

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
77R6661 JD-D

S.B. 1516  
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Business & Commerce  
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### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

Currently, state officials are required to replace vehicle license plates annually during their term of office. As proposed, S.B. 1516 requires the Texas Department of Transportation to issue elected officials multi-year license plates for their vehicles, with the plate expiration coinciding with the end of their term of office.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 502F, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.2521, as follows:

Sec. 502.2521. COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OF RENEWALS. (a) Requires renewals of registrations under this subchapter to be administered by the county assessor-collector of the county in which the vehicle is registered or in which the owner of the vehicle resides.

(b) Requires the Texas Department of Transportation (department) to take certain actions.

SECTION 2. Amends Sections 502.254(d) and (g), Transportation Code, to require an application for initial registration under this section to meet certain conditions. Provides that an application for renewal of a registration under this section is not required to be accompanied by evidence that the applicant continues to be eligible to register under this section. Deletes text regarding a certain fee for the first set of license plates. Makes a nonsubstantive change.

SECTION 3. Amends Section 502.2555, Transportation Code, by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (h), to provide that an application for renewal of a registration under this section is not required to be accompanied by the proof required by Subsection (c)(2) or (3). Deletes text regarding an annual fee of a certain amount.

SECTION 4. Amends Section 502.257(d), Transportation Code, to provide that an application for renewal of a registration under this section is not required to be accompanied by the proof of eligibility required under Subsection (c). Deletes text regarding a fee for issuance of license plates.

SECTION 5. Amends Section 502.259, Transportation Code, by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (g), to make conforming changes. Deletes text regarding payment of an annual fee.

SECTION 6. Amends Section 502.260, Transportation Code, by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (g), to make conforming changes.

SECTION 7. Amends Sections 502.296(e)-(g), Transportation Code, as follows:

(e) Requires the department, on payment of the prescribed fee, to issue to a state official a set of license plates or a device that, when attached to the vehicle as prescribed by the department, is the registration insignia for the period for which it was issued, except as provided by Subsections (g) and (h). Deletes text regarding registration period.

(f) Requires the department, on application and payment of the prescribed fee for a renewal of the registration of a vehicle under this section, to issue a registration insignia for the validation of the license plates to be attached as provided by Section 502.180(d).

(g) Provides that registration under this section expires when the owner of the vehicle for which the special plates were issued ceases to be a state official. Requires the state official to return the special license plates to the department.

SECTION 8. Amends Sections 502.2951(e)-(i), Transportation Code, as follows:

(e) Requires the department, on payment of the prescribed fee, to issue to a county judge a set of license plates or device that, when attached to the vehicle as prescribed by the department, is the registration insignia for the period for which it was issued, except as provided by Subsections (g) and (h). Deletes text regarding registration.

(f) Requires the department, on application and payment of the prescribed fee under this section, to issue a registration from insignia for the validation of the license plates to be attached as provided by Section 502.180(d).

(g) Creates subsection from text of existing Subsection (f).

(h) Redesignated from Subsection (g).

(i) Redesignated from (h).

(j) Redesignated from Subsection (i).

SECTION 9. Amends Sections 502.296(e) and (f), Transportation Code, as follows:

(e) Requires the department, on payment of the prescribed fee, to issue to a member of congress a set of license plates or device that, when attached to the vehicle as prescribed by the department, is the registration insignia for the period for which it was issued, except as provided by Subsections (g) and (h).

(f) Makes a conforming change.

(g) Provides that a registration under this section expires when the owner of the vehicle for which the special plates were issued ceases to be a member of congress. Requires the member of congress to return the special license plates to the department.

SECTION 10. Amends Sections 502.297(e)-(g), Transportation Code, to provide that a registration under this section issued to a federal judge is for a certain period.

(f) Requires the department, on payment of the prescribed fee, to issue to a state judge a set of license plates or a device that, when attached to the vehicle as prescribed by the department, is the registration insignia for the period for which it was issued, except as provided by Subsections (h) and (i).

(g) Requires the department, on application of the prescribed fee, to issue to a state judge a set of license plates or a device that, when attached to the vehicle as prescribed by the department,

is the registration insignia for the period for which it was issued, except as provided by Subsections (h) and (i).

(h) Provides that registration under this section expires when the owner of the vehicle for which the special plates were issued ceases to be a state or federal judge. Requires the judge to return the special license plates to the department.

SECTION 11. Effective date: September 1, 2001.

Makes application of this Act prospective.