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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

**H.B. 632**  
**136<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**

## Bill Analysis

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primary Sponsor:** Rep. Ritter

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### SUMMARY

- Allows a person to indicate their status as a Gold Star Family Member on the person's driver's license or state identification card ("ID card") with a Gold Star Family symbol (which is a folded military burial flag, with golden stars, and the words "Gold Star Family").
- Requires the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to determine the size and placement of the Gold Star Family symbol on a license or ID card.
- Allows the Registrar to require certain documentation prior to inscribing the Gold Star Family symbol on a person's license or ID card.

### DETAILED ANALYSIS

#### Gold Star Family symbol on driver's license and ID card

The bill allows a person to indicate that the person is a Gold Star Family Member with a Gold Star Family symbol on the person's driver's license or state identification card ("ID card").<sup>1</sup> A Gold Star Family Member is any member of the immediate family of a person who died in a combat zone while a member of any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces.<sup>2</sup>

Under the bill, a Gold Star Family symbol is a folded military burial flag, with golden stars, and the words "Gold Star Family." It requires the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to determine the symbol's size and placement on licenses and ID cards. The image below shows an example of a folded military burial flag.

<sup>1</sup> R.C. 4507.06, 4507.13, 4507.51, and 4507.52.

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 4507.01.



Under the bill, the Registrar must ensure that each driver’s license and ID card application allows an applicant to indicate whether they are a Gold Star Family Member and, if they are, whether the applicant wishes their license or ID card to have the Gold Star Family Symbol inscribed on it. The Registrar may require, by rule, that an applicant present certain documentation demonstrating that the person is a Gold Star Family Member.<sup>3</sup>

The national organization, America’s Gold Star Families, is a nonprofit created to assist those grieving the loss of a military family member through active-duty service.<sup>4</sup> Under current law, a Gold Star Family Member may request and obtain Gold Star Family license plates from the Registrar without charge. Gold Star Family license plates are inscribed with a gold star and the words “Gold Star Family” in addition to the letters and numbers ordinarily inscribed on the plates.<sup>5</sup>

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## HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	12-17-25

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<sup>3</sup> R.C. 4507.06, 4507.13, 4507.51, and 4507.52.

<sup>4</sup> See America’s Gold Star Families, “[About Us](http://americasgoldstarfamilies.org),” available on the America’s Gold Star Families’ webpage: [americasgoldstarfamilies.org](http://americasgoldstarfamilies.org).

<sup>5</sup> R.C. 4503.546, not in the bill.