
By: Delegates Arnick and Conroy

Requested: November 15, 1996

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 1997

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Annual Registration Fee - Special Registration Plates for Disabled**
3 **Veterans**

4 FOR the purpose of clarifying that a certain disabled veteran may receive a special
5 vehicle registration number and special registration plates without paying the
6 annual vehicle registration fee; making a stylistic change; clarifying language; and
7 generally relating to registration fees.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article - Transportation
10 Section 13-903
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

15 **Article - Transportation**

16 13-903.

17 (a) The following vehicles are exempt from the registration fees specified in this
18 subtitle:

19 (1) A vehicle that is owned and operated by the United States, this State, or
20 any political subdivision of this State;

21 (2) A vehicle that is owned by a volunteer fire company incorporated in this
22 State or by a rescue squad and that is used for fire-fighting or ambulance purposes;

23 (3) A canteen wagon of a recognized fire buff organization, as certified by
24 the International Fire Buffs Association;

25 (4) A vehicle owned and operated by the Civil Air Patrol;

26 (5) A vehicle owned and operated by a unit of a national veterans'
27 organization;

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1 (6) A vehicle owned and operated by a Maryland chapter of the American
2 Red Cross;

3 (7) A motor vehicle and trailer known as the "40-8 box car" that is owned
4 and operated only for social or charitable purposes by any voiture of the Forty and Eight
5 of the American Legion, Department of Maryland;

6 (8) A vehicle owned and personally used by a veteran who:

7 (i) As designated or classified by the Veterans' Administration, has
8 lost the use of a hand, arm, or leg, or is totally disabled; or

9 (ii) Has a permanent impairment of both eyes so that:

10 1. The central visual acuity is 20/200 or less in the better eye,
11 with corrective glasses; or

12 2. There is a field defect in which the peripheral field has
13 contracted to such an extent that the widest diameter of visual field subtends an angular
14 distance no greater than 20 degrees in the better eye; and

15 (9) A Type I or Type II school vehicle owned and operated by a religious
16 organization.

17 (b) The Administration may exempt from the registration fees specified in this
18 subtitle any vehicle of a law enforcement agency of the United States or of any other
19 state, if the United States or other state provides a reciprocal exemption for law
20 enforcement vehicles of this State.

21 (c) (1) Each registered vehicle that is exempt from registration fees under
22 subsection (a) of this section shall display a special identification marker approved by the
23 Administrator.

24 (2) The special identification marker for a motor vehicle and trailer exempt
25 under subsection (a)(7) of this section shall bear the number of the organization and the
26 number of the local voiture, reading "40-8-(local number)".

27 (3) The special identification marker for a vehicle exempt under subsection
28 (a)(8)(i) of this section shall indicate that the Veterans' Administration has designated or
29 classified the veteran as having lost the use of a hand, arm, or leg or as being totally
30 disabled.

31 (d) [Any] A disabled veteran whose vehicle is eligible for exemption under
32 subsection (a)(8) of this section [and who also is eligible for a special, disabled persons
33 registration number under § 13-616 of this title] may [elect to], IF ELIGIBLE, receive the
34 special registration number and special registration plates provided [for in that section,]
35 UNDER § 13-616, § 13-619, OR § 13-619.1 OF THIS TITLE without payment of the
36 registration fees specified in this subtitle.

37 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
38 October 1, 1997.