

1 SB230  
2 204680-1  
3 By Senator Orr  
4 RFD: Governmental Affairs  
5 First Read: 25-FEB-20

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the Department of  
9 Revenue may issue an Alabama Gold Star Family  
10 license plate to any member of the immediate family  
11 of a person who died while on active duty of any  
12 branch of the United States military. The person  
13 may receive the plate without payment of the motor  
14 vehicle registration fee, ad valorem tax, and any  
15 additional fees. Additional Alabama Gold Star  
16 Family license plates may be issued for an  
17 additional fee of \$3.

18 This bill would authorize those family  
19 members, for a fee, to be issued a personalized  
20 Alabama Gold Star Family license plate with  
21 personalized details regarding the military service  
22 of the fallen service member.

23 Under existing law, license plate designs  
24 are valid for not less than five years and may be  
25 valid for more than five years with the approval of  
26 the Commissioner of Revenue and the License Plates  
27 Legislative Oversight Committee.

1                   This bill would provide that an Alabama Gold  
2                   Star Family license plate design is permanent and  
3                   not subject to being redesigned every five years.  
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5                                   A BILL  
6                                   TO BE ENTITLED  
7                                   AN ACT  
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9                   Relating to motor vehicles; to amend Section  
10                   32-6-630, Code of Alabama 1975, to provide for the design and  
11                   issuance of a personalized Alabama Gold Star Family license  
12                   plate; to provide a fee for the personalized license plate;  
13                   and to provide that the design of the license plate is  
14                   permanent.

15                   BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

16                                   Section 1. Section 32-6-630, Code of Alabama 1975,  
17                   is amended to read as follows:

18                                   "§32-6-630.

19                                   "(a) Notwithstanding Sections 32-6-64, 32-6-67, and  
20                   32-6-68, a distinctive license plate category shall be  
21                   established entitled "Alabama Gold Star Family." The  
22                   distinctive plates shall be issued, printed, and processed in  
23                   the same manner as other distinctive plates provided for in  
24                   this chapter.

25                                   "(b) (1) Any member of the immediate family of a  
26                   person who died while on active duty of any branch of the  
27                   United States military may apply to the judge of probate or

1 other license plate issuing official, and upon presentation of  
2 documentation pursuant to subsection (d), may receive one  
3 distinctive license plate for display on a private passenger  
4 automobile or pickup truck, and shall be exempt from the  
5 payment of the motor vehicle registration fee, ad valorem tax  
6 and any additional fees. Additional distinctive license plates  
7 may be purchased upon payment of regular required motor  
8 vehicle fees and taxes and an additional fee of three dollars  
9 (\$3) for the initial issuance of the distinctive license  
10 plate.

11 "(2) Upon payment of an additional annual fee of  
12 fifty dollars (\$50), the member of the immediate family may be  
13 issued a personalized Alabama Gold Star Family license plate.  
14 The Department of Revenue, by rule, shall allow the  
15 personalized Gold Star Family license plate to include  
16 personalized details regarding the military service of the  
17 fallen service member. The personalized details may include  
18 the service member's name, rank, military branch, date of  
19 death, or any other information relevant to the fallen service  
20 member's military service, as provided by rule of the  
21 department.

22 "(c) Payment of required license fees and ad valorem  
23 taxes for the years during which a new license plate is not  
24 issued shall be evidenced as provided for in Section 32-6-63.

25 "(d) The following documents shall be presented to  
26 the judge of probate or other license plate issuing official

1 to receive the "Alabama Gold Star Family" distinctive license  
2 plate:

3 "(1) DD Form 2064 - Overseas Death Certificate or  
4 prior era Department of Defense death certificate; or

5 "(2) DD Form 1300 - Report of Casualty.

6 "(3) In the event that the applicant is not  
7 identified as the next of kin on one of the documents listed  
8 in subdivisions (1) and (2), the applicant must also submit a  
9 notarized affidavit obtained from the Alabama Department of  
10 Veterans' Affairs, certifying applicant's relationship to the  
11 deceased service member.

12 "(e) The "Alabama Gold Star Family" distinctive  
13 license plate shall be designed by the Department of Veterans'  
14 Affairs after consultation with the Alabama Gold Star Family  
15 Organization and approved by the Department of Revenue.

16 "(f) As used in this section, the phrase member of  
17 the immediate family shall mean all of the following:

18 "(1) A spouse.

19 "(2) A parent, adoptive parent, or stepparent.

20 "(3) A foster parent in loco parentis.

21 "(4) A sibling, to include whole or half-blood, or  
22 by adoption.

23 "(5) A child, including those by adoption, or a  
24 stepchild.

25 "(6) Grandparent or other legal guardian.

26 "(7) Any other immediate family members designated  
27 as next of kin by the Department of Defense.

1                   "(g) A license plate designed in accordance with  
2 this section is permanent and is not subject to the validity  
3 periods under Section 32-6-62.

4                   "~~(g)~~ (h) The Department of Revenue may ~~promulgate~~  
5 ~~adopt~~ any rules necessary to administer ~~the provisions of this~~  
6 section."

7                   Section 2. This act shall become effective on the  
8 first day of the third month following its passage and  
9 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.