
By: **Senator Middleton**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 1999

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Motor Vehicle Registration Fees - Exemptions - Surviving Spouse of**
3 **Deceased Disabled Veteran**

4 FOR the purpose of exempting certain surviving spouses of certain deceased disabled
5 veterans from motor vehicle registration fees; and generally relating to motor
6 vehicle registration fee exemptions.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Transportation
9 Section 13-903
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1998 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

14 **Article - Transportation**

15 13-903.

16 (a) The following vehicles are exempt from the registration fees specified in
17 this subtitle:

18 (1) A vehicle that is owned and operated by the United States, this State,
19 or any political subdivision of this State;

20 (2) A vehicle that is owned by a volunteer fire company incorporated in
21 this State or by a rescue squad and that is used for fire-fighting or ambulance
22 purposes;

23 (3) A canteen wagon of a recognized fire buff organization, as certified by
24 the International Fire Buffs Association;

25 (4) A vehicle owned and operated by the Civil Air Patrol;

1 (5) A vehicle owned and operated by a unit of a national veterans'
2 organization;

3 (6) A vehicle owned and operated by a Maryland chapter of the American
4 Red Cross;

5 (7) A motor vehicle and trailer known as the "40-8 box car" that is owned
6 and operated only for social or charitable purposes by any voiture of the Forty and
7 Eight of the American Legion, Department of Maryland;

8 (8) A vehicle owned and personally used by a veteran who:

9 (i) As designated or classified by the Veterans' Administration, has
10 lost the use of a hand, arm, or leg, or is totally disabled; or

11 (ii) Has a permanent impairment of both eyes so that:

12 1. The central visual acuity is 20/200 or less in the better eye,
13 with corrective glasses; or

14 2. There is a field defect in which the peripheral field has
15 contracted to such an extent that the widest diameter of visual field subtends an
16 angular distance no greater than 20 degrees in the better eye; [and]

17 (9) A VEHICLE OWNED AND PERSONALLY USED BY AN INDIVIDUAL WHO
18 IS AT LEAST 65 YEARS OLD AND IS THE SURVIVING SPOUSE OF A DECEASED
19 DISABLED VETERAN, AS DEFINED UNDER § 7-208 OF THE TAX - PROPERTY ARTICLE;
20 AND

21 [(9)] (10) A Type I or Type II school vehicle owned and operated by a
22 religious organization.

23 (b) The Administration may exempt from the registration fees specified in this
24 subtitle any vehicle of a law enforcement agency of the United States or of any other
25 state, if the United States or other state provides a reciprocal exemption for law
26 enforcement vehicles of this State.

27 (c) (1) Each registered vehicle that is exempt from registration fees under
28 subsection (a) of this section shall display a special identification marker approved by
29 the Administrator.

30 (2) The special identification marker for a motor vehicle and trailer
31 exempt under subsection (a)(7) of this section shall bear the number of the
32 organization and the number of the local voiture, reading "40-8-(local number)".

33 (3) The special identification marker for a vehicle exempt under
34 subsection (a)(8)(i) of this section shall indicate that the Veterans' Administration has
35 designated or classified the veteran as having lost the use of a hand, arm, or leg or as
36 being totally disabled.

1 (d) A disabled veteran whose vehicle is eligible for exemption under subsection
2 (a)(8) of this section may, if eligible, receive the special registration number and
3 special registration plates provided under § 13-616, § 13-617, § 13-618, § 13-619, or
4 § 13-619.1 of this title without payment of the registration fees specified in this
5 subtitle.

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