

# SENATE BILL 217

R4

71r1551  
CF HB 220

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By: **Senators Astle, Conway, Dyson, Frosh, Middleton, Pinsky, and Zirkin**  
Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2007  
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Special and Commemorative Registration Plates – Sunset**  
3 **Provisions**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the termination date for the Chesapeake Bay  
5 Commemorative License Plate and the special registration plate honoring State  
6 agriculture; repealing the termination date for certain provisions related to the  
7 design of and the renewal fees for the Chesapeake Bay Commemorative License  
8 Plate; and generally relating to special and commemorative registration plates  
9 for motor vehicles.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
11 Article – Transportation  
12 Section 13–618 and 13–619.2(a)  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
16 Chapter 3 of the Acts of the General Assembly of the First Special Session of  
17 1992, as amended by Chapter 91 of the Acts of the General Assembly of  
18 1994, Chapter 356 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1996, Chapter  
19 141 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1998, Chapter 340 of the Acts  
20 of the General Assembly of 2000, Chapter 34 of the Acts of the General  
21 Assembly of 2002, and Chapter 398 of the Acts of the General Assembly  
22 of 2003  
23 Section 3

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
2 Chapter 251 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2000, as amended by  
3 Chapter 398 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2003  
4 Section 3

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
6 Chapter 398 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2003  
7 Section 3

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

10 **Article – Transportation**

11 13–618.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4                           (i)   An additional initial registration fee set by the  
5 Administration when the new registration plates are issued to the vehicle under this  
6 section; or

7                           (ii)   An additional renewal fee set by the Administration each  
8 time the plate is renewed.

9           (2)   (i)   The Administration shall set the additional initial  
10 registration fee at a level that will enable the Administration to recover its costs under  
11 this section.

12                           (ii)   The Administration may set the additional initial  
13 registration fee at a level that is sufficient to result in a surplus after costs are  
14 subtracted.

15                           (iii)   The Administration shall retain a portion of the additional  
16 initial registration fee that is sufficient to allow the Administration to recover any  
17 costs of issuing and distributing commemorative plates under this section.

18                           (iv)   Any surplus moneys remaining after the Administration has  
19 recovered the costs of issuing a commemorative plate under this section and moneys  
20 collected for additional renewal fees may not be retained by or transferred to any  
21 agency of the State for any purpose.

22                           (v)   Notwithstanding subparagraph (iv) of this paragraph, the  
23 surplus moneys and moneys collected for additional renewal fees may be retained for  
24 the purpose described in paragraph (3) of this subsection.

25           (3)   The surplus moneys and moneys collected for additional renewal  
26 fees shall be disbursed by the Administration to a nonprofit organization that is:

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

29                           (ii)   Designated by the Administration under subsection (e) of  
30 this section.

1           (4) No portion of the additional initial registration or renewal fees may  
2 be credited to the Gasoline and Motor Vehicle Revenue Account for distribution under  
3 § 8–403 or § 8–404 of this article.

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

7           (2) Before designating any nonprofit organization to receive any  
8 surplus moneys or moneys collected for additional renewal fees and before distributing  
9 the moneys to any nonprofit organization, the Administration shall adopt regulations  
10 specific to each new commemorative plate detailing:

11                   (i) The name and nature of the nonprofit organization receiving  
12 the money;

13                   (ii) The relationship of the nonprofit organization to the  
14 geographical, historical, natural resource, or environmental theme which the plate  
15 commemorates; and

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

17           (3) The Administration shall consult with the nonprofit organization  
18 designated to receive moneys under this section to establish a schedule under which  
19 the Administration will transfer to the nonprofit organization revenue collected on  
20 behalf of the nonprofit organization under this section.

21           (f) The additional fees to the annual registration fee required by this section  
22 are not required for special registration of a vehicle that is exempt under § 13–903 of  
23 this title, or a vehicle with a special registration plate recognizing:

24                   (1) The Maryland National Guard; or

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

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

29                   (i) Any combination of:

30                           1. Letters; and



1 30, 2008, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be  
2 abrogated and of no further force and effect.]

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
4 October 1, 2007.