
By: **Delegate Kagan**
Introduced and read first time: February 12, 1999
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Registration Plates - Composition and Years in Service**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring vehicle registration plates issued by the Motor Vehicle
4 Administration to be reflectorized; requiring the Administration to provide for
5 the costs of registration plate reflectorization through a budget item; requiring
6 the Administration to ensure that no registration plate remains in service for
7 longer than a certain period; repealing certain obsolete language and making
8 clarifying changes; and generally relating to vehicle registration plates.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - Transportation
11 Section 13-410
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1998 Replacement Volume and 1998 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 13-410.

18 (a) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this title, when it registers a vehicle,
19 the Administration shall issue to the owner:

20 (i) One registration plate, if the vehicle is a Class D (motorcycle)
21 vehicle, Class F (tractor) vehicle, or Class G (trailer) vehicle; and

22 (ii) Two registration plates for every other vehicle.

23 (2) However, as to temporary registration, the Administration may
24 provide for the issuance of only one temporary registration plate for any vehicle.

25 (b) (1) Each registration plate shall display:

1 (i) The registration number assigned to the vehicle for which it is
2 issued; and

3 (ii) The name of this State, which may be abbreviated.

4 (2) The registration number may consist of letters, numerals, or both.

5 (c) (1) Registration plates [may] SHALL be reflectorized and shall be
6 manufactured of a material warranted to have a durability of at least 5 years.

7 (2) [However, prior to registration plates being reflectorized, the] THE
8 Administration shall [obtain approval of the General Assembly] PROVIDE FOR THE
9 COSTS OF REFLECTORIZATION through a budget item.

10 (d) (1) During subsequent registration years, the Administrator may order
11 the continued use of registration plates that are valid during any current registration
12 year, and, after so doing, the Administrator shall issue, at the time a vehicle's
13 registration is renewed, a validation tab to evidence payment of the vehicle's annual
14 registration fee.

15 (2) The tab shall be displayed on the plates of the vehicle in the manner
16 that the Administrator requires.

17 (3) The Administrator from time to time shall evaluate the condition of
18 registration plates issued under this title and may provide for the manufacture and
19 issuance of new registration plates. These new registration plates shall be issued and
20 subsequently validated in the manner required by this subtitle.

21 (4) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS SECTION, THE
22 ADMINISTRATION SHALL ENSURE THAT NO REGISTRATION PLATE REMAINS IN
23 SERVICE FOR MORE THAN 8 YEARS.

24 (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (c) of this section, the
25 Administration may issue reflectorized registration plates under §§ 13-618 and
26 13-619 of this title.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
28 October 1, 1999.