

SENATE BILL 638

Unofficial Copy
R4

2003 Regular Session
3r2482
CF HB 493

By: **Senator Astle**
Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2003
Assigned to: Rules
Re-referred to: Judicial Proceedings, February 14, 2003

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: March 19, 2003

CHAPTER _____

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:

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, or
5 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 1 commemorative plate under
20 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]:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

19 (ii) Designated by the Administration under subsection (e) of this
20 section.

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

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

27 (2) Before designating any nonprofit organization to receive any surplus
28 moneys OR MONEYS COLLECTED FOR ADDITIONAL RENEWAL FEES and before
29 distributing [any surplus] THE moneys to any nonprofit organization, the
30 Administration shall adopt regulations specific to each new commemorative plate
31 detailing:

32 (i) The name and nature of the nonprofit organization receiving
33 the money;

34 (ii) The relationship of the nonprofit organization to the
35 geographical, historical, natural resource, or environmental theme which the plate
36 commemorates; and

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

1 (3) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL CONSULT WITH THE NONPROFIT
2 ORGANIZATION DESIGNATED TO RECEIVE MONEYS UNDER THIS SECTION TO
3 ESTABLISH A SCHEDULE UNDER WHICH THE ADMINISTRATION WILL TRANSFER TO
4 THE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION REVENUE COLLECTED ON BEHALF OF THE
5 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION UNDER THIS SECTION.

6 (f) The additional [fee] FEES to the annual registration fee required by this
7 section [is] ARE not required for special registration of a vehicle that is exempt under
8 § 13-903 of this title, or a vehicle with a special registration plate recognizing:

9 (1) The Maryland National Guard; or

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

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

14 (i) Any combination of:

15 1. Letters; and

16 2. Numerals; and

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

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

22 (3) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL CONSULT WITH THE NONPROFIT
23 ORGANIZATION DESIGNATED TO RECEIVE MONEYS UNDER THIS SECTION WITH
24 RESPECT TO ANY DESIGN OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMEMORATIVE LICENSE
25 PLATE.

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

30 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
31 July 1, 2003. It shall remain effective for a period of 7 years and, at the end of June
32 30, 2010, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
33 abrogated and of no further force and effect.

