

SUBJECT: Issuing specialty license plates for certain teachers and retired teachers

COMMITTEE: Transportation — committee substitute recommended

VOTE: 11 ayes — Canales, Landgraf, Bernal, Y. Davis, Goldman, Hefner,
Krause, Leman, Martinez, Thierry, E. Thompson

0 nays

2 absent — Ortega, Raney

WITNESSES: For — Luis A. Cortes, Disabled American Veterans KEL-LAC Chapter 114; Belinda Cortes; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Jeffrey Baldwin, Randie Baldwin, Michael Gonzales, Olvin Maisonet, and Sandra Maisonet, Disabled American Veterans Chapter 114, Helotes; Dwight Harris, Texas American Federation of Teachers; Lisa Dawn-Fisher, Texas State Teachers Association; and 18 individuals)

Against — None

On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Jeremiah Kuntz, Texas Department of Motor Vehicles)

DIGEST: CSHB 737 would require the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (TxDMV) to issue specialty license plates for certain classroom teachers and retired classroom teachers. The plates would be designed in consultation with the Texas Education Agency.

For classroom teachers with at least 15 years of service teaching public school students, TxDMV would be required to issue specialty license plates that included the words "Texas Teacher" and depicted a Texas public education logo. The issuance fee for these license plates would be \$10, and a person would be issued one set of plates without being required to pay a vehicle registration fee.

For retired classroom teachers with at least 20 years of service teaching

public school students, TxDMV would be required to issue specialty license plates that included the words "Retired Texas Teacher" and depicted a Texas public education logo. The issuance fee for the license plates for retired classroom teachers would be \$5, and a person would be issued one set of plates without being required to pay a vehicle registration fee.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2019.