

**As Reported by the Senate Highways and Transportation  
Committee**

**127th General Assembly  
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**S. B. No. 25**

**Senator Carey**

**Cosponsors: Senators Gardner, Cafaro, Clancy, Goodman, Niehaus,  
Padgett, Boccieri, Miller, D., Faber, Schuler, Grendell, Schuring, Schaffer,  
Kearney, Amstutz, Austria**

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**A B I L L**

To enact section 4503.546 of the Revised Code to 1  
create "Gold Star Family" license plates. 2

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 4503.546 of the Revised Code be 3  
enacted to read as follows: 4

**Sec. 4503.546.** (A) Any member of the immediate family of a 5  
person who died in a combat zone while a member of any branch of 6  
the armed forces of the United States may apply to the registrar 7  
of motor vehicles for the registration of any passenger car, 8  
noncommercial motor vehicle, motor home, or other vehicle of a 9  
class approved by the registrar that the family member owns or 10  
leases and for issuance of "gold star family" license plates for 11  
that motor vehicle. The application for "gold star family" license 12  
plates may be combined with a request for a special reserved 13  
license plate under section 4503.40 or 4503.42 of the Revised 14  
Code. Upon receipt of the completed application and compliance 15  
with division (B) of this section, the registrar shall issue to 16  
the applicant the appropriate vehicle registration, a set of "gold 17

star family" license plates with a validation sticker, or a 18  
validation sticker alone when required by section 4503.191 of the 19  
Revised Code. 20

In addition to the letters and numbers ordinarily inscribed 21  
on the license plates, "gold star family" license plates shall be 22  
inscribed with a gold star and the words "gold star family." "Gold 23  
star family" license plates shall bear county identification 24  
stickers that identify the county of registration by name or 25  
number. 26

(B) "Gold star family" license plates and a validation 27  
sticker or, when applicable, a validation sticker alone shall be 28  
issued upon submission by the applicant of an application for 29  
registration of a motor vehicle under this section, payment of the 30  
regular license tax as prescribed under section 4503.04 of the 31  
Revised Code, any applicable motor vehicle tax levied under 32  
Chapter 4504. of the Revised Code, any applicable additional fee 33  
prescribed by section 4503.40 or 4503.42 of the Revised Code, and 34  
an additional fee of ten dollars, and compliance with all other 35  
applicable laws relating to the registration of motor vehicles. 36

(C) The additional fee of ten dollars described in division 37  
(B) of this section shall be for the purpose of compensating the 38  
bureau of motor vehicles for additional services required in 39  
issuing license plates under this section. The registrar shall 40  
transmit that fee to the treasurer of state for deposit into the 41  
state treasury to the credit of the bureau of motor vehicles fund 42  
created by section 4501.25 of the Revised Code. 43

(D) No person who is not a member of the immediate family of 44  
a person who died in a combat zone while a member of any branch of 45  
the armed forces of the United States shall willfully and falsely 46  
represent that the person is such a family member for the purpose 47  
of obtaining license plates under this section. 48

<u>(E) As used in this section, "member of the immediate family"</u>	49
<u>of a person who died in a combat zone while a member of any branch</u>	50
<u>of the armed forces of the United States means all of the</u>	51
<u>following:</u>	52
<u>(1) A spouse;</u>	53
<u>(2) A parent, stepparent, or other person who acted in loco</u>	54
<u>parentis;</u>	55
<u>(3) A sibling, whether of the whole or half-blood, or by</u>	56
<u>adoption;</u>	57
<u>(4) A child, including those by adoption, or a stepchild.</u>	58