

SENATE BILL 90

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R4

1999 Regular Session
9r0541

By: **Senator Baker**

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 1999

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Special Registration Plates - Honorably Discharged Veterans**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing special registration numbers and special registration
4 plates for certain motor vehicles that are owned by certain persons who are
5 honorably discharged from a branch of the armed forces of the United States
6 and who apply for special registration from the Motor Vehicle Administration;
7 requiring certain applicants for special registration to provide certain proof to
8 the Administration that the applicant is honorably discharged from a branch of
9 the armed forces of the United States; describing the content of certain special
10 registration plates under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the
11 issuance of special registration numbers and special registration plates for
12 certain motor vehicles that are owned by certain persons who are honorably
13 discharged from a branch of the armed forces of the United States.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article - Transportation
16 Section 13-619.1
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (1998 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

21 **Article - Transportation**

22 13-619.1.

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

28 (i) A Class A (passenger) vehicle;

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

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

4 (2) To be eligible for a special registration under SUBSECTION (C)(2)(I) OF
5 this section, an applicant shall provide proof that is satisfactory to the Administration
6 that the applicant is a recipient of an individually earned, combat-related, armed
7 forces medal.

8 (3) TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A SPECIAL REGISTRATION UNDER SUBSECTION
9 (C)(2)(II) OF THIS SECTION, AN APPLICANT SHALL PROVIDE PROOF THAT IS
10 SATISFACTORY TO THE ADMINISTRATION THAT THE APPLICANT IS AN HONORABLY
11 DISCHARGED VETERAN OF A BRANCH OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED
12 STATES.

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

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

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

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

24 (2) Shall include:

25 (i) 1. An emblem or logo as authorized by the Administration
26 that depicts the medal; and

27 [(ii)] 2. Words describing the medal printed across the bottom of
28 the plates; OR

29 (II) WORDS OR AN EMBLEM OR LOGO INDICATING THAT THE
30 SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATE HOLDER IS AN HONORABLY DISCHARGED VETERAN
31 OF A BRANCH OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES.

32 (d) (1) The Administration, in consultation with the U.S. Department of
33 Defense and appropriate representatives of the various branches of the armed forces,
34 shall adopt regulations specifying those armed forces medals that are of the type
35 described in subsection [(a)](A)(2) of this section and which, when awarded to an
36 individual, qualify that individual to apply for special registration under this section.

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

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