

By: Crockett

H.B. No. 1274

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the number of license plates to be issued for and
3 displayed on certain motor vehicles.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 504, Transportation Code,
6 is amended by adding Section 504.011 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 504.011. ISSUANCE AND DISPLAY OF LICENSE PLATE FOR
8 PASSENGER CAR OR LIGHT TRUCK. (a) Notwithstanding anything in this
9 code to the contrary, the department shall issue only one license
10 plate for attachment at the rear of a passenger car or light truck
11 for which the plate is issued.

12 (b) Notwithstanding anything in this code to the contrary, a
13 person is entitled to operate on a public highway a passenger car or
14 light truck that displays only one license plate if the plate is
15 attached at the rear of the vehicle. A person may operate on a
16 public highway a passenger car or light truck that displays two
17 license plates if both plates were assigned by the department for
18 the registration period as a set of plates.

19 (c) In any provision of this code that relates to the
20 issuance or display of "license plates," "plates," or a "set of
21 plates" for a passenger car or light truck, the term means only one
22 license plate.

23 SECTION 2. Section 504.943(b), Transportation Code, is
24 amended to read as follows:

1 (b) A person commits an offense if the person operates on a
2 public highway during a registration period a passenger car, light
3 truck, road tractor, motorcycle, trailer, or semitrailer that does
4 not display a license plate that:

5 (1) has been assigned by the department for the
6 period; and

7 (2) complies with department rules regarding the
8 placement of license plates.

9 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act regarding the
10 issuance of license plates by the Texas Department of Motor
11 Vehicles applies only to the issuance of license plates by the
12 department for a registration period beginning on or after the
13 effective date of this Act. For a registration period that begins
14 before the effective date of this Act, the department shall issue
15 license plates as required by the law in effect immediately before
16 the effective date of this Act, and the former law is continued in
17 effect for that purpose.

18 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.