

# SENATE BILL NO. 1183

September 27, 2022, Introduced by Senator HUIZENGA and referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled  
"Michigan vehicle code,"  
by amending section 803e (MCL 257.803e), as amended by 2022 PA 143.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1           Sec. 803e. (1) A person who was a prisoner of war or a person  
2 whose spouse was a prisoner of war may apply to the secretary of  
3 state for a special registration plate inscribed with special  
4 identification numbers preceded by the letters "EX-POW" and the  
5 words "ex-prisoner of war" beneath the registration number.

1 (2) A person who was a member of the United States Armed  
2 Forces during World War I may apply to the secretary of state for a  
3 special registration plate inscribed with special identification  
4 numbers preceded by the letters "WWI" and the words "World War I  
5 veteran" beneath the registration number.

6 (3) A person who was **or a person whose spouse was** a member of  
7 the United States Armed Forces during 1941, was stationed at a  
8 United States military or naval establishment at Pearl Harbor in  
9 the Hawaiian Islands, and survived the attack by Japan on Pearl  
10 Harbor on December 7, 1941 may apply to the secretary of state for  
11 a special registration plate inscribed with special identification  
12 numbers and the words "Pearl Harbor survivor" beneath the  
13 registration number.

14 (4) A recipient of the Purple Heart Medal **or a person whose**  
15 **spouse was a recipient of the Purple Heart Medal** may apply to the  
16 secretary of state for a special registration plate inscribed with  
17 special identification numbers and the words "combat wounded  
18 veteran" beneath the registration number. In addition, the special  
19 registration plate described in this subsection must be inscribed  
20 with a vignette of the official Purple Heart Medal.

21 (5) Application for a special registration plate **under**  
22 **subsection (1), (3), or (4)** must be on a form prescribed by the  
23 secretary of state and must be accompanied by any proof of the  
24 applicant having been **or the spouse of the applicant having been** a  
25 prisoner of war, ~~World War I veteran,~~ Pearl Harbor survivor, or  
26 recipient of the Purple Heart Medal that the secretary of state may  
27 require. **Application for a special registration plate under**  
28 **subsection (2) must be on a form prescribed by the secretary of**  
29 **state and must be accompanied by any proof of the applicant having**

1 **been a World War I veteran that the secretary of state may require.**

2 Application for a "Gold Star Family" special registration plate  
3 described in subsection ~~(9)~~-(10) or a "Blue Star Family" special  
4 registration plate described in subsection ~~(10)~~-(11) must be on a  
5 form prescribed by the secretary of state and must be accompanied  
6 by any proof of the applicant having been a gold star or blue star  
7 family member that the secretary of state may require. The  
8 application for the special registration plate must not require a  
9 service fee under section 804.

10 (6) Upon proper application, the secretary of state shall  
11 issue 1 or more special registration plates under this section for  
12 each applicant for use on a passenger vehicle. A person who is  
13 disabled who applies for a special registration plate under this  
14 section must be issued a tab for persons with disabilities as  
15 provided in section 803f for ~~his or her~~ **that** special registration  
16 plate. The secretary of state shall require the same proof that the  
17 applicant is a disabled person as is required for issuance of a  
18 permanent windshield placard under section 675. One person in any  
19 household is entitled to 1 special registration plate issued under  
20 subsection (1) that is exempt from payment of the tax provided in  
21 section 801. The person who is issued an additional special  
22 registration plate under subsection (1) must be assessed the  
23 applicable tax provided for in section 801. A person issued 1 or  
24 more special registration plates under subsection (2), (3), (4),  
25 ~~(9), or~~ (10), **or (11)** must be assessed the applicable tax provided  
26 in section 801.

27 (7) The use of a special registration plate issued under this  
28 section on a vehicle other than the vehicle for which the plate is  
29 issued, or by a person who does not qualify under this section, is

1 a misdemeanor.

2 (8) The special registration plate issued under this section  
3 expires on the birthday of the vehicle owner in a year in which new  
4 plates are issued by the secretary of state. Application for  
5 renewal of the special registration plate must not require a  
6 service fee under section 804. The applicant is not required to  
7 furnish the proof provided in subsection (5).

8 (9) **The surviving spouse of a person who was a member of the**  
9 **United States Armed Forces as described in subsection (3), or the**  
10 **surviving spouse of a person who was a recipient of the Purple**  
11 **Heart Medal, may use a special registration plate issued under this**  
12 **section after the death of the veteran and may renew a special**  
13 **registration plate issued under this section after the death of the**  
14 **veteran in the same manner as provided under this section for the**  
15 **veteran. If applicable, a surviving spouse shall apply for**  
16 **registration of the vehicle upon which the surviving spouse wishes**  
17 **to place the special registration plate before renewing the plate**  
18 **as described in this section.**

19 (10) ~~(9)~~—A gold star family member may apply to the secretary  
20 of state for a special registration plate inscribed with special  
21 identification numbers preceded by a gold star and the words "Gold  
22 Star Family" beneath the registration number.

23 (11) ~~(10)~~—A blue star family member may apply to the secretary  
24 of state for a special registration plate inscribed with special  
25 identification numbers preceded by a Blue Star Families insignia  
26 and the words "Blue Star Family" beneath the registration number.

27 (12) ~~(11)~~—As used in this section:

28 (a) "Blue star family member" means a person who is currently  
29 serving in the United States Armed Forces or in forces incorporated

1 as part of the United States Armed Forces or a person who has an  
2 immediate family member serving in the United States Armed Forces  
3 or in forces incorporated as part of the United States Armed  
4 Forces. As used in this subdivision, "immediate family member"  
5 means a parent, stepparent, adoptive parent, foster parent standing  
6 in loco parentis, child, stepchild, adopted child, sibling, half-  
7 sibling, spouse, or grandparent.

8 (b) "Gold star family member" means a person who has had an  
9 immediate family member die while serving in the United States  
10 Armed Forces or in forces incorporated as part of the United States  
11 Armed Forces if the immediate family member meets any of the  
12 eligibility criteria specified in 10 USC 1126(a)(1) to (3) for a  
13 gold star lapel button.

14 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect  
15 unless Senate Bill No. 1165 of the 101st Legislature is enacted  
16 into law.