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By: **Delegates Ports, Redmer, O'Donnell, Hutchins, and Owings**  
Introduced and read first time: February 13, 1998  
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Motor Vehicles - Special Registration Plates - Recipients of Occupation**  
3 **Medals**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Motor Vehicle Administration to issue special  
5 registration plates to certain individuals who received the Army of Occupation  
6 Medal or Navy Occupation Service Medal; and generally relating to special  
7 registration plates.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article - Transportation  
10 Section 13-619.1  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1997 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 13-619.1.

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

- 22 (i) A Class A (passenger) vehicle;
- 23 (ii) A Class E (truck) vehicle with a one ton or less manufacturer's  
24 rated capacity; or
- 25 (iii) A Class M (multipurpose) vehicle.

1           (2)     To be eligible for a special registration under this section, an  
2 applicant shall provide proof that is satisfactory to the Administration that the  
3 applicant is a recipient of:

4           (I)     [an] AN individually earned, combat-related, armed forces  
5 medal;

6           (II)    THE ARMY OF OCCUPATION MEDAL; OR

7           (III)   THE NAVY OCCUPATION SERVICE MEDAL.

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

13           (2)     The additional fee charged under this section shall be retained by the  
14 Administration for the purpose of recovering the Administration's costs under this  
15 section, and may not be credited to the Gasoline and Motor Vehicle Revenue Account  
16 for distribution under § 8-403 or § 8-404 of this article.

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

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

19           (2)     Shall include:

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

22           (ii)    Words describing the medal printed across the bottom of the  
23 plates.

24     (d)     (1)     The Administration, in consultation with the U.S. Department of  
25 Defense and appropriate representatives of the various branches of the armed forces,  
26 shall adopt regulations specifying those armed forces medals that are of the type  
27 described in subsection (a) of this section and which, when awarded to an individual,  
28 qualify that individual to apply for special registration under this section.

29           (2)     The Administration may adopt other regulations as necessary to  
30 govern the issuance of special registration numbers and special registration plates  
31 under this section.

32     SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
33 October 1, 1998.