

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Submitted to the Committee on Defense & Veterans' Affairs  
For HB 1633

Compiled on: Thursday, March 23, 2023 2:06 PM

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Hearing Date: March 23, 2023 10:30 AM - or upon final adjourn./recess or bill referral if permission granted

Jason Mead  
Self  
Cypress, TX

The parking privileges for truly Handicapped individuals are in jeopardy. If you do not have a true physical disability you shouldn't be taking up a space that someone else that is in dire need of. How many times do you see someone who isn't disabled and doesn't need the spot but uses it anyway just because they are lazy. There is not enough spaces available in most parking lots as it is. PTSD is not a physical disability it is a mental health disability.

Darrell Mond, Veteran  
El Paso Veterans \$ Riders Association (EPVRA)  
El Paso, TX

THE GREAT STATE OF TEXAS,

I most humbly request you please pass H.B. 1633 sponsored by Representative Evelina "Lina" Ortega, District 77. Senate Bill 792 imposed harsh penalties on our Disabled American Veterans. The Disabled Veteran license plate is mostly used by older Disabled Veterans, such as myself, who are in their 60s and older and in most cases, whose income is very limited.

When our beloved Texas first authorized the Disabled Veteran License Plate it was done to support our Veterans and its qualifications were and remain extremely restrictive. Sadly, the Department of Veterans Affairs is still going by these standards. However, the qualifications for the disabled placard, are far more understanding and supportive of our disabled, and have a broader understanding of movement limiting disabilities.

Mr. Ruben Gonzalez, the El Paso Tax Assessor Collector, and our organization are working with the El Paso VA Medical Center in educating them and our community on these qualifications. Yes, Disabled Veterans are still having problems obtaining the placard because the VA is not fully aware of its qualifications. Disabled Veterans are having to and pay for outside medical assistance in obtaining a placard.

I sincerely wish I could be there today to express my support, but due a prior medical commitment, I am not able to. But please consider and pass H.B. 1633.