
By: Delegates Leopold, Bozman, and Ports

Introduced and read first time: January 11, 1996

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Special Registration Plates - Truck Eligibility**

3 FOR the purpose of increasing the maximum manufacturer's rated capacity of a Class E
4 (truck) vehicle that is eligible for special personalized registration plates, amateur
5 radio operator's registration plates, commemorative registration plates, nonprofit
6 organization registration plates, or registration plates for recipients of certain
7 combat-related armed forces medals; and generally relating to the eligibility of
8 trucks for certain special registration plates.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - Transportation
11 Section 13-613(a), 13-617, 13-618(b), 13-619(a), and 13-619.1(a)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
15 Article - Transportation
16 Section 13-613(b) and (c), 13-618(a) and (g), 13-619(c) and (g), and 13-619.1(b)(1)
17 and (c)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

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

22 **Article - Transportation**

23 13-613.

24 (a) (1) The owner of any vehicle described in paragraph (2) of this subsection
25 may apply to the Administration for the assignment to that vehicle of a special,
26 personalized registration number.

27 (2) This section applies only as to:

28 (i) A Class A (passenger) vehicle;

29 (ii) A Class D (motorcycle) vehicle;

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1 (iii) A Class E (truck) vehicle with a [3/4] ONE ton or less
2 manufacturer's rated capacity;

3 (iv) A Class G (nonfreight trailer) vehicle;

4 (v) A Class L (historic) vehicle;

5 (vi) A Class M (multipurpose) vehicle; or

6 (vii) A Class N (street rod) vehicle.

7 (b) In addition to the annual registration fee otherwise required by this title, the
8 applicant shall pay an additional annual fee of \$25, payable with the original and each
9 renewal application for special registration under this section.

10 (c) (1) A special registration number assigned under this section may consist of
11 any combination of not more than 7 letters and numerals.

12 (2) In its discretion, the Administration may refuse any combination of
13 letters and numerals.

14 13-617.

15 (a) (1) The owner of any vehicle described in paragraph (2) of this subsection
16 may apply to the Administration for the assignment to that vehicle of a special amateur
17 radio registration number, if the applicant holds an amateur radio station license issued
18 by the Federal Communications Commission.

19 (2) This section applies only as to:

20 (i) A Class A (passenger) vehicle; or

21 (ii) A Class E (truck) vehicle with a [3/4] ONE ton or less
22 manufacturer's rated capacity.

23 (b) Special registration may be issued and continued under this section only if the
24 applicant submits, with the original and each renewal application, proof satisfactory to
25 the Administration that the applicant holds an amateur radio station license issued by the
26 Federal Communications Commission.

27 (c) In addition to the annual registration fee otherwise required by this title, the
28 applicant shall pay an additional annual fee of \$5, payable with the original and each
29 renewal application for special registration under this section.

30 (d) A special registration number assigned under this section shall consist of the
31 amateur radio call letters assigned to the applicant by the Federal Communications
32 Commission.

33 13-618.

34 (a) The Administration may issue special commemorative original or substitute
35 registration plates for any geographical, historical, natural resource, or environmental
36 commemoration of statewide significance.

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1 (b) The owner of a vehicle, or a lessee of the vehicle under a lease not intended as
2 security, or a director, officer, employee, or partner of a business entity that owns the
3 vehicle considered eligible by the Administration may apply to the Administration for the
4 assignment of a commemorative registration plate under this section if the vehicle is
5 included in one of the following classes:

6 (1) A Class A (passenger) vehicle;

7 (2) A Class B (for hire) vehicle;

8 (3) A Class E (truck) vehicle with a manufacturer's rated capacity of [3/4]
9 ONE ton or less;

10 (4) A Class G (trailer) vehicle; or

11 (5) A Class M (multipurpose) vehicle.

12 (g) (1) A special registration number as specified by the Administration and
13 assigned under this section may consist of:

14 (i) Any combination of:

15 1. Letters; and

16 2. Numerals; and

17 (ii) Any design approved by the Administration that adequately
18 reflects the geographical, historical, natural resource, or environmental theme which the
19 plate commemorates.

20 (2) A special registration number or design assigned under this section shall
21 be displayed on the registration plates for the vehicle.

22 13-619.

23 (a) The owner of a motor vehicle, or a lessee of the vehicle under a lease not
24 intended as security, or a director, officer, employee, or partner of a business entity that
25 owns the vehicle who is a member of an organization considered eligible by the
26 Administration may apply to the Administration for the assignment of a special
27 registration number if the vehicle is included in one of the following classes:

28 (1) A Class A (passenger) vehicle;

29 (2) A Class E (truck) vehicle with a manufacturer's rated capacity of [3/4]
30 ONE ton or less; or

31 (3) A Class M (multipurpose) vehicle.

32 (c) The Administration may issue and continue a special registration number
33 under this section if:

34 (1) The owner of the motor vehicle submits, with the original application,
35 proof satisfactory to the Administration that the owner of the vehicle is a member of a
36 nonprofit organization and complies with the regulations adopted by the Administration
37 under subsection (d) of this section; and

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1 (2) At least 25 owners of vehicles in a class apply to the Administration for
2 the assignment of special registration numbers, and at least 25 special registration
3 numbers are issued initially.

4 (g) (1) The special registration plates or plate issued under this section may
5 consist of:

- 6 (i) 1. Any combination of letters, numerals, or both; and
7 2. The name, initials, or abbreviation of the name of the
8 organization; or
9 (ii) 1. Any combination of letters, numerals, or both;
10 2. The name, initials, or abbreviation of the name of the
11 organization; and
12 3. An emblem or logo as authorized by the Administration that
13 depicts the organization.

14 (2) A special registration number assigned under this section shall be
15 displayed on the registration plates or plate for the vehicle.

16 (3) An organization may, at its option, receive a special registration under
17 either paragraph (1)(i) or paragraph (1)(ii) of this subsection, but not under both.

18 13-619.1.

19 (a) (1) The owner of a motor vehicle, or a lessee of the vehicle under a lease not
20 intended as security, or a director, officer, employee, or partner of a business entity that
21 owns the vehicle may apply to the Administration for the assignment of a special
22 registration number and special registration plates under this section for a vehicle
23 included in one of the following classes:

- 24 (i) A Class A (passenger) vehicle;
25 (ii) A Class E (truck) vehicle with a $\frac{3}{4}$ ONE ton or less
26 manufacturer's rated capacity; or
27 (iii) A Class M (multipurpose) vehicle.

28 (2) To be eligible for a special registration under this section, an applicant
29 shall provide proof that is satisfactory to the Administration that the applicant is a
30 recipient of an individually earned, combat-related, armed forces medal.

31 (b) (1) In addition to the annual registration fee otherwise required under this
32 title, an owner of a vehicle assigned a special registration under this section shall pay a fee
33 as determined by the Administration each time new registration plates are issued for the
34 vehicle. The fee shall be calculated to recover the costs incurred by the Administration in
35 carrying out the provisions of this section.

36 (c) Special registration plates issued under this section:

37 (1) May consist of any combination of letters, numerals, or both; and

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1 (2) Shall include:

2 (i) An emblem or logo as authorized by the Administration that
3 depicts the medal; and

4 (ii) Words describing the medal printed across the bottom of the
5 plates.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7 October 1, 1996.