

**Introduced by Senator Knight**

February 21, 2014

---

---

An act to amend Section 5157 of the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1282, as introduced, Knight. Gold Star Family specialized license plate program.

Existing law authorizes the issuance of specialized license plates sponsored by a state agency, including the Gold Star Family specialized license plate sponsored by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Existing law generally authorizes specialized license plates to be issued as environmental license plates, with a combination of letters or numbers, or both, requested by the owner of the vehicle. Under existing law, however, Gold Star Family license plates may only be issued in a sequential series.

This bill would delete the requirement that Gold Star Family license plates be issued only in a sequential series, thereby authorizing the issuance of these license plates as environmental license plates.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 5157 of the Vehicle Code is amended to
- 2 read:
- 3 5157. (a) In addition to the regular fees for an original
- 4 registration or renewal of registration, the following additional

1 fees shall be paid for the issuance, renewal, or transfer of the  
2 specialized license plates:

3 (1) For the original issuance of the plates, fifty dollars (\$50).

4 (2) For a renewal of registration with the plates, forty dollars  
5 (\$40).

6 (3) For transfer of the plates to another vehicle, fifteen dollars  
7 (\$15).

8 (4) For each substitute replacement plate, thirty-five dollars  
9 (\$35).

10 (5) In addition, for the issuance of environmental license plates,  
11 as defined in Section 5103, with a specialized license plate design,  
12 the additional fees prescribed in Sections 5106 and 5108. The  
13 additional fees prescribed in Sections 5106 and 5108 shall be  
14 deposited in the California Environmental License Plate Fund.

15 (b) The Gold Star Family specialized license plate program as  
16 provided in subdivision (d) of Section 5156 shall not be subject  
17 to the fees specified in paragraphs (1), (2), and (5) of subdivision  
18 (a) ~~and shall only be issued in a sequential series.~~

19 (c) Except as provided in paragraph (5) of subdivision (a), and  
20 after deducting its administrative costs under this section, the  
21 department shall deposit the additional revenue derived from the  
22 issuance, renewal, transfer, and substitution of the specialized  
23 license plates in the Specialized License Plate Fund, which is  
24 hereby established in the State Treasury. Upon appropriation by  
25 the Legislature, the moneys in that fund shall be allocated to each  
26 sponsoring agency, in proportion to the amount in the fund that is  
27 attributable to the agency's specialized license plate program.  
28 Except as authorized under Section 5159, the sponsoring agency  
29 shall expend all funds received under this section exclusively for  
30 projects and programs that promote the state agency's official  
31 policy, mission, or work.

32 (d) (1) The Department of Veterans Affairs may actively request  
33 and receive donations for the Gold Star Family License Plate  
34 Account which is hereby created in the Specialized License Plate  
35 Fund and which may consist of donations from public and private  
36 entities. Earnings generated by the Gold Star Family License Plate  
37 Account shall be retained by the account.

38 (2) Upon the determination of the department that there are  
39 sufficient funds in the Gold Star Family License Plate Account  
40 for this purpose, moneys in the Gold Star Family License Plate

- 1 Account shall be available, upon appropriation by the Legislature,
- 2 to the department for the necessary administrative costs of
- 3 establishing the Gold Star Family specialized license plate program.

O