

# SENATE BILL 97

R4

4lr0777

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Senator Hester**

Requested: September 28, 2023

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Special Registration Plates – Maryland Horse Industry**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to develop and make  
4 available a specially designed registration plate honoring the Maryland horse  
5 industry; and generally relating to special registration plates and the Maryland  
6 horse industry.

7 BY adding to

8 Article – Transportation

9 Section 13–619.4

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Transportation**

15 **13–619.4.**

16 **(A) IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MARYLAND HORSE COUNCIL, INC., THE**  
17 **ADMINISTRATION SHALL DEVELOP AND MAKE AVAILABLE FOR QUALIFYING**  
18 **VEHICLES A SPECIALLY DESIGNED REGISTRATION PLATE HONORING THE**  
19 **MARYLAND HORSE INDUSTRY.**

20 **(B) THE OWNER OF A VEHICLE, OR A LESSEE OF THE VEHICLE UNDER A**  
21 **LEASE NOT INTENDED AS SECURITY, OR A DIRECTOR, AN OFFICER, AN EMPLOYEE,**  
22 **OR A PARTNER OF A BUSINESS ENTITY THAT OWNS THE VEHICLE CONSIDERED**  
23 **ELIGIBLE BY THE ADMINISTRATION MAY APPLY TO THE ADMINISTRATION FOR AN**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 ORIGINAL OR SUBSTITUTE REGISTRATION PLATE UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE  
2 VEHICLE IS INCLUDED IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES:

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

4 (2) A CLASS E (TRUCK) VEHICLE WITH A MANUFACTURER'S RATED  
5 CAPACITY OF 1 TON OR LESS;

6 (3) A CLASS E (FARM TRUCK) VEHICLE;

7 (4) A CLASS G (TRAILER) VEHICLE; OR

8 (5) A CLASS M (MULTIPURPOSE) VEHICLE.

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

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

15 (II) WHEN INITIALLY ISSUED THE REGISTRATION PLATE, AND  
16 EACH TIME THE REGISTRATION PLATE IS RENEWED, AN ADDITIONAL FEE SET BY THE  
17 ADMINISTRATION TO BENEFIT THE MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION  
18 FOUNDATION, INC., THE MARYLAND HORSE COUNCIL, INC., AND DAYS END FARM  
19 HORSE RESCUE, INC.

20 (2) THE ADDITIONAL FEE COLLECTED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(II) OF  
21 THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE ALLOCATED AS FOLLOWS:

22 (I) 40% TO THE MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION  
23 FOUNDATION, INC.;

24 (II) 30% TO THE MARYLAND HORSE COUNCIL, INC.; AND

25 (III) 30% TO DAYS END FARM HORSE RESCUE, INC.

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

29 (4) NO PORTION OF THE FEE COLLECTED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY

1 BE CREDITED TO THE GASOLINE AND MOTOR VEHICLE REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR  
2 DISTRIBUTION UNDER § 8-403 OR § 8-404 OF THIS ARTICLE.

3 (D) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL CONSULT WITH THE MARYLAND HORSE  
4 COUNCIL, INC., ON:

5 (1) THE DESIGN OF A REGISTRATION PLATE TO BE ISSUED UNDER  
6 THIS SECTION TO HONOR THE MARYLAND HORSE INDUSTRY;

7 (2) THE SETTING OF THE FEE TO BE CHARGED UNDER SUBSECTION  
8 (C)(1)(II) OF THIS SECTION AT A LEVEL INTENDED TO ENCOURAGE THE PURCHASE  
9 OF THE REGISTRATION PLATE ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION WHILE PROVIDING A  
10 CONTINUOUS REVENUE SOURCE TO BENEFIT THE ENTITIES LISTED IN SUBSECTION  
11 (C) OF THIS SECTION; AND

12 (3) A SCHEDULE UNDER WHICH THE ADMINISTRATION WILL  
13 TRANSFER TO THE ENTITIES LISTED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION REVENUE  
14 COLLECTED ON THE ENTITIES' BEHALF.

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

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
18 October 1, 2024.