



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 1529

H.P. 1123

House of Representatives, April 28, 2011

**An Act Honoring Gold Star Families through Special Registration
Plates**

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Heather J.R. Priest'.

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative MOULTON of York. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)
Cosponsored by Senator COLLINS of York and
Representatives: BEAUDOIN of Biddeford, BEAULIEU of Auburn, BRIGGS of Mexico,
BURNS of Whiting, BURNS of Alfred, CEBRA of Naples, CORNELL du HOUX of
Brunswick, COTTA of China, CRAY of Palmyra, CROCKETT of Bethel, CUSHING of
Hampden, DAVIS of Sangerville, DOW of Waldoboro, ESPLING of New Gloucester,
FOSTER of Augusta, GIFFORD of Lincoln, GILLWAY of Searsport, HAMPER of Oxford,
HANLEY of Gardiner, HARLOW of Portland, HARMON of Palermo, HOGAN of Old
Orchard Beach, JOHNSON of Eddington, JOHNSON of Greenville, KESCHL of Belgrade,
KNAPP of Gorham, KNIGHT of Livermore Falls, LIBBY of Waterboro, LONG of Sherman,
MAKER of Calais, MALABY of Hancock, McCLELLAN of Raymond, McFADDEN of
Dennysville, McKANE of Newcastle, MITCHELL of the Penobscot Nation, NASS of Acton,
NEWENDYKE of Litchfield, O'CONNOR of Berwick, PARKER of Veazie, PICCHIOTTI of
Fairfield, PLUMMER of Windham, RICHARDSON of Carmel, SARTY of Denmark,
SOCTOMAH of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, THERIAULT of Madawaska, TIMBERLAKE of
Turner, VOLK of Scarborough, WATERHOUSE of Bridgton, WEAVER of York,
WILLETTE of Mapleton, WILLETTE of Presque Isle, WOOD of Sabattus, Senator:
THOMAS of Somerset.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §515-C** is enacted to read:

3 **§515-C. Gold star family motorcycle registration plates**

4 Notwithstanding the requirements of section 468-A, the Secretary of State, on
5 application and upon evidence of payment of the excise tax required by Title 36, section
6 1482, shall issue a registration certificate and a gold star family motorcycle registration
7 plate, to be used in lieu of a regular registration plate, to a family member who is eligible
8 to receive a gold star lapel button under 10 United States Code, Section 1126 (2010). For
9 purposes of this section, "family member" means a widow, widower, mother, father,
10 stepmother, stepfather, mother through adoption, father through adoption, foster parent
11 who stood in loco parentis, grandmother, grandfather, child, stepchild and child through
12 adoption.

13 **1. Application.** An application for gold star family motorcycle registration plates
14 must be accompanied by proof that the applicant is eligible for the gold star lapel button.
15 The Secretary of State shall verify the documentation presented by the applicant.
16 Misrepresentation of documents is in violation of section 2103, subsection 5.

17 An applicant may be issued gold star family motorcycle registration plates for no more
18 than 2 motorcycles.

19 **2. Design.** The Secretary of State shall determine the design of the gold star family
20 motorcycle registration plate. Upon request and as provided by section 453, the Secretary
21 of State shall issue gold star family motorcycle registration plates that are also vanity
22 plates. Gold star family vanity plates are issued in accordance with this section and
23 section 453. The annual service fee of \$15 for vanity plates is credited to the Highway
24 Fund.

25 The Secretary of State shall begin issuing gold star family motorcycle registration
26 plates in accordance with this section no later than January 1, 2012.

27 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §524-B** is enacted to read:

28 **§524-B. Gold star family registration plates**

29 Notwithstanding the requirements in section 468-A, the Secretary of State, on
30 application and upon evidence of payment of the excise tax required by Title 36, section
31 1482, shall issue a registration certificate and a set of gold star family registration plates,
32 to be used in lieu of regular registration plates, to a person who is eligible to receive a
33 gold star lapel button under 10 United States Code, Section 1126 (2010). For purposes of
34 this section, "family member" means a widow, widower, mother, father, stepmother,
35 stepfather, mother through adoption, father through adoption, foster parent who stood in
36 loco parentis, grandmother, grandfather, child, stepchild and child through adoption.

37 **1. Application.** An application for gold star family registration plates must be
38 accompanied by proof that the applicant is eligible for the gold star lapel button. The

1 Secretary of State shall verify the documentation presented by the applicant.
2 Misrepresentation of documents is in violation of section 2103, subsection 5.

3 The Secretary of State may issue gold star family registration plates for display only on
4 an automobile or pickup truck. An applicant may be issued gold star family registration
5 plates for no more than 2 vehicles.

6 **2. Design.** The Secretary of State shall determine the design of the gold star family
7 registration plate. Upon request and as provided by section 453, the Secretary of State
8 shall issue gold star family registration plates that are also vanity plates. Gold star family
9 vanity plates are issued in accordance with this section and section 453. The annual
10 service fee of \$15 for vanity plates is credited to the Highway Fund.

11 A person who does not operate a motor vehicle or register a motor vehicle and who
12 otherwise qualifies for the issuance of special gold star family registration plates may
13 apply to the Secretary of State for a special single plate recognizing that award. The
14 Secretary of State shall design and identify these single plates for recognition purposes
15 only. Single gold star family plates may not be attached to a motor vehicle. Only one
16 plate may be issued to each recipient and a one-time fee of \$5 charged.

17 The Secretary of State shall begin issuing gold star family registration plates in
18 accordance with this section no later than January 1, 2012.

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill allows the Secretary of State to issue special gold star family registration
21 plates for vehicles and motorcycles to certain family members eligible to receive gold star
22 lapel buttons under 10 United States Code, Section 1126 (2010).