

By: Guillen

H.B. No. 1844

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to content, issuance, and change of driver's licenses and
3 other forms of identification issued by the Department of Public
4 Safety, including automatic voter registration.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 507.001(b), Business & Commerce Code, is
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (b) This section does not affect:

9 (1) the requirement to display a handgun license under
10 Section 411.205, Government Code~~[, that a person subject to that~~
11 ~~section present a driver's license or identification certificate in~~
12 ~~addition to a concealed handgun license]~~; or

13 (2) the types of identification required under federal
14 law to access airport premises or pass through airport security.

15 SECTION 2. Section 1.005, Election Code, is amended by
16 adding Subdivision (4-a) to read as follows:

17 (4-a) "Driver's license" includes a commercial
18 driver's license.

19 SECTION 3. Subchapter A, Chapter 13, Election Code, is
20 amended by adding Section 13.009 to read as follows:

21 Sec. 13.009. VOTER REGISTRATION THROUGH DEPARTMENT OF
22 PUBLIC SAFETY. (a) The voter registrar of each county shall
23 automatically register any county resident who is eligible to vote
24 as provided by Section 13.001 and:

1 (1) is issued an original or renewal Texas driver's
2 license or a personal identification card by the Department of
3 Public Safety; or

4 (2) makes a change to a Texas driver's license or
5 personal identification card issued by the Department of Public
6 Safety.

7 (b) A driver's license or personal identification card
8 transaction with an indication provided by Section 20.062(b) or
9 20.063(c) that the transaction is not for voter registration
10 purposes is not subject to this section.

11 SECTION 4. Section 20.061, Election Code, is amended to
12 read as follows:

13 Sec. 20.061. APPLICABILITY OF OTHER PROVISIONS. The other
14 provisions of this chapter apply to the Department of Public Safety
15 except provisions that conflict with this subchapter or Section
16 13.009.

17 SECTION 5. Section 20.062(b), Election Code, is amended to
18 read as follows:

19 (b) The department shall prescribe and use a change of
20 address form and procedure that combines department and voter
21 registration functions. The form must allow a licensee or
22 cardholder to indicate that ~~[whether]~~ the change of address is not
23 ~~[also to be used]~~ for voter registration purposes.

24 SECTION 6. Section 20.063, Election Code, is amended to
25 read as follows:

26 Sec. 20.063. REGISTRATION PROCEDURES. (a) The Department
27 of Public Safety shall consider an application made in person, by

1 mail, or online at the department's Internet website ~~[provide to~~
2 ~~each person who applies in person at the department's offices]~~ for
3 an original or renewal of a driver's license, a personal
4 identification card, or a duplicate or corrected license or card by
5 a person who is eligible to vote as provided by Section 13.001 an
6 application for ~~[opportunity to complete a]~~ voter registration.
7 The date of application is considered to be the date of submission
8 to the voter registrar for the purpose of determining the effective
9 date of registration ~~[application form]~~.

10 (b) The Department of Public Safety shall consider a change
11 of address that relates to ~~[When the department processes]~~ a
12 license or card and that is submitted to ~~[for renewal by mail,~~ the
13 department ~~[shall deliver to the applicant by mail a voter~~
14 ~~registration application form.~~

15 ~~[(c) A change of address that relates to a license or card~~
16 ~~and that is submitted to the department]~~ in person, ~~[or]~~ by mail, or
17 online at the department's Internet website ~~[serves]~~ as a change in
18 ~~[of address for]~~ voter registration ~~[unless the licensee or~~
19 ~~cardholder indicates that the change is not for voter registration~~
20 ~~purposes]~~. The date of submission of a change of address to a
21 department employee is considered to be the date of submission to
22 the voter registrar for the purpose of determining the effective
23 date of registration ~~[only]~~.

24 (c) The registration of an eligible ~~[(d) If a completed]~~
25 voter as required by Subsections (a) and (b) is automatic unless the
26 person indicates that the transaction is not for voter
27 registration purposes ~~[application submitted to a department~~

1 ~~employee does not include the applicant's correct driver's license~~
2 ~~number or personal identification card number, a department~~
3 ~~employee shall enter the appropriate information on the~~
4 ~~application. If a completed application does not include the~~
5 ~~applicant's correct residence address or mailing address, a~~
6 ~~department employee shall obtain the appropriate information from~~
7 ~~the applicant and enter the information on the application].~~

8 SECTION 7. Section 20.065(b), Election Code, is amended to
9 read as follows:

10 (b) Each weekday the department is regularly open for
11 business, the department shall electronically transfer to the
12 secretary of state the name and information designated by the
13 secretary of state for [of each person who completes a] voter
14 registration for each individual who is eligible to vote as
15 provided by Section 13.001 and applies in person, by mail, or online
16 at the department's Internet website for an original or renewal of a
17 driver's license, a personal identification card, or a duplicate or
18 corrected license or card [application submitted to the
19 ~~department].~~ The secretary shall prescribe procedures necessary to
20 implement this subsection.

21 SECTION 8. Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code, is
22 amended by adding Section 411.1795 to read as follows:

23 Sec. 411.1795. DESIGNATION ON DRIVER'S LICENSE, COMMERCIAL
24 DRIVER'S LICENSE, OR PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION CERTIFICATE. The
25 department shall adopt rules allowing an applicant for an original,
26 duplicate, modified, or renewed license under this subchapter, in
27 addition to being issued an original, duplicate, modified, or

1 renewed license, to elect to include on the person's driver's
2 license, commercial driver's license, or personal identification
3 certificate a designation indicating that the person is licensed
4 under this subchapter. The rules must include procedures to ensure
5 that a person who makes an election under this section:

6 (1) receives a designation on the person's driver's
7 license, commercial driver's license, or personal identification
8 certificate only if the person meets the requirements for issuance
9 of the original, duplicate, modified, or renewed handgun license;
10 and

11 (2) maintains the designation only during the period
12 for which the person is licensed to carry a handgun under this
13 subchapter.

14 SECTION 9. Section 411.205, Government Code, is amended to
15 read as follows:

16 Sec. 411.205. REQUIREMENT TO DISPLAY LICENSE. If a license
17 holder is carrying a handgun on or about the license holder's person
18 when a magistrate or a peace officer demands that the license holder
19 display identification, the license holder shall display either:

20 (1) the license holder's:

21 (A) driver's license or commercial driver's
22 license that includes a handgun license designation under Section
23 521.128 or 522.0302, Transportation Code; or

24 (B) personal identification certificate that
25 includes a designation under Section 521.105, Transportation Code;
26 or

27 (2) both the license holder's driver's license,

1 commercial driver's license, or personal identification
2 certificate issued by the department and the license holder's
3 handgun license.

4 SECTION 10. Section 521.011, Transportation Code, is
5 amended to read as follows:

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

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

12 (2) a commercial driver's license with a designation
13 under Section 522.0301; or

14 (3) a personal identification certificate with a
15 designation under Section 521.102.

16 SECTION 11. Section 521.101(1), Transportation Code, is
17 amended to read as follows:

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

20 (1) to voluntarily list any information that may
21 qualify the applicant to receive a personal identification
22 certificate with a designation under Section 521.102 or 521.106;
23 and

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

26 SECTION 12. Subchapter E, Chapter 521, Transportation Code,
27 is amended by adding Sections 521.105 and 521.106 to read as

1 follows:

2 Sec. 521.105. HANDGUN LICENSE DESIGNATION. Subject to
3 available funds, the department shall include on each personal
4 identification certificate issued to a person licensed to carry a
5 handgun under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code, who makes
6 an election under Section 411.1795, Government Code, a designation
7 that shows the person is licensed under that subchapter. The
8 designation must include the person's handgun license number and a
9 statement of the period for which the handgun license is effective.

10 Sec. 521.106. LIFETIME RESIDENT HUNTING, FISHING, OR
11 COMBINATION HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSE DESIGNATION. Subject to
12 available funds, the department shall include on a personal
13 identification certificate issued to a person who holds a lifetime
14 resident hunting, fishing, or combination hunting and fishing
15 license issued under Section 42.0021, 46.004(d), or 50.001(b),
16 Parks and Wildlife Code, as applicable, a designation that shows
17 the person's status as a holder of the applicable license if the
18 person:

- 19 (1) requests the designation; and
20 (2) provides proof sufficient to the department that
21 the person is a holder of the applicable license.

22 SECTION 13. Subchapter F, Chapter 521, Transportation Code,
23 is amended by adding Sections 521.128 and 521.129 to read as
24 follows:

25 Sec. 521.128. HANDGUN LICENSE DESIGNATION. Subject to
26 available funds, the department shall include on each driver's
27 license issued to a person licensed to carry a handgun under

1 Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code, who makes an election
2 under Section 411.1795, Government Code, a designation that shows
3 the person is licensed under that subchapter. The designation must
4 include the person's handgun license number and a statement of the
5 period for which the handgun license is effective.

6 Sec. 521.129. LIFETIME RESIDENT HUNTING, FISHING, OR
7 COMBINATION HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSE DESIGNATION. Subject to
8 available funds, the department shall include on a driver's license
9 issued to a person who holds a lifetime resident hunting, fishing,
10 or combination hunting and fishing license issued under Section
11 42.0021, 46.004(d), or 50.001(b), Parks and Wildlife Code, as
12 applicable, a designation that shows the person's status as a
13 holder of the applicable license if the person:

- 14 (1) requests the designation; and
15 (2) provides proof sufficient to the department that
16 the person is a holder of the applicable license.

17 SECTION 14. Section 521.142(i), Transportation Code, is
18 amended to read as follows:

- 19 (i) The application must provide space for the applicant:
20 (1) to voluntarily list any information that may
21 qualify the applicant to receive a license with a designation under
22 Section 521.1235 or 521.129; and
23 (2) to include proof required by the department to
24 determine the applicant's eligibility to receive that designation.

25 SECTION 15. Section 522.021, Transportation Code, is
26 amended by adding Subsection (f) to read as follows:

- 27 (f) The application must provide space for the applicant:

1 (1) to voluntarily list any information that may
2 qualify the applicant to receive a license with a designation under
3 Section 522.0301 or 522.0303; and

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

6 SECTION 16. Subchapter C, Chapter 522, Transportation Code,
7 is amended by adding Sections 522.0301, 522.0302, and 522.0303 to
8 read as follows:

9 Sec. 522.0301. DESIGNATION ON COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE
10 ISSUED TO VETERAN. (a) In this section:

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

13 (2) "Disabled veteran" and "veteran" have the meanings
14 assigned by Section 521.1235.

15 (b) The department shall include the designation "VETERAN"
16 on a commercial driver's license issued to a veteran in an available
17 space on the face of the commercial driver's license or on the
18 reverse side of the commercial driver's license if:

19 (1) the veteran requests the designation; and

20 (2) the veteran provides proof sufficient to the
21 department of the veteran's military service and honorable
22 discharge.

23 (c) If a disabled veteran provides proof sufficient to the
24 department, the department, on request of the disabled veteran,
25 shall include on a commercial driver's license issued to the
26 disabled veteran in any available space on the face of the
27 commercial driver's license or on the reverse side of the

1 commercial driver's license:

2 (1) a disabled veteran designation; and

3 (2) the branch of the service in which the disabled
4 veteran served.

5 (d) The department shall provide to the recipient of a
6 commercial driver's license with a designation under this section
7 the informational paper described by Section 521.011 at the time
8 the license is issued.

9 (e) Notwithstanding any other law and except as provided by
10 Subsection (f), for purposes of obtaining a service or benefit
11 available for disabled veterans in this state, a disabled veteran
12 may use a commercial driver's license described by Subsection (c)
13 as satisfactory proof:

14 (1) that the disabled veteran has a disability rating
15 described by Section 521.1235(a)(2)(A) or (B), as applicable; and

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

17 (f) A commercial driver's license described by Subsection
18 (c) is not satisfactory proof of the disabled veteran's disability
19 rating for purposes of obtaining a property tax exemption provided
20 by Chapter 11, Tax Code.

21 (g) A disabled veteran who renews a commercial driver's
22 license described by Subsection (c) shall provide proof sufficient
23 to the department of the disabled veteran's disability rating.

24 Sec. 522.0302. HANDGUN LICENSE DESIGNATION. Subject to
25 available funds, the department shall include on each commercial
26 driver's license issued to a person licensed to carry a handgun
27 under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code, who makes an

1 election under Section 411.1795, Government Code, a designation
2 that shows the person is licensed under that subchapter. The
3 designation must include the person's handgun license number and a
4 statement of the period for which the handgun license is effective.

5 Sec. 522.0303. LIFETIME RESIDENT HUNTING, FISHING, OR
6 COMBINATION HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSE DESIGNATION. Subject to
7 available funds, the department shall include on a commercial
8 driver's license issued to a person who holds a lifetime resident
9 hunting, fishing, or combination hunting and fishing license issued
10 under Section 42.0021, 46.004(d), or 50.001(b), Parks and Wildlife
11 Code, as applicable, a designation that shows the person's status
12 as a holder of the applicable license if the person:

13 (1) requests the designation; and

14 (2) provides proof sufficient to the department that
15 the person is a holder of the applicable license.

16 SECTION 17. Not later than December 1, 2019, the Department
17 of Public Safety shall adopt the rules required by Section
18 411.1795, Government Code, as added by this Act.

19 SECTION 18. (a) Section 411.1795, Government Code, as
20 added by this Act, applies only to an applicant for an original,
21 duplicate, modified, or renewed license to carry a handgun under
22 Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code, as amended by this Act,
23 who submits the application on or after January 1, 2020.

24 (b) The changes in law made by this Act to Chapters 521 and
25 522, Transportation Code, apply only to a driver's license,
26 commercial driver's license, or personal identification
27 certificate issued or renewed under Chapter 521 or 522,

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1 Transportation Code, on or after January 1, 2020.

2 SECTION 19. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.