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By: **Senators Miller, Giannetti, Green, Frosh, Hogan, McFadden, and Middleton**

Introduced and read first time: January 19, 2005

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - "Fear the Turtle!" Scholarship Registration Plates**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to develop and make  
4 available a specially designed registration plate honoring the diamondback  
5 terrapin, the State reptile and mascot of the University of Maryland, College  
6 Park, and to support student scholarships at the University of Maryland,  
7 College Park; prescribing who may apply for and the classes of vehicles eligible  
8 for the registration plate; providing the manner in which fees will be  
9 established, collected, and distributed in connection with the registration plate;  
10 requiring the Administration to consult with the University of Maryland,  
11 College Park on certain matters concerning the design of the registration plate  
12 and the collection and distribution of fees associated with the plate; providing a  
13 certain fee exemption applicable to disabled veterans; requiring the  
14 Administration to adopt certain regulations; and generally relating to the  
15 issuance of a special registration plate honoring the diamondback terrapin and  
16 supporting student scholarships at the University of Maryland, College Park.

17 BY adding to  
18 Article - Transportation  
19 Section 13-619.3  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

22 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
23 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

24 **Article - Transportation**

25 13-619.3.

26 (A) IN CONSULTATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE  
27 PARK, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL DEVELOP AND MAKE AVAILABLE FOR  
28 QUALIFYING VEHICLES A SPECIALLY DESIGNED REGISTRATION PLATE HONORING  
29 THE DIAMONDBACK TERRAPIN (MALACLEMYS TERRAPIN), THE STATE REPTILE AND

1 OFFICIAL MASCOT OF THE STATE'S FLAGSHIP UNIVERSITY AT COLLEGE PARK, FOR  
2 THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING REVENUE TO SUPPORT STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS AT  
3 THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK.

4 (B) THE OWNER OF A VEHICLE, OR A LESSEE OF THE VEHICLE UNDER A  
5 LEASE NOT INTENDED AS SECURITY, OR A DIRECTOR, OFFICER, EMPLOYEE, OR  
6 PARTNER OF A BUSINESS ENTITY THAT OWNS THE VEHICLE CONSIDERED ELIGIBLE  
7 BY THE ADMINISTRATION MAY APPLY TO THE ADMINISTRATION FOR AN ORIGINAL  
8 OR SUBSTITUTE REGISTRATION PLATE UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE VEHICLE IS  
9 INCLUDED IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES:

10 (1) A CLASS A (PASSENGER) VEHICLE;

11 (2) A CLASS B (FOR HIRE) VEHICLE;

12 (3) A CLASS E (TRUCK) VEHICLE WITH A MANUFACTURER'S RATED  
13 CAPACITY OF ONE TON OR LESS;

14 (4) A CLASS E (FARM TRUCK) VEHICLE;

15 (5) A CLASS G (TRAILER) VEHICLE; OR

16 (6) A CLASS M (MULTIPURPOSE) VEHICLE.

17 (C) (1) IN ADDITION TO THE ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE OTHERWISE  
18 REQUIRED UNDER THIS TITLE, AN OWNER OF A VEHICLE ASSIGNED A REGISTRATION  
19 PLATE UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL PAY:

20 (I) WHEN INITIALLY ISSUED THE REGISTRATION PLATE, A  
21 ONE-TIME FEE SET BY THE ADMINISTRATION TO RECOVER THE ADMINISTRATION'S  
22 COSTS UNDER THIS SECTION; AND

23 (II) WHEN INITIALLY ISSUED THE REGISTRATION PLATE, AND  
24 EACH TIME THE REGISTRATION PLATE IS RENEWED, AN ADDITIONAL FEE SET BY  
25 THE ADMINISTRATION TO BENEFIT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK  
26 FOR USE FOR STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS.

27 (2) THE ADDITIONAL FEE COLLECTED UNDER THIS SECTION IS NOT  
28 REQUIRED FOR SPECIAL REGISTRATION OF A VEHICLE THAT IS EXEMPT UNDER §  
29 13-903 OF THIS TITLE.

30 (3) NO PORTION OF THE FEE COLLECTED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY BE  
31 CREDITED TO THE GASOLINE AND MOTOR VEHICLE REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR  
32 DISTRIBUTION UNDER § 8-403 OR § 8-404 OF THIS ARTICLE.

33 (D) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL CONSULT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF  
34 MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK ON:

35 (1) THE DESIGN OF THE REGISTRATION PLATE TO BE ISSUED UNDER  
36 THIS SECTION, WHICH SHALL:

1 (I) DEPICT THE DIAMONDBACK TERRAPIN, THE MASCOT OF THE  
2 UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK; AND

3 (II) INCLUDE THE WORDS "FEAR THE TURTLE!";

4 (2) THE SETTING OF THE FEE TO BE CHARGED UNDER SUBSECTION  
5 (C)(1)(II) OF THIS SECTION AT A LEVEL INTENDED TO ENCOURAGE THE PURCHASE OF  
6 THE REGISTRATION PLATE ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION WHILE PROVIDING A  
7 CONTINUOUS REVENUE SOURCE TO SUPPORT STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS AT THE  
8 UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK; AND

9 (3) A SCHEDULE UNDER WHICH THE ADMINISTRATION WILL TRANSFER  
10 TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK REVENUE COLLECTED ON THE  
11 UNIVERSITY'S BEHALF TO SUPPORT STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS.

12 (E) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO GOVERN THE  
13 ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES UNDER THIS SECTION.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
15 October 1, 2005.