

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

C.S.S.B. 1704
By: Wentworth
Infrastructure Development and Security
4/25/2003
Committee Report (Substituted)

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, Texas law allows for the creation of specialty license plates, but new legislation is required to make each additional license plate available to the public. C.S.S.B. 1704 creates the process for requesting new specialty license plates from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and for TxDOT to issue those plates. This bill also authorizes TxDOT to create new specialty license plates upon its own initiative.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

Rulemaking authority is expressly granted to the Texas Transportation Commission in SECTION 1 (Section 502.2515, Transportation Code) and in SECTION 2 (Section 502.2524, Transportation Code) and to the Texas Board of Health in SECTION 28 (Section 162.016, Health & Safety Code) of this bill.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.2515, as follows:

Sec. 502.2515. CONTRACT WITH PRIVATE VENDOR. (a) Authorizes the Texas Transportation Commission (TTC) to authorize the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to enter into a contract with the private vendor whose proposal is most advantageous to the state as determined from competitive sealed proposals for marketing personalized prestige license plates or other specialized license plates.

(b) Requires TTC to establish fees for the issuance or renewal of personalized prestige license plates that are marketed and sold by the private vendor, instead of the fees established by Section 502.251(c) (Personalized Prestige License Plates), if TTC authorizes TxDOT to contract with a private vendor under Subsection (a)(1) for the marketing and sale of personalized prestige license plates, requires TTC by rule to establish fees for the issuance or renewal of personalized prestige license plates that are marketed and sold by the private vendor. Requires fees to be reasonable and not less than the greater of certain amounts.

(c) Requires TTC to establish fees for the issuance or renewal of specialized license plates that are marketed and sold by the private vendor, if TTC authorizes TxDOT to contract with a private vendor under Subsection (a)(2) for the marketing and sale of other specialized license plates authorized by this subchapter, including specialized license plates that may be personalized, requires TTC by rule to establish the fees for the issuance or renewal of specialized license plates that are marketed and sold by the private vendor. Requires fees to be reasonable and not less than the amounts necessary to allow TxDOT to recover certain costs. Provides that a fee established under this subsection is in addition to certain other fees.

(d) Authorizes TTC, at any time, as necessary to comply with Subsection (b) or (c), to increase or decrease the amount of a fee established under the applicable subsection.

(e) Provides that a contract with a private vendor under Subsection (a)(1) is payable only from amounts derived from the collection of the fee established under Subsection (b). Provides that a contract with a private vendor under Subsection (a)(2) is payable only from amounts derived from the collection of the fee established under Subsection (c).

(f) Authorizes TxDOT to create new design and color combinations for personalized prestige license plates that are marketed or sold by a private vendor under a contract entered into under Subsection (a)(1). Provides that each approved license plate design and color combination remains the property of TxDOT.

(g) Authorizes TxDOT to create new design and color combinations for specialized plates, including specialized license plates that may be personalized, that are marketed or sold by a private vendor under a contract entered into under Subsection (a)(2). Provides that each approved license plate design and color combination remains the property of TxDOT. Provides that this subsection does not authorize certain activities.

(h) Authorizes TxDOT, in connection with a license plate that is marketed or sold by a private vendor under contract, to cancel a license plate or require the discontinuation of a license plate design or color combination at any time if TxDOT determines that the cancellation or discontinuation is in the best interest of this state or the motoring public.

(i) Sets forth the requirements and authorizations of a contract entered into by TxDOT with a private vendor under this section.

(j) Requires TxDOT, from amounts received by TxDOT, to deposit to the credit of the state highway fund an amount sufficient to enable TxDOT to recover its administrative cost for all license plates issued under this section, including any payments to the vendor under Subsection (a), and any other amounts allocated to the state highway fund by another law. Requires, to the extent that disposition of other amounts received from the vendor are governed by another law, those amounts to be deposited in accordance with the other law, and for each type of license plate, the amount charged for the license plate may not be less than the amount in effect on January 1, 2003. Requires any additional amount received from the vendor to be deposited to the credit of the general revenue fund.

(k) Authorizes TTC to authorize TxDOT to pay a licensing fee for the use of a trademark in connection with the marketing and sale of a license plate under this section.

SECTION 2. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Sections 502.2524 and 502.2527, as follows:

Sec. 502.2524. CREATION OF NEW SPECIALTY PLATES BY THE DEPARTMENT. (a) Authorizes TxDOT to create new specialty license plates, which may be personalized, on its own initiative or on receipt of an application from a potential sponsor. Requires a new specialty plate created under this section to meet the requirements of Section 502.2526, Transportation Code (Specialized License Plates Authorized After January 1, 1999), unless it is created at TxDOT's initiative. Authorizes TxDOT to allow a new specialty license plate to be personalized and issued for any classification of vehicle.

(b) Authorizes any person to sponsor a new specialty plate by submitting an application. Authorizes the application to nominate a state agency to receive funds generated by the new specialty plate and identify uses to which the funds should be appropriated.

(c) Requires TxDOT to design each new specialty plate in consultation with the sponsor, if any, that applies for creation of that specialty plate. Requires the plate design be the exclusive property of TxDOT. Authorizes TxDOT to refuse to create a new specialty plate under certain circumstances. Provides that the determination rests in the sole discretion of the executive director of TxDOT (director) and prohibits overturning that determination in the absence of an abuse of that discretion. Authorizes TxDOT, at the request of the sponsor, to limit the distribution of a specialty plate. Requires the application for a specialty plate to include satisfactory evidence to TxDOT that the applicant and the applicant's vehicle are eligible, if distribution is limited.

(d) Requires the TxDOT to issue specialty plates created under this section to a person who meets certain criteria.

(e) Requires the county assessor-collector, of each fee collected under Subsection (d), to retain 50 cents for deposit to the credit of the general fund of the county to pay the costs of administering this section by the county and send the remainder to TxDOT. Sets forth the required deposits from each \$29.50 received by TxDOT.

(f) Provides that Subchapter D, Chapter 316, Government Code (Appropriation of Unobligated Fund Balances to General Revenue Fund), and Section 403.095, Government Code (Use of Dedicated Revenue), do not apply to fees collected under this section.

(g) Authorizes TxDOT to report certain information to the legislature at any time concerning implementation of this section.

(h) Authorizes TxDOT to license a trademark for inclusion within the design of the plates and pay a fee for the trademark license, if a sponsor did not name a state agency to receive the funds or if there is no sponsor.

(i) Authorizes the owner of the vehicle for which the plates were issued to obtain replacement plates from TxDOT, if the plates are lost, stolen, or mutilated, by paying the fee prescribed by Section 502.184(a)(2), Transportation Code (Replacement of Lost, Stolen, or Mutilated License Plate or Registration Insignia). Requires the owner of the vehicle to return the specialty plates to TxDOT upon disposal of the vehicle during the registration year. Prohibits the owner of the vehicle for which the plates were issued from transferring the license plates to another person or vehicle unless TxDOT first approves the transfer.

(j) Requires TTC to adopt rules and TxDOT to issue forms to implement this section.

(k) Authorizes TxDOT to prorate the fee for a specialty license plate issued under this section on a monthly basis to align the license plate fee to the registration period for the motor vehicle for which the license plate was issued, and if a fee is prorated, requires the allocation of the fee by this chapter to an account or fund to be prorated in proportion.

(l) Authorizes the director to refuse to issue a specialty license plate with a design or alphanumeric pattern that the director considers potentially objectionable to one or more members of the public and prohibits overturning the director's refusal in the absence of an abuse of discretion.

Sec. 502.2527. SOUVENIR LICENSE PLATES. (a) Authorizes TxDOT to issue a souvenir version of any specialty license plate.

(b) Provides that the fee for a single souvenir license plate is \$10. Provides that the cost of a personalized souvenir license plate is \$30.

(c) Prohibits the use of a souvenir license plate on a motor vehicle and provides that such a plate is not an insignia of registration for a motor vehicle. Requires each souvenir license plate to be identified by TxDOT in a way that identifies it to law enforcement officers and others as a souvenir license plate.

(d) Requires \$10 of each fee collected under this section to be deposited to the credit of the state highway fund.

SECTION 3. Amends Section 502.254(c), Transportation Code, to include in the list of requirements under this section the word VETERAN, rather than VET, and the words “U.S. Armed Forces” at the bottom of each plate. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 4. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.2581, as follows:

Sec. 502.2581. AIRBORNE PARACHUTIST LICENSE PLATES. (a) Requires TxDOT to issue specially designed license plates for passenger cars and light trucks owned by active, retired, or honorably discharged members of the United States armed forces who meet certain criteria.

(b) Require license plates issued under this section to include a likeness of the parachutist badge authorized by the Department of the Army.

(c) Requires TxDOT to issue license plates under this section to a person who meets certain criteria.

(d) Sets forth the annual fees for issuance of license plates under this section.

(e) Requires the owner, if the owner of a vehicle registered under this section disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, to return the special license plates to TxDOT. Authorizes the owner to apply for issuance of those plates to another vehicle.

(f) Requires fees collected to be deposited to the credit of the state highway fund.

SECTION 5. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.2601, as follows:

Sec. 502.2601. DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS MEDAL RECIPIENTS. (a) Requires TxDOT to issue specially designed license plates for passenger cars and light trucks owned by recipients of the Distinguished Flying Cross medal.

(b) Require license plates to bear a depiction of the Distinguished Flying Cross medal and the words “Distinguished Flying Cross” at the bottom of each plate.

(c) Requires TxDOT to issue license plates under this section to a person who meets certain criteria.

(d) Requires the owner, if the owner of a vehicle registered under this section disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, to return the special license plates to TxDOT. Authorizes the owner to apply for issuance of those plates to another vehicle.

(e) Requires fees collected to be deposited to the credit of the state highway fund.

SECTION 6. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.2651, as follows:

Sec. 502.2651. ENDURING FREEDOM VETERANS. (a) Requires TxDOT to issue

specially designed license plates for passenger cars and light trucks owned by persons who service in the United States armed forces and participated in Operation Enduring Freedom.

(b) Require license plates to include the words “Enduring Freedom.”

(c) Requires TxDOT to issue license plates under this section to a person who meets certain criteria.

(d) Requires the owner, if the owner of a vehicle registered under this section disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, to return the special license plates to TxDOT. Authorizes the owner to apply for issuance of those plates to another vehicle.

(e) Provides that Section 502.2526 (Specialized License Plates Authorized After January 1, 1999) does not apply to this section.

SECTION 7. (a) Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.2664, as follows:

Sec. 502.2664. UNITED WE STAND LICENSE PLATES. (a) Requires TxDOT to issue specially designed patriotic license plates for passenger cars and light trucks to support the Texas Military Preparedness Grant Account.

(b) Require license plates to bear the words “United We Stand” and use only red, white, blue, and black.

(c) Requires TxDOT to issue license plates under this section to a person who meets certain criteria.

(d) Sets forth the required deposits and required uses of each fee collected under this section.

(b) Provides that Subsection (a) of this section only takes effect if another Act of the 78th Legislature, Regular Session, 2003, creates the Texas Military Preparedness Grant Account and becomes law and provides that if that does not happen Subsection (a) has no effect.

SECTION 8. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.2705, as follows:

Sec. 502.2705. TEXAS PGA JUNIOR GOLF LICENSE PLATES. (a) Requires TxDOT to issue specially designed “Texas PGA Junior Golf” license plates for passenger cars and light trucks.

(b) Requires TxDOT to design the license plates in consultation with Texas PGA Junior Golf.

(c) Requires TxDOT to issue license plates under this section to a person who meets certain criteria.

(d) Sets forth the required deposits and authorized and required uses of each fee collected under this section.

SECTION 9. Amends Sections 502.2732(a) and (d), Transportation Code, as follows:

(a) Includes motorcycles in the list of motor vehicles for which specially designed license plates are issued. Makes a nonsubstantive change.

(d) Decreases the fee for an original issuance of a license plate under this section from \$50 to \$30, decreases the fee for a renewal from \$40 to \$30, and includes a reference to Section 502.160 (Fee: Motorcycle).

SECTION 10. Amends Section 502.2734, Transportation Code, by amending Subsections (a), (c), and (g) and adding Subsection (i), as follows:

(a) Requires TxDOT to issue one or more specially designed conservation license plates for certain vehicles, rather than solely passenger cars and light trucks, to support Texas Parks and Wildlife Department activities.

(c) Includes references to Sections 502.162 (Fee: Commercial Motor Vehicle or Truck-Tractor), 502.163 (Fee: Commercial Motor Vehicle Primarily Used for Farm Purposes; Offense), 502.166 (Fee: Trailer of Semitrailer), and 502.167 (Truck-Tractor or Commercial Motor Vehicle Combination).

(g) Makes a conforming change.

(i) Authorizes TxDOT to vary the design of license plates issued under this section according to the type of vehicle for which the license plates are issued.

SECTION 11. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.2736, as follows:

Sec. 502.2736. AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION LICENSE PLATES. (a) Requires TxDOT to issue specially designed license plates for passenger cars and light trucks that bear the words "Air Force Association."

(b) Requires TxDOT to design the license plates in consultation with the Air Force Association of Texas.

(c) Requires TxDOT to issue license plates under this section to a person who meets certain criteria.

(d) Sets forth the required deposits and authorized and required uses of each fee collected under this section.

(e) Requires the owner, if the owner of a vehicle for which the special plates were issued under this section disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, to return the special license plates to TxDOT.

SECTION 12. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.2737, as follows:

Sec. 502.2737. TEXAS STATE RIFLE ASSOCIATION LICENSE PLATES. (a) Establishes a Texas State Rifle Association license plate issued by TxDOT under Section 502.273 (Private Nonprofit Organizations). Sets forth the required deposits and uses of each fee collected under this section.

(b) Provides that Subsection (a) applies only to an annual fee for the issuance of the Texas State Rifle Association license plate collected on or after that date.

SECTION 13. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.2738, as follows:

Sec. 502.2738. URBAN FORESTRY LICENSE PLATES. (a) Requires TxDOT to issue specially designed license plates for passenger cars and light trucks.

(b) Requires TxDOT to design the license plates in consultation with any

organization described in Subsection (d).

(c) Requires TxDOT to issue license plates under this section to a person who meets certain criteria.

(d) Sets forth the required deposits and authorized and required uses of each fee collected under this section.

(e) Requires the owner, if the owner of a vehicle for which the special plates were issued under this section disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, to return the special license plates to TxDOT.

SECTION 14. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.2739, as follows:

Sec. 502.2739. SHARE THE ROAD LICENSE PLATES. (a) Requires TxDOT to issue specially designed license plates for passenger cars and light trucks that include the words “Share the Road” and an image of a bicycle or a bicycle with a rider.

(b) Requires TxDOT to design the license plates in consultation with the Texas Bicycle Coalition Education Fund.

(c) Requires TxDOT to issue license plates under this section to a person who meets certain criteria.

(d) Sets forth the required deposits and authorized and required uses of each fee collected under this section.

(e) Authorizes up to 25 percent of the amount in Subsection (d)(3) to be used to support the activities of the nonprofit organization in marketing and promoting the share the road concept and license plates.

(f) Authorizes the Texas Education Agency to establish reporting and other reporting mechanisms necessary to ensure that the money collected under this section is spent for purposes for which it is dedicated.

(g) Requires the owner, if the owner of a vehicle registered under this section disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, to return the special license plates to TxDOT.

SECTION 15. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.2741, as follows:

Sec. 502.2741. SAN ANTONIO MISSIONS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK LICENSE PLATES. (a) Requires TxDOT to issue specially designed San Antonio Missions National Historical Park license plates for passenger cars and light trucks.

(b) Requires TxDOT to design the license plates in consultation with Los Compadres de San Antonio Missions National Historical Park.

(c) Requires TxDOT to issue license plates under this section to a person who meets certain criteria.

(d) Sets forth the required deposits and required uses of each fee collected under this section.

(e) Requires the remainder of each fee collected under this section, after deposit as provide by Subsection (d), to be deposited to the credit of the state highway fund and used only to defray the costs of administering this section.

(f) Requires the owner, if the owner of a vehicle registered under this section disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, to return the special license plates to TxDOT.

SECTION 16. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.2742, as follows:

Sec. 502.2742. EL PASO MISSION VALLEY LICENSE PLATES. (a) Requires TxDOT to issue specially designed El Paso Mission Valley license plates for passenger cars and light trucks.

(b) Requires TxDOT to design the license plates in consultation with the Socorro Mission Restoration Effort.

(c) Requires TxDOT to issue license plates under this section to a person who meets certain criteria.

(d) Sets forth the required deposits and required uses of each fee collected under this section.

(e) Requires the remainder of each fee collected under this section, after deposit as provide by Subsection (d), to be deposited to the credit of the state highway fund and used only to defray the costs of administering this section.

(f) Requires the owner, if the owner of a vehicle registered under this section disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, to return the special license plates to TxDOT.

SECTION 17. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.2762, as follows:

Sec. 502.2762. COTTON BOLL LICENSE PLATES. (a) Requires TxDOT to issue specially designed cotton boll license plates for certain vehicles.

(b) Requires the license plates to depict a graphic image of a cotton boll and to be designed by TxDOT in consultation with Texas Cotton Growers, Incorporated.

(c) Requires TxDOT to issue license plates under this section to a person who meets certain criteria.

(d) Sets forth the required deposits and authorized and required uses of each fee collected under this section.

SECTION 18. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.2934, as follows:

Sec. 502.2934. DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS LICENSE PLATES. (a) Requires TxDOT to issue specially designed Daughters of the Republic of Texas license plates for passenger cars and light trucks.

(b) Requires the license plates to include the words "Native Texan" and be of a color, quality, and design approved by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas.

(c) Requires TxDOT to issue license plates under this section to a person who meets certain criteria.

(d) Sets forth the required deposits and authorized and required uses of each fee collected under this section.

(e) Requires the remainder of each fee collected under this section, after deposit as provide by Subsection (d), to be deposited to the credit of the state highway fund and used only to defray the costs of administering this section.

(f) Requires the owner, if the owner of a vehicle registered under this section disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, to return the special license plates to TxDOT.

SECTION 19. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.2935, as follows:

Sec. 502.2935. KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS. (a) Requires TxDOT to issue specially designed Knights of Columbus license plates for passenger cars and light trucks.

(b) Requires the license plates to include the emblem of the Order of the Knights of Columbus and the words “Knights of Columbus.”

(c) Requires TxDOT to design the license plates in consultation with the Knights of Columbus.

(d) Requires TxDOT to issue license plates under this section to a person who meets certain criteria.

(e) Sets forth the required deposits and required uses of each fee collected under this section.

(f) Requires the owner, if the owner of a vehicle registered under this section disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, to return the special license plates to TxDOT.

SECTION 20. Amends Sections 502.2951(a), (b), (c), and (e), Transportation Code, as follows:

(a) Includes retired county judges of this state as eligible for certain special license plates.

(b) Deletes “to county judges.”

(c) Makes a conforming change.

(e) Deletes a reference to Subsection (f) as an exception.

SECTION 21. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.2952, as follows:

Sec. 502.2952. TEXAS CONSTABLE LICENSE PLATES. (a) Requires TxDOT to design and issue specially designed license plates for a passenger car or light truck owned by a person who is a constable or deputy constable of this state.

(b) Requires the license plates issued under this section to include the words “Texas Constable.”

(c) Requires TxDOT to issue license plates under this section to a person who meets certain criteria.

(d) Provides that the fee for registration under this section and issuance of the special license plates is the fee otherwise prescribed by this chapter for the vehicle.

(e) Provides that registration under this section is valid for one year and expires in

the same manner as do regular motor vehicle registrations, except as provided by Subsection (f).

(f) Provides that registration under this section expires when the owner of the vehicle for which the special plates were issued ceases to be a constable or deputy constable. Requires the owner to return the special license plate to TxDOT.

(g) Requires the owner, if the owner of a vehicle for which plates are issued under this section disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, to return the special license plates to TxDOT and provides that the person at that time may apply for issuance of those plates to another vehicle.

SECTION 22. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.2991, as follows:

Sec. 502.2991. TEXAS MUSIC. (a) Requires TxDOT to issue specially designed license plates for passenger cars and light trucks to support the activities of the Austin Music Foundation, other Texas-based nonprofit members of its Affiliates Program, and the Texas Music Office.

(b) Requires the license plates to include the words "Texas Music" and be of a color, design, appearance, and quality acceptable to and approved by the Austin Music Foundation in consultation with TxDOT.

(c) Requires TxDOT to issue license plates under this section to a person who meets certain criteria.

(d) Sets forth the required deposits and required uses of each fee collected under this section.

(e) Requires the owner, if the owner of a vehicle for which plates are issued under this section disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, to return the special license plates to TxDOT.

SECTION 23. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.300, as follows:

Sec. 502.300. SPACE SHUTTLE COLUMBIA LICENSE PLATES. (a) Requires TxDOT to issue specially designed "Space Shuttle Columbia" license plates for passenger cars and light trucks.

(b) Requires TxDOT to design the license plates in consultation with the Aviation and Space Foundation of Texas.

(c) Requires TxDOT to issue license plates under this section to a person who meets certain criteria.

(d) Sets forth the required deposits and required uses of each fee collected under this section.

(e) Authorizes the owner of a vehicle for which the license plates were issued under this section, if license plates issued under this section are lost, stolen, or mutilated, to obtain replacement plates from TxDOT by paying a \$5 replacement fee. Requires the owner, if the owner of a vehicle registered under this section disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, to return the special license plates to TxDOT.

SECTION 24. Amends Section 502.303(c), Transportation Code, to decrease from \$50 to \$25 the fee for an original issuance of license plates under this section. Provides that the fee for

renewal under this section is \$25. Deletes text referring to a \$40 renewal fee.

SECTION 25. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.305, as follows:

Sec. 502.305. "BE A BLOOD DONOR" LICENSE PLATES. (a) Requires TxDOT to issue specially designed "Be a Blood Donor" license plates for passenger cars and light trucks.

(b) Requires TxDOT to design the license plates in consultation with the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center in Houston.

(c) Requires TxDOT to issue license plates under this section to a person who meets certain criteria.

(d) Sets forth the required deposits and authorized and required uses of each fee collected under this section.

(e) Requires the owner, if the owner of a vehicle registered under this section disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, to return the special license plates to TxDOT.

SECTION 26. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.310, as follows:

Sec. 502.310. TEXAS COUNTY CHILD WELFARE BOARDS. (a) Requires TxDOT to issue specially designed Texas County Child Welfare Board license plates for passenger cars and light trucks.

(b) Requires TxDOT to design the license plates in consultation with the Texas Council of Child Welfare Boards, Incorporated.

(c) Requires TxDOT to issue license plates under this section to a person who meets certain criteria.

(d) Sets forth the required deposits and authorized and required uses of each fee collected under this section.

(e) Requires money deposited to the credit of the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services special account to be used only by that department to fund programs and services supporting abuse and neglected children pursuant to Section 264.004 (Allocation of State Funds), Family Code.

(f) Requires the owner, if the owner of a vehicle registered under this section disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, to return the special license plates to TxDOT.

SECTION 27. Amends Subchapter B, Chapter 7, Education Code, by adding Section 7.026, as follows:

Sec. 7.026. AUSTIN MUSIC FOUNDATION ACCOUNT. (a) Provides that the Austin Music Foundation account is established as a separate account in the general revenue fund. Provides that the account is composed of money deposited to the credit of the account under Section 502.2991, Transportation Code. Authorizes money in that account to be used only for the purposes of this section.

(b) Requires the Music, Film, Television, and Multimedia Office in the governor's office to administer the account. Authorizes the Texas Education Agency to spend money credited to the account only to make grants to benefit the

educational and community programs sponsored by the Austin Music Foundation and other Texas-based nonprofit members of its Affiliates Program. Requires a fee of \$5 per plate to be retained by the Music, Film, Television, and Multimedia Office for performance of administrative duties.

SECTION 28. Amends Chapter 162, Health and Safety Code, by adding Section 162.016 and 162.017, as follows:

Sec 162.016. BE A BLOOD DONOR ACCOUNT. (a) Provides that the be a blood donor account is a separate account in the general revenue fund composed of certain funding streams.

(b) Authorizes the Texas Department of Health, which administers the account, to spend money credited to the account only for certain expenditures.

(c) Authorizes the Texas Board of Health (board) to accept gifts, grants, and donations from any source for the benefit of the account. Requires the board to establish, by rule, guidelines for spending money credited to the account.

Sec. 162.017. BE A BLOOD DONOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE. (a) Requires the commissioner of public health (commissioner) to appoint a five-member Be a Blood Donor Advisory Committee composed of certain persons.

(b) Requires the commissioner to designate one member as presiding officer of the committee.

(c) Requires the committee to perform certain functions.

(d) Provides that members of the committee serve without compensation and are not entitled to reimbursement for expenses. Provide that members of the committee serve staggered four-year terms, with the terms of as near one-half as possible of the members expiring on January 31 of each even numbered year.

SECTION 29. Repealer: Sections 502.2951(f) (County Judges) and 502.303(d) (Waterfowl and Wetland Conservation License Plates), Transportation Code.

SECTION 30. Effective date: September 1, 2003.