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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES -  
GOLD STAR FAMILY PLATE

Introduced By: Senators Kettle, Ottiano, Cote, Bates, and E O'Neill

Date Introduced: January 16, 2013

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 31-3 of the General Laws entitled "Registration of Vehicles" is  
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **31-3-94. Special plate for gold star families.** – (a) The administrator of the division of  
4 motor vehicles is empowered to make available a special motor vehicle registration plate for gold  
5 star family members. For the purpose of this section, "Gold star family members" are defined as a  
6 biological parent, stepparent, adoptive parent, spouse, sibling or child of a member of the United  
7 States armed services who lost his or her life while on active duty.

8 (b) A gold star family, plate may be issued for any motor vehicle eligible for registration  
9 as an automobile, or for any motorcycle eligible for registration as a motorcycle, or for a  
10 commercial vehicle having a gross weight of ten thousand one pounds (10,001lbs.) or less.

11 (c) In addition to the registration number and other markings or identification otherwise  
12 prescribed by law, the gold star family license plate shall display a gold star and the words "gold  
13 star family". The design shall be reviewed and approved by the state police.

14 (d) The applicant shall be required to pay a service charge of twenty dollars (\$20.00) and  
15 a transfer charge of five dollars (\$5.00) for each plate.

16 (e) The applicant shall be entitled to a plate for each vehicle owned by the applicant  
17 upon payment of an additional service charge and/or transfer charge for each vehicle.

18 (f) The gold star family plate shall be used in place of, and in the same manner as the

1 registration plates issued to the vehicle. The original registration plates for the vehicle shall be  
2 removed from the vehicle and the registration certificate for the plates shall be carried in the  
3 vehicle in accordance with section 31-3-9. The registration certificate shall be in effect for the  
4 special plate.

5 (g) The administrator of the division of motor vehicles shall develop application forms,  
6 pre-payment procedures and any other procedures deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of  
7 this section. In order to be deemed complete, an application shall be accompanied by proof  
8 satisfactory to the administrator that the applicant is a family member of the United States armed  
9 services member who died while on active duty. Satisfactory proof may include any or all of the  
10 following:

11 (1) A certification from the Rhode Island department of American Gold Star Mothers  
12 Inc., or any other organization formed for the support of parents of members of the armed  
13 services who lost their lives while on active duty for the United States, that the applicant is either  
14 the spouse, parent, brother, sister or child of a member of the United States armed services who  
15 died while on active duty;

16 (2) Documentation deemed acceptable by the administrator, including, but not limited to,  
17 a federal DD form 1300, report of casualty, which identifies the member of the armed services  
18 who died while on active duty for the United States; and

19 (3) Documentation indicating the applicant's relationship to the service member.

20 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES -  
GOLD STAR FAMILY PLATE

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- 1           This act would provide for the issuance of a gold star family license plate for family
- 2 members of servicemen and servicewomen who died while on active duty.
- 3           This at would take effect upon passage.

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