

California Department of Veterans Affairs

VETERANS NEWS

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Gold Star License Plate Program: Fundraising Moving Ahead Slowly

SACRAMENTO – The following is a statement from California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) Secretary Roger Brautigan on the status of the fundraising efforts for the California Gold Star License Plate Program:

“This is a program to honor the families of the fallen to make sure that their sacrifices will never be forgotten. “In order to accomplish this mission before the end of this year, we need everyone to help by reaching out to others and making them aware of the opportunities to contribute to this most noble cause,” said Brautigan.

Project: Gold Star, the fundraising efforts that were established by CalVet to fund the creation of the Gold Star license plates, has raised \$85,694 of the \$300,000 needed to pay for the design, fabrication and programming of the new license-plate system at the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

This program was established when Governor Schwarzenegger signed SB 1455 (Cogdill) in 2008, which authorized the DMV to issue a license plate that would honor the families of service men and women who were killed in the line of duty. The legislation required that the program be funded through private donations so the families of the fallen service men and women wouldn't have to pay any extra fees for these special license plates. Under provisions of the law, any family member whose son or daughter (mother, father, husband, wife, or grandparent or grandchild) gave their life for our freedom may obtain one of these special recognition plates by simply paying the regular registration fees.

Donations to Project: Gold Star may be made online at the department's website – www.calvet.ca.gov