

SENATE BILL 457

Unofficial Copy  
R4

1998 Regular Session  
8r1600

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By: **Senators Trotter, Lawlah, McFadden, Hughes, Madden, Currie, Blount,  
and Kelley**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 1998

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative License Plates**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to issue special  
4 vehicle registration plates commemorating the life of Martin Luther King, Jr.;  
5 specifying the classes of vehicles eligible for the special registration plates;  
6 requiring, subject to certain exceptions, an applicant for the special registration  
7 plates to pay the fee established by the Administration; requiring the fee to be  
8 set at a level that enables the Administration to recover the costs of issuing the  
9 special registration plates; providing for the design of the special registration  
10 plates; requiring the Administration to adopt certain regulations to govern the  
11 issuance of the special registration plates; and generally relating to Martin  
12 Luther King, Jr. commemorative registration plates.

13 BY adding to  
14 Article - Transportation  
15 Section 13-618.1  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

20 **Article - Transportation**

21 13-618. 1.

22 (A) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ISSUE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION  
23 SPECIAL ORIGINAL OR SUBSTITUTE REGISTRATION PLATES COMMEMORATING THE  
24 LIFE OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

25 (B) THE OWNER OF A VEHICLE, OR A LESSEE OF THE VEHICLE UNDER A  
26 LEASE NOT INTENDED AS SECURITY, OR A DIRECTOR, OFFICER, EMPLOYEE, OR  
27 PARTNER OF A BUSINESS ENTITY THAT OWNS THE VEHICLE CONSIDERED ELIGIBLE  
28 BY THE ADMINISTRATION MAY APPLY TO THE ADMINISTRATION FOR THE

1 ASSIGNMENT OF A COMMEMORATIVE REGISTRATION PLATE UNDER THIS SECTION IF  
2 THE VEHICLE IS INCLUDED IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES:

- 3 (1) A CLASS A (PASSENGER) VEHICLE;
- 4 (2) A CLASS B (FOR HIRE) VEHICLE;
- 5 (3) A CLASS E (TRUCK) VEHICLE WITH A MANUFACTURER'S RATED  
6 CAPACITY OF ONE TON OR LESS;
- 7 (4) A CLASS G (TRAILER) VEHICLE; OR
- 8 (5) A CLASS M (MULTIPURPOSE) VEHICLE.

9 (C) (1) IN ADDITION TO THE ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE OTHERWISE  
10 REQUIRED UNDER THIS TITLE, AN OWNER OF A VEHICLE ASSIGNED A  
11 COMMEMORATIVE REGISTRATION PLATE UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL PAY THE FEE  
12 SET BY THE ADMINISTRATION WHEN THE NEW REGISTRATION PLATES ARE ISSUED  
13 TO THE VEHICLE UNDER THIS SECTION.

14 (2) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL SET THE FEE AT A LEVEL THAT WILL  
15 ENABLE THE ADMINISTRATION TO RECOVER ITS COSTS UNDER THIS SECTION.

16 (3) NO PORTION OF THE FEE MAY BE CREDITED TO THE GASOLINE AND  
17 MOTOR VEHICLE REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR DISTRIBUTION UNDER § 8-403 OR § 8-404  
18 OF THE TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE.

19 (D) THE ADDITIONAL FEE REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (C)(1) OF THIS  
20 SECTION IS NOT REQUIRED FOR SPECIAL REGISTRATION OF A VEHICLE THAT IS  
21 EXEMPT UNDER § 13-903 OF THIS TITLE, OR A VEHICLE WITH A SPECIAL  
22 REGISTRATION PLATE RECOGNIZING:

- 23 (1) THE MARYLAND NATIONAL GUARD; OR
- 24 (2) A VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, OR  
25 VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE COMPANY IN THE STATE.

26 (E) (1) A SPECIAL REGISTRATION NUMBER AS SPECIFIED BY THE  
27 ADMINISTRATION AND ASSIGNED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY CONSIST OF:

- 28 (I) ANY COMBINATION OF:
  - 29 1. LETTERS; AND
  - 30 2. NUMERALS; AND
- 31 (II) ANY DESIGN APPROVED BY THE ADMINISTRATION THAT  
32 COMMEMORATES MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

1           (2)     A SPECIAL REGISTRATION NUMBER OR DESIGN ASSIGNED UNDER  
2 THIS SECTION SHALL BE DISPLAYED ON THE REGISTRATION PLATES FOR THE  
3 VEHICLE.

4     (F)     THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS NOT INCONSISTENT  
5 WITH THE MARYLAND VEHICLE LAW TO GOVERN THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL  
6 REGISTRATION PLATES UNDER THIS SECTION.

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