

STATE OF NEW YORK

7720

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 1, 2025

Introduced by Sens. GALLIVAN, BORRELLLO -- 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 authorizing the issuance of "Blue Star Mother" and "Blue Star Family" distinctive license plates; and to amend the state finance law, in relation to establishing the "blue star mothers and families support fund"

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

1 Section 1. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new
2 section 404-ff to read as follows:

3 § 404-ff. Distinctive "Blue Star Mother" and "Blue Star Family"
4 license plates. 1. Any person residing in this state whose child,
5 spouse, parent, sibling, or grandchild is actively serving in the armed
6 forces of the United States shall, upon request, be issued a distinctive
7 license plate bearing the words "Blue Star Mother" or "Blue Star Fam-
8 ily", respectively. Application for said license plate shall be filed
9 with the form and detail as the commissioner shall prescribe.

10 2. The distinctive plates authorized pursuant to this section shall be
11 issued upon proof, satisfactory to the commissioner, that the applicant
12 is the parent of an active duty service member, or the spouse, child,
13 sibling, or grandparent of an active duty service member, in the same
14 manner as other number plates upon the payment of the regular registra-
15 tion fee prescribed by section four hundred one of this article,
16 provided, however, that an additional annual service charge of twenty-
17 five dollars shall be charged for such plate.

18 3. Each twenty-five dollars received as the annual service charge
19 under this section shall be deposited to the credit of the "blue star
20 mothers and families support fund" established pursuant to section nine-
21 ty-five-1 of the state finance law and shall be used for blue star moth-
22 ers and blue star families organizations as determined by the New York

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

LBD06256-01-5

1 state division of veterans' affairs' division of veterans' services
2 pursuant to subdivision three of section ninety-five-1 of the state
3 finance law.

4 § 2. The state finance law is amended by adding a new section 95-1 to
5 read as follows:

6 § 95-1. "Blue star mothers and families support fund". 1. There is
7 hereby established in the joint custody of the commissioner of taxation
8 and finance and the comptroller, a special fund to be known as the blue
9 star mothers and families support fund.

10 2. Such fund shall consist of all revenues received pursuant to
11 section four hundred four-ff of the vehicle and traffic law, and all
12 other moneys appropriated, credited or transferred thereto from any
13 other fund or source pursuant to law. Nothing contained in this section
14 shall prevent the state from receiving grants, gifts, or bequests for
15 the purposes of the fund, as defined in this section, and depositing
16 them into the fund according to law.

17 3. Monies of the fund shall be expended only by the New York state
18 division of veterans' affairs' division of veterans' services. These
19 funds shall be used for programs and organizations that support parents
20 and family members of active duty members of the armed forces of the
21 United States.

22 § 3. 1. A distinctive plate established pursuant to section 404-ff of
23 the vehicle and traffic law, as added by section one of this act, shall
24 only be designed, produced and issued upon the delivery to the depart-
25 ment of motor vehicles of a surety bond in the amount of \$6,000, which
26 shall be executed by a surety company authorized by the department of
27 financial services to transact business in this state. Provided, howev-
28 er, that if the commissioner of motor vehicles shall have received prior
29 to the plate design, production and issuance at least 200 orders for
30 such distinctive plate together with the additional annual service
31 charge applicable to each such order, which shall be non-refundable, no
32 such surety bond shall be required. All such service charges shall be
33 deposited pursuant to the provisions of section 404-oo of the vehicle
34 and traffic law to the credit of the department of motor vehicles
35 distinctive plate development fund established by section 95-1 of the
36 state finance law and shall be used for the design, production, adver-
37 tising and distribution of distinctive license plates in accordance with
38 such section 95-1.

39 2. If, upon the expiration of two years following the date upon which
40 distinctive plates in the series are first available for sale, 200 or
41 more sets of such plates are sold, a bond delivered pursuant to this
42 section shall be discontinued. If fewer than 200 sets of such plates are
43 sold by such time, the department of motor vehicles shall be entitled to
44 recover against the bond an amount proportionate to such shortfall.

45 § 4. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after
46 it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amend-
47 ment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implemen-
48 tation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and
49 completed on or before such effective date.