

**SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 118**

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled  
"Michigan vehicle code,"  
by amending section 803e (MCL 257.803e), as amended by 2011 PA 46.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1           Sec. 803e. (1) A person who has been a prisoner of war or a  
2 person whose spouse has been a prisoner of war may ~~make application~~  
3 **apply** to the secretary of state for a special registration plate  
4 ~~that shall be inscribed~~ with special identification numbers  
5 preceded by the letters "EX-POW" and ~~shall have the words "ex-~~  
6 ~~prisoner of war" inscribed~~ beneath the registration number.

7           (2) A person who was a member of the armed services during  
8 World War I may ~~make application~~ **apply** to the secretary of state  
9 for a special registration plate ~~, that shall be inscribed~~ with



1 special identification numbers preceded by the letters "WWI" and  
 2 ~~shall have~~ the words "World War I veteran" ~~inscribed~~ beneath the  
 3 registration number.

4 (3) A person who was a member of the armed services during  
 5 1941, stationed at a United States military or naval establishment  
 6 at Pearl Harbor in the Hawaiian islands, and who survived the  
 7 attack by Japan on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 may ~~make~~  
 8 ~~application~~ **apply** to the secretary of state for a special  
 9 registration plate, ~~that shall be~~ inscribed with special  
 10 identification numbers and ~~shall have~~ the words "Pearl Harbor  
 11 survivor" ~~inscribed~~ beneath the registration number.

12 (4) A person who is a recipient of the ~~purple heart medal~~  
 13 **Purple Heart Medal** may ~~make application~~ **apply** to the secretary of  
 14 state for a special registration plate ~~that shall be~~ inscribed with  
 15 special identification numbers and ~~shall have~~ the words "combat  
 16 wounded veteran" ~~inscribed~~ beneath the registration number. In  
 17 addition, the special registration plate described ~~under~~ **in** this  
 18 subsection ~~shall~~ **must** be inscribed with a vignette of the official  
 19 ~~purple heart medal~~. **Purple Heart Medal.**

20 (5) Application for a special registration plate ~~shall~~ **must** be  
 21 on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, ~~and shall~~ **must** be  
 22 accompanied by any proof of the applicant having been a prisoner of  
 23 war, World War I veteran, Pearl Harbor survivor, **or** recipient of  
 24 the ~~purple heart medal~~ **Purple Heart Medal** that the secretary of  
 25 state may require. Application for a "Gold Star Family" special  
 26 registration plate described in subsection (9) ~~shall~~ **or a "Blue**  
 27 **Star Family" special registration plate described in subsection**  
 28 **(10) must** be on a form prescribed by the secretary of state and  
 29 ~~shall~~ **must** be accompanied by any proof of the applicant having been



1 a gold star **or blue star** family member that the secretary of state  
 2 may require. The application for a special registration plate ~~shall~~  
 3 **must** also be accompanied with payment of a \$5.00 service fee.

4 (6) Upon proper application and payment of the \$5.00 service  
 5 fee, the secretary of state shall issue 1 or more special  
 6 registration plates for each applicant for use on a passenger  
 7 vehicle. A person who is disabled who makes application for a  
 8 special registration plate under this section and who makes payment  
 9 of the \$5.00 service fee ~~shall~~**must** be issued a tab for persons  
 10 with disabilities as provided in section 803f for his or her  
 11 special registration plate. The secretary of state shall require  
 12 the same proof that the applicant is a disabled person as is  
 13 required for issuance of a permanent windshield placard under  
 14 section 675. One person in any household is entitled to 1 special  
 15 registration plate issued under subsection (1) that is exempt from  
 16 payment of the tax provided in section 801. The person who is  
 17 issued an additional special registration plate under subsection  
 18 (1) shall be assessed the applicable tax provided for in section  
 19 801. A person issued 1 or more special registration plates under  
 20 subsection (2), (3), (4), ~~or~~(9), ~~shall~~**or (10) must** be assessed  
 21 the applicable tax provided in section 801.

22 (7) The use of a special registration plate on a vehicle other  
 23 than the vehicle for which the plate is issued, or by a person who  
 24 does not qualify under this section, is a misdemeanor.

25 (8) The special registration plate issued under this section  
 26 expires on the birthday of the vehicle owner in a year in which new  
 27 plates are issued by the secretary of state. Application for  
 28 renewal of the special registration plate shall be accompanied by a  
 29 \$5.00 service fee. The applicant is not required to furnish the



1 proof provided in subsection (5).

2 (9) A gold star family member may ~~make application~~ **apply** to  
 3 the secretary of state for a special registration plate ~~that shall~~  
 4 ~~be~~-inscribed with special identification numbers preceded by a gold  
 5 star and ~~shall have~~ the words "Gold Star Family" ~~inscribed~~ beneath  
 6 the registration number.

7 (10) **A member of a blue star family may apply to the secretary**  
 8 **of state for a special registration plate inscribed with special**  
 9 **identification numbers preceded by a Blue Star Families insignia**  
 10 **and the words "Blue Star Family" beneath the registration number.**

11 (11) ~~(10)~~ As used in this section: ~~,"gold star family member"~~

12 (a) **"Blue star family member" means a person who is currently**  
 13 **serving in the United States Armed Forces or in forces incorporated**  
 14 **as part of the United States Armed Forces or a person who has an**  
 15 **immediate family member serving in the United States Armed Forces**  
 16 **or in forces incorporated as part of the United States Armed**  
 17 **Forces. As used in this subdivision, "immediate family member"**  
 18 **means a parent, stepparent, adoptive parent, foster parent standing**  
 19 **in loco parentis, child, stepchild, adopted child, sibling, half-**  
 20 **sibling, spouse, or grandparent.**

21 (b) **"Gold star family member" means a person who has had an**  
 22 **immediate family member die while serving in the United States**  
 23 ~~armed forces~~ **Armed Forces** or in forces incorporated as part of the  
 24 United States ~~armed forces~~ **Armed Forces** if the immediate family  
 25 member meets any of the eligibility criteria specified in 10 USC  
 26 1126(a) (1) to (3) for a gold star lapel button.

27 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect October  
 28 1, 2019.

