

# 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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Committee Report: Favorable  
Senate action: Adopted with floor amendments  
Read second time: February 15, 2007

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

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

4 FOR the purpose of repealing the authority of the Motor Vehicle Administration to  
5 issue certain special commemorative registration plates for a certain class of  
6 vehicles; altering the termination date for the Chesapeake Bay Commemorative  
7 License Plate and the special registration plate honoring State agriculture;  
8 repealing the termination date for certain provisions related to the design of  
9 and the renewal fees for the Chesapeake Bay Commemorative License Plate;  
10 providing for the termination of a certain provision of this Act; and generally  
11 relating to special and commemorative registration plates for motor vehicles.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, ~~without~~ with amendments,  
13 Article – Transportation  
14 Section 13–618 and ~~13–619.2(a)~~ 13–619.2  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
18 Chapter 3 of the Acts of the General Assembly of the First Special Session of  
19 1992, as amended by Chapter 91 of the Acts of the General Assembly of

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### EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 1994, Chapter 356 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1996, Chapter  
 2 141 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1998, Chapter 340 of the Acts  
 3 of the General Assembly of 2000, Chapter 34 of the Acts of the General  
 4 Assembly of 2002, and Chapter 398 of the Acts of the General Assembly  
 5 of 2003

6 Section 3

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
 8 Chapter 251 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2000, as amended by  
 9 Chapter 398 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2003

10 Section 3

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
 12 Chapter 398 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2003  
 13 Section 3

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

16 **Article – Transportation**

17 13–618.

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

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

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

27 ~~(2) A Class B (for hire) vehicle;~~

28 ~~(3)~~ **(2)** A Class E (truck) vehicle with a manufacturer's rated  
 29 capacity of one ton or less;

30 ~~(4)~~ **(3)** A Class G (trailer) vehicle; or

1           ~~(5)~~ **(4)**           A Class M (multipurpose) vehicle.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

3 (ii) Designated by the Administration under subsection (e) of  
4 this section.

5 (4) No portion of the additional initial registration or renewal fees may  
6 be credited to the Gasoline and Motor Vehicle Revenue Account for distribution under  
7 § 8–403 or § 8–404 of this article.

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

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

15 (i) The name and nature of the nonprofit organization receiving  
16 the money;

17 (ii) The relationship of the nonprofit organization to the  
18 geographical, historical, natural resource, or environmental theme which the plate  
19 commemorates; and

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

21 (3) The Administration shall consult with the nonprofit organization  
22 designated to receive moneys under this section to establish a schedule under which  
23 the Administration will transfer to the nonprofit organization revenue collected on  
24 behalf of the nonprofit organization under this section.

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

28 (1) The Maryland National Guard; or

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

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

3 (i) Any combination of:

4 1. Letters; and

5 2. Numerals; and

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

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

11 (3) The Administration shall consult with the nonprofit organization  
12 designated to receive moneys under this section with respect to any design of the  
13 Chesapeake Bay Commemorative License Plate.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland  
15 read as follows:

16 **Article - Transportation**

17 13-619.2.

18 (a) In consultation with the Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation,  
19 Inc. the Administration shall develop and make available for qualifying vehicles a  
20 specially designed registration plate honoring Maryland agriculture.

21 (b) The owner of a vehicle, or a lessee of the vehicle under a lease not  
22 intended as security, or a director, officer, employee, or partner of a business entity  
23 that owns the vehicle considered eligible by the Administration may apply to the  
24 Administration for an original or substitute registration plate under this section if the  
25 vehicle is included in one of the following classes:

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

27 [(2) A Class B (for hire) vehicle;]

1           ~~[(3)] (2)~~    A Class E (truck) vehicle with a manufacturer's rated  
2 capacity of one ton or less;

3           ~~[(4)] (3)~~    A Class E (farm truck) vehicle;

4           ~~[(5)] (4)~~    A Class G (trailer) vehicle; or

5           ~~[(6)] (5)~~    A Class M (multipurpose) vehicle.

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

9                   (i)   When initially issued the registration plate, a one-time fee  
10 set by the Administration to recover the Administration's costs under this section; and

11                   (ii) When initially issued the registration plate, and each time  
12 the registration plate is renewed, an additional fee set by the Administration to  
13 benefit the Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation, Inc.

14           (2)   The additional fee collected under this section is not required for  
15 special registration of a vehicle that is exempt under § 13-903 of this title.

16           (3)   No portion of the fee collected under this section may be credited to  
17 the Gasoline and Motor Vehicle Revenue Account for distribution under § 8-403 or §  
18 8-404 of this article.

19           (d)   The Administration shall consult with the Maryland Agricultural  
20 Education Foundation, Inc. on:

21                   (1)   The design of a registration plate to be issued under this section to  
22 honor Maryland agriculture;

23                   (2)   The setting of the fee to be charged under subsection (c)(1)(ii) of  
24 this section at a level intended to encourage the purchase of the registration plate  
25 issued under this section while providing a continuous revenue source to benefit the  
26 Foundation; and

27                   (3)   A schedule under which the Administration will transfer to the  
28 Foundation revenue collected on the Foundation's behalf.

