



August 4, 2011

### Registration and Title Bulletin # 041-11 General Information

**TO: All County Tax Assessor-Collectors**

**SUBJECT: Specialty License Plates Added by the 82<sup>nd</sup> Legislative Session**

**PURPOSE**

To inform you of new specialty license plates resulting from the 82nd Legislative Session.

**DETAILS**

The Texas Legislature this year passed several bills to establish new specialty license plates, including a “Choose Life” specialty plate (SB 257) and several qualifying specialty plates. The chart below lists the specialty plates, the bill number and applicable fees:

<u>Specialty License Plates</u>	<u>Bill No.</u>	<u>1<sup>st</sup> set Plate Fee/Reg Fee</u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup> set Plate Fee/Reg Fee</u>
Bronze Star / Bronze Star with Valor	HB 559	\$0 + \$0	\$0 + Reg.
Distinguished Service Medal	SB 1755	\$0 + \$0	\$0 + Reg.
Surviving Spouse Disabled Veteran*	HB 3580	\$0 + Reg.	\$0 + Reg.
U.S. Paratrooper (name change only)	SB 461	\$0 + Reg.	\$0 + Reg.
Woman Veteran	HB 1178	\$0 + Reg.	\$0 + Reg.
Gold Star Father	SB 896	\$10 + Reg.	One Set Only
Choose Life	SB 257	\$30 + Reg.	\$30 + Reg.

\*The “Surviving Spouse Disabled Veteran” plate does not offer the same parking privileges as the “Disabled Veteran” (DV) plate.

Additionally, SB 1755 provides that active and former military personnel who are eligible for a DV license plate and also qualify for an applicable meritorious service medal will be given the option to include an emblem of the medal on their DV plate. (Example: Purple Heart Emblem will be allowed on a DV specialty plate if the DV was awarded the Purple Heart.)

The bills are effective September 1, 2011; however, a programming implementation date is not yet established. You will receive further notification about the availability of the new specialty license plates in the near future.

Please refer any requests for the Bronze Star, Bronze Star with Valor or the Distinguish Service Medal to the Special Plates Section at 512-374-5010, Option 3.

The “U.S. Paratrooper” plate will be available for order on September 1, 2011. The customer will receive the new plate, although in RTS the plate will display as “Airborne Parachutist” until programming can be accomplished.

**CONTACT**

Contact your local TxDMV Regional Service Center if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Randy Elliston, Director  
Vehicle Titles and Registration Division