

**A-Engrossed**  
**House Bill 2658**

Ordered by the House March 16  
Including House Amendments dated March 16

Sponsored by Representative OLSON; Representative KRIEGER (Pre-session filed.)

**SUMMARY**

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Permits Department of Transportation to issue veterans' recognition registration plate to Gold Star Family member who is sibling of person who was killed in action in armed conflict while serving in Armed Forces of United States.

**Declares emergency, effective October 1, 2015.**

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

1  
2 Relating to Gold Star Family members; amending ORS 805.105; and declaring an emergency.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 805.105 is amended to read:

5 805.105. (1) The Department of Transportation shall establish a veterans' recognition registra-  
6 tion plate program to issue registration plates called "veterans' recognition registration plates"  
7 upon request to an owner of any motor vehicle registered under ORS 803.420 (1) or (9)(a) if the  
8 owner of the motor vehicle qualifies for the plates. Rules adopted under this section shall include,  
9 but need not be limited to, rules that:

10 (a) Describe general qualifications to be met by any veterans' group in order to be eligible for  
11 a veterans' recognition registration plate issued under this section.

12 (b) Specify circumstances under which the department may cease to issue veterans' recognition  
13 registration plates.

14 (c) Specify what constitutes proof of veteran status for issuance of a veterans' recognition reg-  
15 istration plate, if such proof is required by a veterans' group or by the Director of Veterans' Affairs.

16 (d) Specify what constitutes proof that a person is a surviving family member of a person who  
17 was killed in action during an armed conflict while serving in the Armed Forces of the United  
18 States. The department may only issue a veteran's recognition registration plate displaying a gold  
19 star decal and the words "Gold Star Family" to a person who is a parent, **sibling**, spouse or de-  
20 pendent of a person who was killed in action during an armed conflict while serving in the Armed  
21 Forces of the United States.

22 (2)(a) In addition to any other fee authorized by law, upon issuance of a veterans' recognition  
23 registration plate under this section and upon renewal of registration for a vehicle that has plates  
24 issued under this section, the department shall collect a surcharge of \$2.50 per plate for each year  
25 of the registration period for the vehicle as described under ORS 803.415.

26 (b) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c) of this subsection, net proceeds of the sur-  
27 charge collected by the department for the veterans' recognition registration plate shall be deposited

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 in the trust fund established under ORS 406.050 for paying the expenses of operating the Oregon  
2 Veterans' Home.

3 (c) If the department issues a veterans' recognition registration plate that names, describes or  
4 represents a veterans' group, that veterans' group may designate an account into which the net  
5 proceeds of the surcharge collected by the department under this section are to be deposited. The  
6 department shall keep accurate records of the number of plates issued under this paragraph for each  
7 veterans' group and, after payment of administrative expenses of the department, shall deposit  
8 moneys collected under this subsection into the specified account.

9 (d) Deposits under this subsection shall be made quarterly.

10 (3)(a) In consultation with the Department of Transportation, the Director of Veterans' Affairs  
11 shall design the veterans' recognition registration plate.

12 (b) If the department issues a veterans' recognition registration plate to recognize a veterans'  
13 group, the department shall, in consultation with the requesting veterans' group, add words or a  
14 military-related decal to the veterans' recognition registration plate that names, describes or re-  
15 presents the veterans' group.

16 (c) The department shall add a gold star decal and the words "Gold Star Family" to a veterans'  
17 recognition registration plate background to recognize surviving family members of persons killed  
18 in action during an armed conflict while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

19 (d) Except as otherwise required by the design, veterans' recognition registration plates must  
20 comply with the requirements of ORS 803.535.

21 (4) The department shall determine how many sets of veterans' recognition registration plates  
22 will be manufactured. If the department does not sell or issue renewal for 500 sets of veterans' re-  
23 cognition registration plates in any one year, the department shall cease production of veterans'  
24 recognition registration plates. For the purposes of this section, veterans' recognition registration  
25 plates that name, describe or represent a veterans' group are included in the total number of  
26 veterans' recognition registration plates issued.

27 **(5) For the purposes of this section, "sibling" includes siblings of the whole or half blood**  
28 **and siblings by adoption, marriage or domestic partnership.**

29 **SECTION 2. This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**  
30 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect**  
31 **October 1, 2015.**

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