

1-1 By: Hancock S.B. No. 2543  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 13, 2025; April 3, 2025, read  
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Veteran Affairs;  
1-4 April 28, 2025, reported adversely, with favorable Committee  
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; April 28, 2025,  
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-8		Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-9	Hancock	X			
1-10	Parker	X			
1-11	Eckhardt	X			
1-12	Gutierrez	X			
1-13	Hagenbuch	X			
1-14	Hall	X			
1-15	Menéndez	X			

1-16 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 2543 By: Hancock

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the amount of certain revenue that may be used for and  
1-20 the location of state veterans cemeteries.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. Sections 164.005(f) and (h), Natural Resources  
1-23 Code, are amended to read as follows:

1-24 (f) The board, the chairman of the Texas Veterans  
1-25 Commission, and two representatives of the veterans community  
1-26 selected by the chairman of the Texas Veterans Commission shall:

1-27 (1) establish the guidelines for determining:

1-28 (A) the location and size of state veterans  
1-29 cemeteries that are funded by a grant from the United States  
1-30 Department of Veterans Affairs [veterans cemeteries]; and

1-31 (B) the eligibility for burial in a veterans  
1-32 cemetery; and

1-33 (2) select ~~[up to seven]~~ locations across the state  
1-34 for state veterans cemeteries that are funded by a grant from the  
1-35 United States Department of Veterans Affairs [veterans  
1-36 cemeteries].

1-37 (h) The board may use [Of the] funds available in the  
1-38 veterans' land fund, the veterans' housing assistance fund, and the  
1-39 veterans' housing assistance fund II that may be used for state  
1-40 veterans cemeteries that are funded by a grant from the United  
1-41 States Department of Veterans Affairs [veterans cemeteries, the  
1-42 board may spend not more than \$7 million each fiscal year] to plan  
1-43 and design, operate, maintain, enlarge, or improve state veterans  
1-44 cemeteries that are funded by a grant from the United States  
1-45 Department of Veterans Affairs [veterans cemeteries]. The board  
1-46 may not use funds from the veterans' land fund, the veterans'  
1-47 housing assistance fund, or the veterans' housing assistance fund  
1-48 II to acquire land to be used for a veterans cemetery.

1-49 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

1-50 \* \* \* \* \*