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By: **Senator Middleton**  
Introduced and read first time: February 5, 1999  
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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Committee Report: Favorable  
Senate action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 2, 1999

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

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;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

27 [(9)] (10) A Type I or Type II school vehicle owned and operated by a  
28 religious organization.

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

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

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

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

8           (d)     A disabled veteran whose vehicle is eligible for exemption under subsection  
9 (a)(8) of this section may, if eligible, receive the special registration number and  
10 special registration plates provided under § 13-616, § 13-617, § 13-618, § 13-619, or  
11 § 13-619.1 of this title without payment of the registration fees specified in this  
12 subtitle.

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