department, on request of the disabled veteran, shall include on a personal identification certificate issued to the disabled veteran in any available space on the face of the personal identification certificate or on the reverse side of the personal identification certificate:  (1) a disabled veteran designation; and  (2) the branch of the service in which the disabled veteran served.  (c) The department shall provide to the recipient of a personal identification certificate with a [~~veteran's~~] designation under this section the informational paper described by Section 521.011 at the time the certificate is issued.  (d) Notwithstanding any other law and except as provided by Subsection (e), for purposes of obtaining a service or benefit available for disabled veterans in this state, a disabled veteran may use a personal identification certificate described by Subsection (b-1) as satisfactory proof:  (1) that the disabled veteran has a disability rating described by Section 521.1235(a)(2)(A) or (B), as applicable; and  (2) of branch of service and honorable discharge.  (e) A personal identification certificate described by Subsection (b-1) is not satisfactory proof of the disabled veteran's disability rating for purposes of obtaining a property tax exemption provided by Chapter 11, Tax Code.  (f) A disabled veteran who renews a personal identification certificate described by Subsection (b-1) shall provide proof sufficient to the department of the disabled veteran's disability rating. [FA3] |  |
| No equivalent provision. | SECTION \_\_. Section 521.1235, Transportation Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (c) and adding Subsections (b-1), (d), (e), and (f) to read as follows:  (a) In this section:  (1) "Disability rating" has the meaning assigned by Section 11.22, Tax Code.  (2) "Disabled veteran" means a veteran who has suffered a service-connected disability with a disability rating of:  (A) at least 50 percent; or  (B) 40 percent if the rating is due to the amputation of a lower extremity.  (3) "Veteran"[~~, "veteran"~~] means a person who:  (A) [~~(1)~~] has served in:  (i) [~~(A)~~] the army, navy, air force, coast guard, or marine corps of the United States; or  (ii) [~~(B)~~] the Texas National Guard as defined by Section 437.001, Government Code; and  (B) [~~(2)~~] has been honorably discharged from the branch of the service in which the person served.  (b-1) If a disabled veteran provides proof sufficient to the department, the department, on request of the disabled veteran, shall include on a driver's license issued to the disabled veteran in any available space on the face of the driver's license or on the reverse side of the driver's license:  (1) a disabled veteran designation; and  (2) the branch of the service in which the disabled veteran served.  (c) The department shall provide to the recipient of a driver's license with a [~~veteran's~~] designation under this section the informational paper described by Section 521.011 at the time the license is issued.  (d) Notwithstanding any other law and except as provided by Subsection (e), for purposes of obtaining a service or benefit available for disabled veterans in this state, a disabled veteran may use a driver's license described by Subsection (b-1) as satisfactory proof:  (1) that the disabled veteran has a disability rating described by Subsection (a)(2)(A) or (B), as applicable; and  (2) of branch of service and honorable discharge.  (e) A driver's license described by Subsection (b-1) is not satisfactory proof of the disabled veteran's disability rating for purposes of obtaining a property tax exemption provided by Chapter 11, Tax Code.  (f) A disabled veteran who renews a driver's license described by Subsection (b-1) shall provide proof sufficient to the department of the disabled veteran's disability rating. [FA3] |  |
| No equivalent provision. | SECTION \_\_. Section 521.142(i), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:  (i) The application must provide space for the applicant:  (1) to voluntarily list any information [~~military service~~] that may qualify the applicant to receive a license with a [~~veteran's~~] designation under Section 521.1235; and  (2) to include proof required by the department to determine the applicant's eligibility to receive that designation. [FA3] |  |
| SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017. | SECTION 2. Same as House version. |  |