
By: **Delegates Montgomery, Barkley, Bartlett, Benson, Bobo, Boschert,
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Proctor, Ramirez, Ross, Rzepkowski, Simmons, Sossi, Stull, and Zirkin**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2003

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Chesapeake Bay Commemorative License Plate - Renewal**
3 **Fee**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a renewal fee for the Chesapeake Bay
5 Commemorative License Plate in addition to the annual registration fee;
6 providing the manner in which the renewal fee is established, collected, and
7 distributed in connection with the registration plate; providing that certain
8 moneys may not be used for certain purposes subject to a certain exception;
9 providing a certain fee exemption applicable to certain vehicles; requiring the
10 Administration to make certain consultations with a certain organization;
11 providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to a renewal fee
12 for the Chesapeake Bay Commemorative License Plate.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article - Transportation
15 Section 13-618
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2002 Replacement Volume)

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

20 **Article - Transportation**

21 13-618.

22 (a) The Administration may issue special commemorative original or
23 substitute registration plates for any geographical, historical, natural resource, or
24 environmental commemoration of statewide significance.

25 (b) The owner of a vehicle, or a lessee of the vehicle under a lease not intended
26 as security, or a director, officer, employee, or partner of a business entity that owns

1 the vehicle considered eligible by the Administration may apply to the Administration
2 for the assignment of a commemorative registration plate under this section if the
3 vehicle is included in one of the following classes:

- 4 (1) A Class A (passenger) vehicle;
- 5 (2) A Class B (for hire) vehicle;
- 6 (3) A Class E (truck) vehicle with a manufacturer's rated capacity of one
7 ton or less;
- 8 (4) A Class G (trailer) vehicle; or
- 9 (5) A Class M (multipurpose) vehicle.

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

12 (2) The Administration may only issue 1 commemorative plate under
13 this section at any one time.

14 (d) (1) In addition to the annual registration fee otherwise required under
15 this title, an owner of a vehicle assigned a commemorative registration plate under
16 this section shall pay [the]:

17 (I) AN ADDITIONAL INITIAL REGISTRATION fee set by the
18 Administration when the new registration plates are issued to the vehicle under this
19 section; OR

20 (II) AN ADDITIONAL RENEWAL FEE SET BY THE ADMINISTRATION
21 EACH TIME THE PLATE IS RENEWED.

22 (2) (i) The Administration shall set the ADDITIONAL INITIAL
23 REGISTRATION fee at a level that will enable the Administration to recover its costs
24 under this section.

25 (ii) The Administration may [charge a fee] SET THE ADDITIONAL
26 INITIAL REGISTRATION FEE AT A LEVEL that is sufficient to result in a surplus after
27 costs are subtracted.

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

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

1 (v) Notwithstanding subparagraph (iv) of this paragraph, the
2 surplus moneys AND MONEYS COLLECTED FOR ADDITIONAL RENEWAL FEES may be
3 retained for the purpose described in paragraph (3) of this subsection.

4 (3) The surplus moneys AND MONEYS COLLECTED FOR ADDITIONAL
5 RENEWAL FEES shall be disbursed by the Administration to a nonprofit organization
6 that is:

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

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

11 (4) No portion of the [fee] ADDITIONAL INITIAL REGISTRATION OR
12 RENEWAL FEES may be credited to the Gasoline and Motor Vehicle Revenue Account
13 for distribution under § 8-403 or § 8-404 of the 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 OR MONEYS COLLECTED FOR ADDITIONAL RENEWAL FEES and before
19 distributing [any surplus] THE moneys to any nonprofit organization, the
20 Administration shall adopt regulations specific to each new commemorative plate
21 detailing:

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

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

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

28 (3) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL CONSULT WITH THE NONPROFIT
29 ORGANIZATION DESIGNATED TO RECEIVE MONEYS UNDER THIS SECTION TO
30 ESTABLISH A SCHEDULE UNDER WHICH THE ADMINISTRATION WILL TRANSFER TO
31 THE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION REVENUE COLLECTED ON BEHALF OF THE
32 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION UNDER THIS SECTION.

33 (f) The additional [fee] FEES to the annual registration fee required by this
34 section [is] ARE not required for special registration of a vehicle that is exempt under
35 § 13-903 of this title, or a vehicle with a special registration plate recognizing:

36 (1) The Maryland National Guard; or

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

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

5 (i) Any combination of:

6 1. Letters; and

7 2. Numerals; and

8 (ii) Any design approved by the Administration that adequately
9 reflects the geographical, historical, natural resource, or environmental theme which
10 the plate commemorates.

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

13 (3) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL CONSULT WITH THE NONPROFIT
14 ORGANIZATION DESIGNATED TO RECEIVE MONEYS UNDER THIS SECTION WITH
15 RESPECT TO ANY DESIGN OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMEMORATIVE LICENSE
16 PLATE.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Motor Vehicle
18 Administration, in conjunction with the nonprofit organization designated to receive
19 moneys under this Act, shall implement the renewal fee for the Chesapeake Bay
20 Commemorative License Plate by January 1, 2004.

21 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
22 July 1, 2003. It shall remain effective for a period of 7 years and, at the end of June
23 30, 2010, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
24 abrogated and of no further force and effect.