

# ASSEMBLY DEMOCRATS NEWS RELEASE



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**FOR RELEASE:**

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## **ASSEMBLY PANEL ADVANCES BILL TO CREATE SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES FOR GOLD STAR PARENTS**

*Measure Would Authorize Plate for Parents of Those Killed on Active Duty*

(TRENTON) – Legislation sponsored by Assemblymen Jack Conners, Nelson T. Albano and Matthew W. Milam that would create a special license plate for the parents of soldiers killed on active duty was released today by an Assembly committee.

The bill (A-2725) authorizes a special Gold Star Parent license plate for the parents of servicemen and servicewomen who lost their lives while on active duty for the United States. Stepparents and foster parents could also be among those eligible.

The design would include a gold star and the words “Gold Star Parent.”

“Nothing we can do can help parents overcome the loss of a child, but at the very least we can do this to honor those who lost a child on active duty,” said Conners (D-Burlington/Camden), chairman of the Assembly Military and Veterans Affairs Committee that released the bill. “This is a simple way to offer our condolences and gratitude to families who have made the ultimate sacrifice.”

The bill proposes a \$25 initial fee in addition to the registration fees required by law. This fee would help defray the costs of manufacturing the Gold Star Parent license plates.

“This would provide parents who lost a child on active duty some proper recognition,” said Albano (D-Atlantic/Cape May/Cumberland). “We cannot make up for their loss, but we can honor them with this simple step.”

“Gold Star parents are the parents of heroes,” said Milam (D-Atlantic/Cape May/Cumberland). “Honoring them with this basic step is simply the right thing to do.”

The bill was released by a 5-0 vote and was referred to the Assembly transportation panel for further consideration.

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