
SENATE BILL 5634

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senators Conway, Rolfes, O'Ban, Hobbs, Dammeier, McCoy, Hatfield, and Chase

Read first time 01/27/15. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to exempting a widow or widower with gold star
2 license plates from vehicle licensing fees for one motor vehicle; and
3 amending RCW 46.18.245.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.18.245 and 2013 c 137 s 1 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) A registered owner who is an eligible family member of a
8 member of the United States armed forces who died while in service to
9 his or her country, or as a result of his or her service, may apply
10 to the department for special gold star license plates for use on a
11 motor vehicle. The registered owner must:

12 (a) Be a resident of this state;

13 (b) Provide proof to the satisfaction of the department that the
14 registered owner is an eligible family member, which includes:

15 (i) A widow;

16 (ii) A widower;

17 (iii) A biological parent;

18 (iv) An adoptive parent;

19 (v) A stepparent;

20 (vi) An adult in loco parentis or foster parent;

21 (vii) A biological child; or

1 (viii) An adopted child;

2 (c) Provide certification from the Washington state department of
3 veterans affairs that the registered owner qualifies for the special
4 license plate under this section;

5 (d) Be recorded as the registered owner of the motor vehicle on
6 which the gold star license plates will be displayed; and

7 (e) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, pay all
8 fees and taxes required by law for registering the motor vehicle.

9 (2) In addition to the license plate fee exemption in subsection
10 (3)(b) of this section, the widow or widower recipient of a gold star
11 license plate under this section is also exempt from annual vehicle
12 registration fees and motor vehicle excise taxes for one personal use
13 motor vehicle.

14 (3) Gold star license plates must be issued:

15 (a) Only for motor vehicles owned by qualifying applicants; and

16 (b) Without payment of any license plate fee.

17 (~~(3)~~) (4) Gold star license plates must be replaced, free of
18 charge, if the license plates become lost, stolen, damaged, defaced,
19 or destroyed.

20 (~~(4)~~) (5) Gold star license plates may be transferred from one
21 motor vehicle to another motor vehicle owned by the eligible family
22 member, as described in subsection (1) of this section, upon
23 application to the department, county auditor or other agent, or
24 subagent appointed by the director.

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