

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SB 5161

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### C 137 L 13

Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Authorizing certain eligible family members of United States armed forces members who died while in service or as a result of service to apply for gold star license plates.

**Sponsors:** Senators Braun, Carrell, Padden, Bailey, Becker, Fain, Roach, Sheldon, Dammeier, Honeyford, Schoesler, Conway, Rolfes and Kohl-Welles.

**Senate Committee on Transportation**  
**House Committee on Transportation**

**Background:** The Department of Licensing issues various special vehicle license plates that may be used in lieu of standard plates. Generally, special license plates that are sponsored by a governmental or nonprofit organization have an additional fee that is due annually, with the proceeds benefiting a specific organization or purpose. Other special license plates are available to individuals that meet certain requirements. One such special plate is the Gold Star license plate, which may be issued to the mother or father of a member of the armed forces who died while in service and as a result of that service. Gold Star license plates are issued without payment of any license plate fees and are replaced free of charge if the plate is lost, stolen, damaged, defaced, or destroyed.

**Summary:** The list of individuals who are eligible to receive a Gold Star license plate is expanded to include a widow or widower, a biological or adopted child, an adoptive parent, a stepparent, and a foster parent or other adult that is legally responsible for the member of the armed forces.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

Senate	47	0	
House	94	0	(House amended)
Senate	47	0	(Senate concurred)

**Effective:** August 1, 2013.

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*