STATE OF NEW YORK

1512

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 10, 2025

Introduced by Sens. ASHBY, GRIFFO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to providing distinctive license plates for gold star family members and eliminating the registration fee for gold star mother and gold star family member distinctive license plates

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 404-i of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by chapter 277 of the laws of 1991 and renumbered by chapter 108 of the laws of 1994, subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 732 of the laws of 2004 and subdivision 3 as amended by chapter 486 of the laws of 1996, is amended to read as follows:

§ 404-i. Distinctive plates for gold star mothers **and gold star families**. 1. Any gold star mother or the spouse of a gold star mother **or any gold star parent or the spouse of a gold star parent, or the surviving spouse of a fallen service member, or any child, step-child, sibling, step-sibling, or grandparent of a fallen service member** residing in this state shall, upon request, be issued a license plate bearing the words "gold star mother" **or "gold star family", respectively**. If a distinctive plate is issued to a gold star mother **or gold star family member** pursuant to this section, additional distinctive plates may be issued for every vehicle registered in the name of the gold star mother recipient residing in this state or the spouse of such gold star mother**, or the gold star family member**. Application for said license plate shall be filed with the commissioner in such form and detail as the commissioner shall prescribe.

2. The distinctive plate authorized herein shall be issued upon proof, satisfactory to the commissioner, that the applicant or the spouse of the applicant is a gold star mother **or the applicant is any gold star parent or the spouse of a gold star parent, or the surviving spouse of a**

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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fallen service member, or any child, step-child, sibling, step-sibling, or grandparent of a fallen service member.

3. A distinctive plate issued pursuant to this section shall be issued in the same manner as other number plates [~~**upon payment of the regular registration fee prescribed by section four hundred one of this article**~~], provided, however, that no **registration fee or** service charge shall be charged for such plate.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such date.