
By: Delegates Leopold, Bozman, and Ports

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Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 6, 1996

CHAPTER ____

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:

2

1 **Article - Transportation**

2 13-613.

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

6 (2) This section applies only as to:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

22 13-617.

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

27 (2) This section applies only as to:

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

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

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

3

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

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

7 13-618.

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

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

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

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

18 (3) A Class E (truck) vehicle with a manufacturer's rated capacity of $\frac{3}{4}$
19 ONE ton or less;

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

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

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

24 (i) Any combination of:

25 1. Letters; and

26 2. Numerals; and

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

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

32 13-619.

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

4

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

16 (i) 1. Any combination of letters, numerals, or both; and

17 2. The name, initials, or abbreviation of the name of the
18 organization; or

19 (ii) 1. Any combination of letters, numerals, or both;

20 2. The name, initials, or abbreviation of the name of the
21 organization; and

22 3. An emblem or logo as authorized by the Administration that
23 depicts the organization.

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

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

28 13-619.1.

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

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

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

37 (iii) A Class M (multipurpose) vehicle.

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

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

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

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

11 (2) Shall include:

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

14 (ii) Words describing the medal printed across the bottom of the
15 plates.

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