

SENATE BILL 90

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R4

1999 Regular Session  
9lr0541

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By: **Senator Baker**  
Introduced and read first time: January 18, 1999  
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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Committee Report: Favorable  
Senate action: Adopted  
Read second time: February 16, 1999

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

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:

1 **Article - Transportation**

2 13-619.1.

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

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

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

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

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

16 (3) TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A SPECIAL REGISTRATION UNDER SUBSECTION  
17 (C)(2)(II) OF THIS SECTION, AN APPLICANT SHALL PROVIDE PROOF THAT IS  
18 SATISFACTORY TO THE ADMINISTRATION THAT THE APPLICANT IS AN HONORABLY  
19 DISCHARGED VETERAN OF A BRANCH OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED  
20 STATES.

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

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

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

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

32 (2) Shall include:

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

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

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

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

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

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