
By: Senators Dyson, Blount, Boozer, Bromwell, Della, Derr, Ferguson, Forehand, Frosh, Green, Hollinger, Jimeno, Kasemeyer, Kelley, Lawlah, McCabe, Munson, Pinsky, Ruben, Sfikas, Stone, Teitelbaum, and Trotter

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 1997

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Special Registration Plates for Prisoners of War - Exemption From**
3 **Annual Registration Fees and Additional Special Plate Fees**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the Motor Vehicle Administration from requiring an
5 individual who is assigned certain Ex Prisoner of War special registration plates to
6 pay the annual registration fee and an additional special license plate fee; and
7 generally relating to an exemption from the payment of fees for Ex Prisoner of War
8 special registration plates.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - Transportation
11 Section 13-619
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - Transportation**

17 13-619.

18 (a) The owner of a motor vehicle, or a lessee of the vehicle under a lease not
19 intended as security, or a director, officer, employee, or partner of a business entity that
20 owns the vehicle who is a member or, subject to subsection (c)(3) of this section, the
21 surviving spouse of a member, of an organization considered eligible by the
22 Administration may apply to the Administration for the assignment of a special
23 registration number if the vehicle is included in one of the following classes:

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

25 (2) A Class E (truck) vehicle with a manufacturer's rated capacity of one ton
26 or less; or

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

2

1 (b) (1) In this subsection, "motorcyclist organization" means a motorcyclist
2 organization, institution, association, society, or corporation that:

3 (i) Is exempt from taxation under § 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue
4 Code; and

5 (ii) Is determined by the Administration to be eligible under this
6 section.

7 (2) The owner of a Class D (motorcycle) vehicle who is a member of a
8 motorcyclist organization may apply to the Administration for the assignment of a special
9 registration number for the vehicle.

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

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

16 (2) At least 25 owners of vehicles in a class apply to the Administration for
17 the assignment of special registration numbers, and at least 25 special registration
18 numbers are issued initially; and

19 (3) In the case of an owner who is applying as a surviving spouse, the owner
20 submits proof satisfactory to the Administration that at the time of death of the owner's
21 spouse, the deceased spouse was the holder of a special registration number issued under
22 this section.

23 (d) The Administration shall adopt regulations not inconsistent with the
24 Maryland Vehicle Law to govern the issuance of special registration plates to members of
25 nonprofit organizations under this section.

26 (e) (1) In addition to the annual registration fee otherwise required under this
27 title, an owner of a vehicle assigned a special registration under this section shall pay a fee
28 determined by the Administration each time new registration plates are issued for the
29 vehicle.

30 (2) The fee:

31 (i) May not exceed the amount required to enable the Administration
32 to recover its costs under this section;

33 (ii) Shall be retained by the Administration for the purpose of
34 recovering its cost under this section; and

35 (iii) May not be credited to the Gasoline and Motor Vehicle Revenue
36 Account for distribution under § 8-403 or § 8-404 of this article.

37 (f) The additional fee required under subsection (e) of this section is not required
38 for special registration of a vehicle that is exempt under § 13-903 of this title, or a vehicle
39 with a special registration plate recognizing:

3

1 (1) The Maryland National Guard; or

2 (2) A volunteer fire department, volunteer rescue squad, or volunteer
3 ambulance company in this State.

4 (G) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS TITLE, THE
5 ADMINISTRATION MAY NOT REQUIRE AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS ASSIGNED EX
6 PRISONER OF WAR SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES UNDER THIS SECTION TO PAY:

7 (1) THE ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE REQUIRED UNDER THIS TITLE; OR

8 (2) THE ADDITIONAL FEE REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS
9 SECTION.

10 [(g)] (H) (1) The special registration plates or plate issued under this section
11 may consist of:

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

13 2. The name, initials, or abbreviation of the name of the
14 organization; or

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

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

18 3. An emblem or logo as authorized by the Administration that
19 depicts the organization.

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

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

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