

AN ACT concerning State government.

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

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

(20 ILCS 2805/2.02a new)

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