

Legislative Analysis



BLUE STAR FAMILY LICENSE PLATE

Phone: (517) 373-8080

<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

Senate Bill 118 (S-1) as passed by the Senate

Sponsor: Sen. Kevin Daley

House Committee: Military, Veterans and Homeland Security

Senate Committee: Families, Seniors, and Veterans

Complete to 11-5-19

Analysis available at

<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 118 would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to create a “Blue Star Family” special registration plate and allow a member of a Blue Star Family to apply to the Secretary of State to be issued one. The plate would be inscribed with special identification numbers preceded by a Blue Star Families insignia and would have the words “Blue Star Family” inscribed beneath the registration number.

An application for a Blue Star Family special registration plate would be on a form prescribed by the Secretary of State and would have to be accompanied by any proof required by the Secretary of State that the applicant was a ***Blue Star Family member***. The applicant would also have to pay a \$5 service fee in addition to the applicable vehicle registration tax.

Blue Star Family member would mean a person who is currently serving, or who has an ***immediate family member*** serving, in the United States Armed Forces or in forces incorporated as part of the United States Armed Forces. [Note: In the subsection describing the new plate, the bill refers to a “member of a Blue Star Family” rather than using this defined term.]

Immediate family member would mean a parent, stepparent, adoptive parent, foster parent standing in loco parentis, child, stepchild, adopted child, sibling, half-sibling, spouse, or grandparent.

[Note: The bill contains an effective date of October 1, 2019.]

MCL 257.803e

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would create a marginal one-time cost for the Department of State (DOS) and have no fiscal impact on local units of government. DOS would incur the cost of approximately \$45,000 related to the production of a new special registration plate. The costs of producing a new specialty plate are primarily due to the cost of computer programming. This cost could be supported with current ongoing appropriations.

Legislative Analyst: E. Best

Fiscal Analyst: Michael Cnossen

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