

By: Lopez of Cameron

H.B. No. 5123

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation, distribution, and posting of a veterans benefits at each Department of Public Safety office.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 411, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 411.0917 to read as follows:

Sec. 411.0197. VETERANS BENEFITS AND SERVICES POSTER. (a) The Department of Public Safety shall, in consultation with the Texas Veterans Commission, create and distribute to each veteran in this state a veterans benefits and services pamphlet containing information relating to:

(1) how a veteran can:

(A) apply for unemployment compensation benefits under Subtitle A and unemployment compensation benefits that may be offered under a program administered by an agency of the federal government;

(B) contact the Texas Veterans Commission, including how a veteran may access the Internet website maintained by the Texas Veterans Commission and the veterans crisis hotline established by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs under 38 U.S.C. Section 1720F;

(C) exercise any tax benefits or preferences offered to veterans under the Tax Code or Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and

1                   (D) obtain a driver's license or personal  
2 identification card issued by the Department of Public Safety; and

3                   (2) services that may be available to veterans in this  
4 state, including:

5                   (A) education, workforce placement, and training  
6 programs;

7                   (B) legal assistance; and

8                   (C) substance abuse and mental health treatment.

9                   (c) the department shall display the veterans benefits and  
10 services poster distributed by the commission under this section  
11 in a conspicuous place in each department office.

12                 SECTION 2. Not later than December 1, 2023, the Department  
13 of Public Safety shall, in consultation with the Texas Veterans  
14 Commission, create and distribute the veterans benefits and  
15 services poster as required by Section 411.0197, Government Code,  
16 as added by this Act.

17                 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.