

**As Introduced**

**129th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2011-2012**

**H. B. No. 354**

**Representative Uecker**

**Cosponsors: Representatives O'Brien, Lundy, Letson, Grossman, Gonzales,  
Brenner, Derickson, Reece, Blair, Combs**

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**A B I L L**

To amend section 4503.546 of the Revised Code to 1  
redefine eligibility for issuance of a "Gold Star 2  
Family" license plate. 3

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

**Section 1.** That section 4503.546 of the Revised Code be 4  
amended to read as follows: 5

**Sec. 4503.546.** (A) Any member of the immediate family of a 6  
person who died ~~in a combat zone~~ while serving as a member of any 7  
branch of the armed forces of the United States or a reserve 8  
component of the armed forces of the United States or the Ohio 9  
national guard, or who died as a direct result of such service 10  
after an honorable discharge, may apply to the registrar of motor 11  
vehicles for the registration of any passenger car, noncommercial 12  
motor vehicle, motor home, or other vehicle of a class approved by 13  
the registrar that the family member owns or leases and for 14  
issuance of "gold star family" license plates for that motor 15  
vehicle. The application for "gold star family" license plates may 16  
be combined with a request for a special reserved license plate 17  
under section 4503.40 or 4503.42 of the Revised Code. Upon receipt 18

of the completed application and compliance with division (B) of 19  
this section, the registrar shall issue to the applicant the 20  
appropriate vehicle registration, a set of "gold star family" 21  
license plates with a validation sticker, or a validation sticker 22  
alone when required by section 4503.191 of the Revised Code. 23

In addition to the letters and numbers ordinarily inscribed 24  
on the license plates, "gold star family" license plates shall be 25  
inscribed with a gold star and the words "gold star family." "Gold 26  
star family" license plates shall bear county identification 27  
stickers that identify the county of registration by name or 28  
number. 29

(B) "Gold star family" license plates and a validation 30  
sticker or, when applicable, a validation sticker alone shall be 31  
issued upon submission by the applicant of an application for 32  
registration of a motor vehicle under this section, payment of the 33  
regular license tax as prescribed under section 4503.04 of the 34  
Revised Code, any applicable motor vehicle tax levied under 35  
Chapter 4504. of the Revised Code, and any applicable additional 36  
fee prescribed by section 4503.40 or 4503.42 of the Revised Code, 37  
and compliance with all other applicable laws relating to the 38  
registration of motor vehicles. 39

(C) No person who is not a member of the immediate family of 40  
a person who died ~~in a combat zone~~ while serving as a member of 41  
any branch of the armed forces of the United States or a reserve 42  
component of the armed forces of the United States or the Ohio 43  
national guard, or who died as a direct result of such service 44  
after an honorable discharge, shall willfully and falsely 45  
represent that the person is such a family member for the purpose 46  
of obtaining license plates under this section. 47

(D) As used in this section, "member of the immediate family" 48  
of a person who died ~~in a combat zone~~ while serving as a member of 49  
any branch of the armed forces of the United States or a reserve 50

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| <u>component of the armed forces of the United States or the Ohio</u>                       | 51       |
| <u>national guard, or who died as a direct result of such service</u>                       | 52       |
| <u>after an honorable discharge,</u> means all of the following:                            | 53       |
| (1) A spouse;   | 54       |
| (2) A parent, stepparent, or other person who acted in loco<br>parentis;                    | 55<br>56 |
| (3) A sibling, whether of the whole or half-blood, or by<br>adoption;                       | 57<br>58 |
| (4) A child, including those by adoption, or a stepchild;                                   | 59       |
| (5) A grandparent.  | 60       |
| <b>Section 2.</b> That existing section 4503.546 of the Revised Code<br>is hereby repealed. | 61<br>62 |