SB 596-1 (LC 2389) 3/19/25 (HE/ps)

Requested by Senator CAMPOS

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 596

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:

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

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

"(b) Specify circumstances under which the department may cease to issue
 veterans' recognition registration plates.

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

"(d) Specify what constitutes proof that a person is a surviving family member of a person who was killed in action during an armed conflict while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States. The department may only issue a veterans' recognition registration plate displaying a gold star decal and the words 'Gold Star Family' to a person who is a parent, sibling, spouse
or dependent of a person who was killed in action during an armed conflict
while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

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

9 "(b) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c) of this subsection, net 10 proceeds of the surcharge collected by the department for the veterans' re-11 cognition registration plate shall be deposited in the trust fund established 12 under ORS 406.050 for paying the expenses of operating the Oregon Veterans' 13 Homes identified in ORS 408.362.

"(c) If the department issues a veterans' recognition registration plate 14 that names, describes or represents a veterans' group, that veterans' group 15may designate an account into which the net proceeds of the surcharge col-16 lected by the department under this section are to be deposited. The depart-17 ment shall keep accurate records of the number of plates issued under this 18 paragraph for each veterans' group and, after payment of administrative ex-19 penses of the department, shall deposit moneys collected under this sub-20section into the specified account. 21

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

²⁵ "(A) A request to waive the surcharge is submitted by:

26 **"(i)**

"(i) A Gold Star Family member; or

"(ii) A veteran who provides written proof to the Department of Transportation of having a United States Department of Veterans Affairs total disability rating of at least 50 percent as a result of an injury or illness that the veteran incurred, or that was aggravated,

1 during active military service; and

2 "(B) Funds are appropriated by the Legislative Assembly or otherwise 3 made available to the department for the purpose of paying the surcharge.

4 "(e) Deposits under this subsection shall be made quarterly.

"(3)(a) In consultation with the Department of Transportation, the Director of Veterans' Affairs shall design the veterans' recognition registration
plate.

8 "(b) If the department issues a veterans' recognition registration plate to 9 recognize a veterans' group, the department shall, in consultation with the 10 requesting veterans' group, add words or a military-related decal to the 11 veterans' recognition registration plate that names, describes or represents 12 the veterans' group.

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

"(d) Except as otherwise required by the design, veterans' recognition
 registration plates must comply with the requirements of ORS 803.535.

"(4) The department shall determine how many sets of veterans' recogni-19 tion registration plates will be manufactured. If the department does not sell 20or issue renewal for 500 sets of veterans' recognition registration plates in 21any one year, the department shall cease production of veterans' recognition 22registration plates. For the purposes of this section, veterans' recognition 23registration plates that name, describe or represent a veterans' group are 24included in the total number of veterans' recognition registration plates is-25sued. 26

"(5) For the purposes of this section, 'sibling' includes siblings of the whole or half blood and siblings by adoption, marriage or domestic partnership.".

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