

SENATE BILL 281

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2000 Regular Session
0lr2166
CF 0lr1337

By: **Senators Baker, Haines, Colburn, Ferguson, Forehand, Green, Jimeno,
and ~~Mooney~~ Mooney, and Stoltzfus**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2000

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 15, 2000

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Special Commemorative Registration Plates - Honoring**
3 **State Agriculture**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Motor Vehicle Administration to issue
5 commemorative license plates of a design approved by the Administration to
6 honor State agriculture; authorizing the Administration to issue two
7 commemorative plates at any time; requiring the Administration, after
8 recovering the costs of issuing special registration plates under this Act, to
9 disburse any surplus moneys to a nonprofit organization that is closely related
10 to State ~~agriculture~~ agricultural education; requiring the Administration to
11 adopt certain regulations before designating a nonprofit organization to receive
12 the surplus moneys; and generally relating to special registration plates.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article - Transportation
15 Section 13-618
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (1999 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

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

1 **Article - Transportation**

2 13-618.

3 (a) The Administration may issue special commemorative original or
4 substitute registration plates for any geographical, historical, natural resource,
5 AGRICULTURAL, or environmental commemoration of statewide significance.

6 (b) The owner of a vehicle, or a lessee of the vehicle under a lease not intended
7 as security, or a director, officer, employee, or partner of a business entity that owns
8 the vehicle considered eligible by the Administration may apply to the Administration
9 for the assignment of a commemorative registration plate under this section if the
10 vehicle is included in one of the following classes:

11 (1) A Class A (passenger) vehicle;

12 (2) A Class B (for hire) vehicle;

13 (3) A Class E (truck) vehicle with a manufacturer's rated capacity of one
14 ton or less;

15 (4) A Class G (trailer) vehicle; or

16 (5) A Class M (multipurpose) vehicle.

17 (c) (1) An original or substitute commemorative plate may only be issued
18 under this section for a fixed period of 2 consecutive years after its initial issuance.

19 (2) The Administration may only issue ~~4~~ TWO commemorative ~~plate~~
20 PLATES under this section at any one time.

21 (d) (1) In addition to the annual registration fee otherwise required under
22 this title, an owner of a vehicle assigned a commemorative registration plate under
23 this section shall pay the fee set by the Administration when the new registration
24 plates are issued to the vehicle under this section.

25 (2) (i) The Administration shall set the fee at a level that will enable
26 the Administration to recover its costs under this section.

27 (ii) The Administration may charge a fee that is sufficient to result
28 in a surplus after costs are subtracted.

29 (iii) The Administration shall retain a portion of the fee that is
30 sufficient to allow the Administration to recover any costs of issuing and distributing
31 commemorative plates under this section.

32 (iv) Any surplus moneys remaining after the Administration has
33 recovered the costs of issuing a commemorative plate under this section may not be
34 retained by or transferred to any agency of the State for any purpose.

1 (v) Notwithstanding subparagraph (iv) of this paragraph, the
2 surplus moneys may be retained for the purpose described in paragraph (3) of this
3 subsection.

4 (3) The surplus moneys shall be disbursed by the Administration to a
5 nonprofit organization that is:

6 (i) Closely related to the geographical, historical, natural resource,
7 AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION, or environmental theme which the plate
8 commemorates; and

9 (ii) Designated by the Administration under subsection (e) of this
10 section.

11 (4) No portion of the fee may be credited to the Gasoline and Motor
12 Vehicle Revenue Account for distribution under § 8-403 or § 8-404 of the
13 Transportation Article.

14 (e) (1) The Administration shall adopt regulations not inconsistent with the
15 Maryland Vehicle Law to govern the issuance of special registration plates under this
16 section.

17 (2) Before designating any nonprofit organization to receive any surplus
18 moneys and before distributing any surplus moneys to any nonprofit organization,
19 the Administration shall adopt regulations specific to each new commemorative plate
20 detailing:

21 (i) The name and nature of the nonprofit organization receiving
22 the money;

23 (ii) The relationship of the nonprofit organization to the
24 geographical, historical, natural resource, AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION, or
25 environmental theme which the plate commemorates; and

26 (iii) The plan of distribution of the funds.

27 (f) The additional fee to the annual registration fee required by this section is
28 not required for special registration of a vehicle that is exempt under § 13-903 of this
29 title, or a vehicle with a special registration plate recognizing:

30 (1) The Maryland National Guard; or

31 (2) A volunteer fire department, volunteer rescue squad, or volunteer
32 ambulance company in this State.

33 (g) (1) A special registration number as specified by the Administration and
34 assigned under this section may consist of:

35 (i) Any combination of:

36 1. Letters; and

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1 2. Numerals; and

2 (ii) Any design approved by the Administration that adequately
3 reflects the geographical, historical, natural resource, AGRICULTURAL, or
4 environmental theme which the plate commemorates.

5 (2) A special registration number or design assigned under this section
6 shall be displayed on the registration plates for the vehicle.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
8 October 1, 2000.