

SENATE BILL 638

Unofficial Copy  
R4

2003 Regular Session  
(31r2482)

*ENROLLED BILL*  
*-- Judicial Proceedings/Environmental Matters --*

Introduced by **Senator Astle**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this  
\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, \_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President.

CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - ~~Chesapeake Bay~~ Special and Commemorative License Plate**  
3 **Plates - Renewal Fee and Sunset**

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 altering the termination date for the Chesapeake Bay Commemorative License  
7 Plate; providing the manner in which the renewal fee is established, collected,  
8 and distributed in connection with the registration plate; providing that certain  
9 moneys may not be used for certain purposes subject to a certain exception;  
10 providing a certain fee exemption applicable to certain vehicles; altering the  
11 termination date for special registration plates honoring State agriculture;  
12 requiring the Administration to make certain consultations with a certain  
13 organization; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to  
14 a renewal fee for the ~~Chesapeake Bay Commemorative License Plate~~ and  
15 termination date for certain special and commemorative license plates.

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

1 Article - Transportation  
 2 Section 13-618  
 3 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 4 (2002 Replacement Volume)

5 *BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,*

6 Article - Transportation  
 7 Section 13-619.2(a)  
 8 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 9 (2002 Replacement Volume)

10 *BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,*

11 Chapter 251 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2000  
 12 Section 3

13 *BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,*

14 Chapter 3 of the Acts of the General Assembly of the First Special Session of  
 15 1992, as amended by Chapter 91 of the Acts of the General Assembly of  
 16 1994, Chapter 356 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1996, Chapter 141  
 17 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1998, Chapter 340 of the Acts of the  
 18 General Assembly of 2000, and Chapter 34 of the Acts of the General  
 19 Assembly of 2002  
 20 Section 3

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

23 **Article - Transportation**

24 13-618.

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

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

- 33 (1) A Class A (passenger) vehicle;  
 34 (2) A Class B (for hire) vehicle;  
 35 (3) A Class E (truck) vehicle with a manufacturer's rated capacity of one  
 36 ton or less;

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

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

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

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

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

10 (I) AN ADDITIONAL INITIAL REGISTRATION fee set by the  
11 Administration when the new registration plates are issued to the vehicle under this  
12 section; ~~OR AND OR~~

13 ~~(II) AN ADDITIONAL RENEWAL FEE SET BY THE ADMINISTRATION~~  
14 ~~EACH TIME THE PLATE IS RENEWED.~~

15 ~~(II) EACH TIME THE PLATE IS RENEWED, AN ADDITIONAL~~  
16 ~~RENEWAL FEE IN AN AMOUNT NOT EXCEEDING \$5 THAT IS ESTABLISHED BY THE~~  
17 ~~ADMINISTRATION THROUGH REGULATION.~~

18 ~~(II) AN ADDITIONAL RENEWAL FEE SET BY THE ADMINISTRATION~~  
19 ~~EACH TIME THE PLATE IS RENEWED.~~

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

6                   (ii)    Designated by the Administration under subsection (e) of this  
7 section.

8           (4)     No portion of the [fee] ADDITIONAL INITIAL REGISTRATION OR  
9 RENEWAL FEES may be credited to the Gasoline and Motor Vehicle Revenue Account  
10 for distribution under § 8-403 or § 8-404 of the Transportation Article.

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

14           (2)     Before designating any nonprofit organization to receive any surplus  
15 moneys OR MONEYS COLLECTED FOR ADDITIONAL RENEWAL FEES and before  
16 distributing [any surplus] THE moneys to any nonprofit organization, the  
17 Administration shall adopt regulations specific to each new commemorative plate  
18 detailing:

19                   (i)     The name and nature of the nonprofit organization receiving  
20 the money;

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

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

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

30   (f)   The additional [fee] FEES to the annual registration fee required by this  
31 section [is] ARE not required for special registration of a vehicle that is exempt under  
32 § 13-903 of this title, or a vehicle with a special registration plate recognizing:

33           (1)     The Maryland National Guard; or

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

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

- 1 (i) Any combination of:
- 2 1. Letters; and
- 3 2. Numerals; and
- 4 (ii) Any design approved by the Administration that adequately
- 5 reflects the geographical, historical, natural resource, or environmental theme which
- 6 the plate commemorates.

7 (2) A special registration number or design assigned under this section

8 shall be displayed on the registration plates for the vehicle.

9 (3) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL CONSULT WITH THE NONPROFIT

10 ORGANIZATION DESIGNATED TO RECEIVE MONEYS UNDER THIS SECTION WITH

11 RESPECT TO ANY DESIGN OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMEMORATIVE LICENSE

12 PLATE.

13 13-619.2.

14 (a) In consultation with the Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation,

15 Inc. the Administration shall develop and make available for qualifying vehicles a

16 specially designed registration plate honoring Maryland agriculture.

17 **Chapter 251 of the Acts of 2000**

18 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect

19 July 1, 2000. It shall remain effective for a period of [6] 8 years and, at the end of

20 June 30, [2006] 2008, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this

21 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

22 **Chapter 3 of the Acts of the First Special Session of 1992, as amended by**

23 **Chapter 91 of the Acts of 1994, Chapter 356 of the Acts of 1996, Chapter 141 of**

24 **the Acts of 1998, Chapter 340 of the Acts of 2000, and Chapter 34 of the Acts of**

25 **2002**

26 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, notwithstanding the

27 provisions of § 13-618(c) of the Transportation Article, the Motor Vehicle

28 Administration shall extend the Chesapeake Bay Commemorative Plate Program until

29 July 1, [2007] 2008.

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Motor Vehicle

31 Administration, in conjunction with the nonprofit organization designated to receive

32 moneys under this Act, shall implement the renewal fee for the Chesapeake Bay

33 Commemorative License Plate by January 1, 2004.

34 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect

35 July 1, 2003. It shall remain effective for a period of 7 5 years and, at the end of June

36 30, ~~2010~~ 2008, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall

37 be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

