

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Department of Veterans Affairs Act is  
5 amended by adding Section 2.02a as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 2805/2.02a new)

7 Sec. 2.02a. Gold Star Family. Any natural father, natural  
8 mother, or spouse of a veteran killed in the line of duty,  
9 (also known as a Gold Star Family member) deemed eligible by  
10 the United States Department of Veterans Affairs who was a  
11 resident of the State of Illinois for a continuous period of  
12 one year immediately before making application is entitled to  
13 admission to any of the Illinois Veterans Homes should vacant  
14 beds exist. Preference for filling vacant beds or for filling  
15 vacant beds from a waiting list shall be granted first to  
16 eligible veterans.