

SUBJECT: Repealing statute issuing specialty license plates to honorary consuls

COMMITTEE: Transportation — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 10 ayes — Canales, Ashby, Davis, Gámez, Caroline Harris, Landgraf, Lozano, Lujan, Patterson, Romero

0 nays

3 absent — Raney, Ordaz, Perez

SENATE VOTE: On final passage (April 3) —31-0

WITNESSES: For — None

Against — None

On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Clint Thompson, TxDMV)

BACKGROUND: Transportation Code sec. 504.515 requires that authorized honorary consuls be issued a specialty license plate that bears the words "Honorary Consul."

Some have suggested that state authorities should no longer issue specialty license plates to honorary consuls due to instances of abuse and fraud.

DIGEST: SB 247 would repeal Transportation Code sec. 504.515 and make conforming changes to related statute.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2023.