

## **CITY OF HOUSTON – CITY COUNCIL**

Meeting Date: 5/27/25 Item Creation Date: 4/8/25

Proposition A Council Member Item: Disabled Veteran Parking

**Summary:** ORDINANCE to allow free off-street parking to disabled veterans.

**Background:** Section 26-83 of the Houston Code of Ordinances, pursuant to section 681.008 of the Texas Transportation Code, permits disabled veterans are able to park for free at city parking facilities and garages.

**Specific Explanation:** This ordinance allows disabled veterans to park both at on-street and off-street facilities for free.

## Proposal:

Section 26-83 of the Houston Code of Ordinances shall be replaced with the following:

Pursuant to the provisions of section 681.008 of the Texas Transportation Code, as amended, the exemption from the payment of a parking meter fee for certain veterans and military award recipients shall also apply to payment of a parking fee or penalty imposed by the city for parking in a public parking garage or public parking lot. Any exemption shall not extend past the time limit applicable to the parking meter or parking garage or lot. This exemption from paying a parking fee or penalty shall extend to street parking and parking facilities owned by the city, and shall extend to vehicles and operators issued a state license plate for veterans with disabilities. Unless otherwise noted in this section or another applicable ordinance or statute, this exemption from paying a parking fee or penalty shall not exceed 12 hours or after 2 AM, whichever is earlier. This exemption from paying a parking fee or penalty shall not, however, extend to parking reservations and designated valet and short-term hourly parking in Houston Airport System parking lots and parking garages. At Houston Airport System parking lots and parking garages, the time limit is set at five consecutive 24-hour periods (days) in the parking garages, and 60 days in the ecopark lots. Parking past the time limit requires payment at the posted daily parking rates for each 24-hour period (day). At parking garages managed by the Houston First Corporation, the exemption does not extend to overnight parking, and parking overnight requires payment at the posted daily parking rate.

Council Member Mary Nan Huffman, District G