

As Reported by the House Homeland Security Committee

135th General Assembly

Regular Session

2023-2024

H. B. No. 423

Representative Miller, J.

Cosponsors: Representatives Forhan, McNally, Brennan, Weinstein, Isaacsohn, Miller, A., Liston, Somani, Grim, Brown, Upchurch, Dell'Aquila, Rogers, Sweeney, Brewer, Sims, Piccolantonio, Thomas, C.

A BILL

To enact section 4503.547 of the Revised Code to 1
create the "Blue Star Banner" license plate. 2

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 4503.547 of the Revised Code be 3
enacted to read as follows: 4

Sec. 4503.547. (A) As used in this section, "member of the 5
immediate family" of a person who is a member of any branch of 6
the armed forces of the United States that is serving on active 7
duty means all of the following: 8

(1) A spouse; 9

(2) A parent, stepparent, or other person who acted in 10
loco parentis; 11

(3) A sibling, whether of the whole or half-blood, or by 12
adoption; 13

(4) A child, including those by adoption, or a stepchild; 14

(5) A grandparent. 15

(B) Any member of the immediate family of a person 16
currently serving on active duty of any branch of the armed 17
forces of the United States, including those on active duty in 18
the reserves or national guard, may apply to the registrar of 19
motor vehicles for registration of any passenger car, 20
noncommercial motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, or other 21
vehicle of a class approved by the registrar that the family 22
member owns or leases and for issuance of "Blue Star Banner" 23
license plates for that motor vehicle. The application may be 24
combined with a request for a special reserved license plate 25
under section 4503.40 or 4503.42 of the Revised Code. Upon 26
receipt of the completed application and compliance by the 27
applicant with divisions (C) and (D) of this section, the 28
registrar shall issue to the applicant the appropriate vehicle 29
registration and a set of "Blue Star Banner" license plates and 30
a validation sticker, or a validation sticker alone when 31
required by section 4503.191 of the Revised Code. 32

In addition to the letters and numbers ordinarily 33
inscribed on the license plates, "Blue Star Banner" license 34
plates shall display an appropriate logo and words that are 35
selected by representatives of the department of veterans 36
services and approved by the registrar. "Blue Star Banner" 37
license plates shall display county identification stickers that 38
identify the county of registration as required under section 39
4503.19 of the Revised Code. 40

(C) "Blue Star Banner" license plates and a validation 41
sticker, or validation sticker alone, shall be issued upon 42
receipt of an application for registration of a motor vehicle 43
under this section; supporting documentation certifying that the 44
applicant's family member who is on active duty is currently 45
serving on active duty as may be required by the registrar; 46

payment of the regular license tax as prescribed under section 47
4503.04 of the Revised Code, any applicable motor vehicle 48
license tax levied under Chapter 4504. of the Revised Code, any 49
applicable additional fee prescribed by section 4503.40 or 50
4503.42 of the Revised Code, an additional administrative fee of 51
ten dollars; and compliance with all other applicable laws 52
relating to the registration of motor vehicles. 53

(D) The registrar shall deposit the administrative fee of 54
ten dollars, the purpose of which is to compensate the bureau of 55
motor vehicles for additional services required in the issuing 56
of "Blue Star Banner" license plates, into the state treasury to 57
the credit of the public safety - highway purposes fund created 58
in section 4501.06 of the Revised Code. 59

(E) No person who is not a member of the immediate family 60
of a person currently serving on active duty of any branch of 61
the armed forces of the United States shall willfully and 62
falsely represent that the person is such a family member for 63
the purpose of obtaining license plates under this section. 64