

SENATE AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 596

By COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, FEDERAL AND WORLD
AFFAIRS

April 17

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, delete lines 5 through 28.

2 On page 2, delete lines 1 through 35 and insert:

3 “**SECTION 1.** ORS 805.105 is amended to read:

4 “805.105. (1) The Department of Transportation shall establish a veterans’ recognition registra-
5 tion plate program to issue registration plates called ‘veterans’ recognition registration plates’ upon
6 request to an owner of any motor vehicle registered under ORS 803.420 (6)(a) if the owner of the
7 motor vehicle qualifies for the plates. Rules adopted under this section shall include, but need not
8 be limited to, rules that:

9 “(a) Describe general qualifications to be met by any veterans’ group in order to be eligible for
10 a veterans’ recognition registration plate issued under this section.

11 “(b) Specify circumstances under which the department may cease to issue veterans’ recognition
12 registration plates.

13 “(c) Specify what constitutes proof of veteran status for issuance of a veterans’ recognition
14 registration plate, if such proof is required by a veterans’ group or by the Director of Veterans’
15 Affairs.

16 “(d) Specify what constitutes proof that a person is a surviving family member of a person who
17 was killed in action during an armed conflict while serving in the Armed Forces of the United
18 States. The department may only issue a veterans’ recognition registration plate displaying a gold
19 star decal and the words ‘Gold Star Family’ to a person who is a parent, sibling, spouse or depend-
20 ent of a person who was killed in action during an armed conflict while serving in the Armed Forces
21 of the United States.

22 “(2)(a) In addition to any other fee authorized by law, upon issuance of a veterans’ recognition
23 registration plate under this section and upon renewal of registration for a vehicle that has plates
24 issued under this section, the department shall collect a surcharge of \$2.50 per plate for each year
25 of the registration period for the vehicle as described under ORS 803.415.

26 “(b) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c) of this subsection, net proceeds of the sur-
27 charge collected by the department for the veterans’ recognition registration plate shall be deposited
28 in the trust fund established under ORS 406.050 for paying the expenses of operating the Oregon
29 Veterans’ Homes identified in ORS 408.362.

30 “(c) If the department issues a veterans’ recognition registration plate that names, describes or
31 represents a veterans’ group, that veterans’ group may designate an account into which the net
32 proceeds of the surcharge collected by the department under this section are to be deposited. The
33 department shall keep accurate records of the number of plates issued under this paragraph for each
34 veterans’ group and, after payment of administrative expenses of the department, shall deposit
35 moneys collected under this subsection into the specified account.

1 “(d) The department shall waive the surcharge required under paragraph (a) of this subsection
2 and transfer the amount otherwise paid by the person to the trust fund established under ORS
3 406.050 if:

4 “(A) A request to waive the surcharge is submitted by:

5 “(i) A Gold Star Family member; or

6 “(ii) **A veteran who provides written proof to the Department of Transportation of having**
7 **a United States Department of Veterans Affairs total disability rating of at least 50 percent**
8 **as a result of an injury or illness that the veteran incurred, or that was aggravated, during**
9 **active military service; and**

10 “(B) Funds are appropriated by the Legislative Assembly or otherwise made available to the
11 department for the purpose of paying the surcharge.

12 “(e) Deposits under this subsection shall be made quarterly.

13 “(3)(a) In consultation with the Department of Transportation, the Director of Veterans’ Affairs
14 shall design the veterans’ recognition registration plate.

15 “(b) If the department issues a veterans’ recognition registration plate to recognize a veterans’
16 group, the department shall, in consultation with the requesting veterans’ group, add words or a
17 military-related decal to the veterans’ recognition registration plate that names, describes or re-
18 presents the veterans’ group.

19 “(c) The department shall add a gold star decal and the words ‘Gold Star Family’ to a veterans’
20 recognition registration plate background to recognize surviving family members of persons killed
21 in action during an armed conflict while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

22 “(d) Except as otherwise required by the design, veterans’ recognition registration plates must
23 comply with the requirements of ORS 803.535.

24 “(4) The department shall determine how many sets of veterans’ recognition registration plates
25 will be manufactured. If the department does not sell or issue renewal for 500 sets of veterans’ re-
26 cognition registration plates in any one year, the department shall cease production of veterans’
27 recognition registration plates. For the purposes of this section, veterans’ recognition registration
28 plates that name, describe or represent a veterans’ group are included in the total number of
29 veterans’ recognition registration plates issued.

30 “(5) For the purposes of this section, ‘sibling’ includes siblings of the whole or half blood and
31 siblings by adoption, marriage or domestic partnership.”.