

SENATE BILL 457

Unofficial Copy  
R4

1998 Regular Session  
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By: **Senators Trotter, Lawlah, McFadden, Hughes, Madden, Currie, Blount,  
and ~~Kelley Kelley, and Jefferies~~**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 1998

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 27, 1998

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

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~~ results in a surplus after the Administration ~~to~~  
9 ~~recover~~ recovers the costs of issuing the special registration plates; requiring the  
10 Administration to disburse any surplus funds resulting from the issuance of  
11 special registration plates under this Act to a certain organization; providing for  
12 the design of the special registration plates; requiring the Administration to  
13 adopt certain regulations to govern the issuance of the special registration  
14 plates; and generally relating to Martin Luther King, Jr. commemorative  
15 registration plates.

16 BY adding to  
17 Article - Transportation  
18 Section 13-618.1  
19 Annotated Code of Maryland  
20 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

1

**Article - Transportation**

2 13-618. 1.

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

6 (B) THE OWNER OF A VEHICLE, OR A LESSEE OF THE VEHICLE UNDER A  
7 LEASE NOT INTENDED AS SECURITY, OR A DIRECTOR, OFFICER, EMPLOYEE, OR  
8 PARTNER OF A BUSINESS ENTITY THAT OWNS THE VEHICLE CONSIDERED ELIGIBLE  
9 BY THE ADMINISTRATION MAY APPLY TO THE ADMINISTRATION FOR THE  
10 ASSIGNMENT OF A COMMEMORATIVE REGISTRATION PLATE UNDER THIS SECTION IF  
11 THE VEHICLE IS INCLUDED IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES:

12 (1) A CLASS A (PASSENGER) VEHICLE;

13 (2) A CLASS B (FOR HIRE) VEHICLE;

14 (3) A CLASS E (TRUCK) VEHICLE WITH A MANUFACTURER'S RATED  
15 CAPACITY OF ONE TON OR LESS;

16 (4) A CLASS G (TRAILER) VEHICLE; OR

17 (5) A CLASS M (MULTIPURPOSE) VEHICLE.

18 (C) (1) IN ADDITION TO THE ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE OTHERWISE  
19 REQUIRED UNDER THIS TITLE, AN OWNER OF A VEHICLE ASSIGNED A  
20 COMMEMORATIVE REGISTRATION PLATE UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL PAY THE FEE  
21 SET BY THE ADMINISTRATION WHEN THE NEW REGISTRATION PLATES ARE ISSUED  
22 TO THE VEHICLE UNDER THIS SECTION.

23 (2) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL SET THE FEE AT A LEVEL THAT WILL:

24 (I) ENABLE THE ADMINISTRATION TO RECOVER ITS COSTS UNDER  
25 THIS SECTION; AND

26 (II) RESULT IN A SURPLUS AFTER COSTS ARE SUBTRACTED.

27 (3) (I) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL RETAIN A PORTION OF THE FEE  
28 THAT IS SUFFICIENT TO ALLOW THE ADMINISTRATION TO RECOVER THE COSTS OF  
29 ISSUING AND DISTRIBUTING COMMEMORATIVE REGISTRATION PLATES UNDER THIS  
30 SECTION.

31 (II) ANY SURPLUS FUNDS REMAINING AFTER THE  
32 ADMINISTRATION HAS RECOVERED THE COSTS OF ISSUING A COMMEMORATIVE  
33 REGISTRATION PLATE UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE DISBURSED BY THE  
34 ADMINISTRATION TO THE MARYLAND BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR  
35 THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE (NAACP).

1           (3)    (4)    NO PORTION OF THE FEE MAY BE CREDITED TO THE GASOLINE  
2 AND MOTOR VEHICLE REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR DISTRIBUTION UNDER § 8-403 OR §  
3 8-404 OF THE TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE.

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

8           (1)    THE MARYLAND NATIONAL GUARD; OR

9           (2)    A VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, OR  
10 VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE COMPANY IN THE STATE.

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

13           (I)    ANY COMBINATION OF:

14                   1.    LETTERS; AND

15                   2.    NUMERALS; AND

16           (II)   ANY DESIGN APPROVED BY THE ADMINISTRATION THAT  
17 COMMEMORATES MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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

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

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