
Transportation Committee

HB 1320

Brief Description: Concerning certain gold star license plate qualified applicants and recipients.

Sponsors: Representatives Reeves, McDonald, Dolan, Stambaugh, Kilduff, Ryu, Klippert, Tarleton, Appleton, Sawyer, Jinkins, Bergquist, Pellicciotti, McBride and Riccelli.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Provides gold star widows or widowers who have the Gold Star license plate the opportunity to apply for a standard issue license plate and continue to be exempt from license plate and annual vehicle registration fees.

Hearing Date: 2/16/17

Staff: Patricia Hasan (786-7292).

Background:

The Department of Licensing (DOL) issues 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 sibling, mother, father, 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 a member of the Armed Forces who died while in service or 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. Additionally, a widow or widower recipient of the Gold Star license plate is exempt from annual vehicle registration fees. This qualifying special license plate is limited to one personal use motor vehicle per individual.

Summary of Bill:

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.

The widow or widower of a member of the Armed Forces who died while in service or as a result of that service is able to also apply for a standard issue license plate for one personal use motor vehicle and be exempt from both annual vehicle registration and license plate fees for that vehicle. Additionally, the qualifying widow or widower may apply for a standard issue license plate in lieu of the Gold Star license plate for one personal use motor vehicle and be exempt from both annual vehicle registration and license plate fees for that vehicle.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.