



August 24, 2023

**Registration and Title Bulletin # 006-23**  
**Policy and Procedure**

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

**SUBJECT:** **House Bill (HB) 53 - Nonprofit Disaster Relief (Exempt)**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide guidance on authorized uses for a vehicle owned and operated by a nonprofit disaster relief organization as a result of HB 53, enacted by the 88th Legislature, Regular Session.

**DETAILS**

Effective September 1, 2023, HB 53 amends Transportation Code, §502.454, to exempt a vehicle owned by a nonprofit disaster relief organization from vehicle registration fees (except the \$5.00 plate fee) if the vehicle is used by the organization exclusively for emergencies, training, equipment maintenance, transportation of disaster relief supplies, or other activities related to disaster relief. Transportation Code, §502.454(b) and (f), specifies that the owner must certify that a vehicle is used exclusively for an authorized use, and if it is determined a vehicle is not used as described in Transportation Code §502.454(a), the organization may not register the vehicle under this section.

The *Application for Disaster Relief Vehicle License Plate* (Form VTR-76) has been revised to include the expanded authorized uses for a vehicle owned and operated by a nonprofit disaster relief organization.

No programming is required and the existing process for issuing Disaster Relief plates will be continued.

**COUNTY ACTION**

Accept the revised *Application for Disaster Relief Vehicle License Plate* (Form VTR-76) from Nonprofit Disaster Relief Organizations who certify on the form that the vehicle will be used for a qualifying purpose.

**CONTACT**

If you have any questions, please contact your local Texas Department of Motor Vehicles Regional Service Center.

Sincerely,

*A. Quintero*

Annette Quintero, Director  
Vehicle Titles and Registration Division  
Texas Department of Motor Vehicles