

# HOUSE BILL 68

R4

(PRE-FILED)

6lr0880  
CF 6lr2368

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By: **Delegate Stewart**

Requested: September 17, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Motor Vehicles – Special Registration Plates – Old Line Plates**  
3 **(Old Line Plate Program Act of 2026)**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to develop and make  
5 available an Old Line Plate with a certain numeric-only registration number for  
6 certain motor vehicles; and generally relating to special vehicle registration plates.

7 BY adding to  
8 Article – Transportation  
9 Section 13–619.5  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Transportation**

15 **13–619.5.**

16 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
17 INDICATED.

18 (2) “OLD LINE NUMBER” MEANS A NUMERIC-ONLY VEHICLE  
19 REGISTRATION NUMBER CONSISTING OF ONE TO FIVE DIGITS, WITHOUT LETTERS,  
20 PUNCTUATION, OR LEADING ZEROS.

21 (3) “OLD LINE PLATE” MEANS A REGISTRATION PLATE ISSUED  
22 UNDER THIS SECTION BEARING AN OLD LINE NUMBER.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           (4)    “QUALIFYING VEHICLE” MEANS:

2                   (I)    A CLASS A (PASSENGER) VEHICLE;

3                   (II)   A CLASS E (TRUCK) VEHICLE WITH A MAXIMUM GROSS  
4 VEHICLE WEIGHT OF 10,000 POUNDS OR LESS;

5                   (III) A CLASS M (MULTIPURPOSE) VEHICLE; OR

6                   (IV) ANY OTHER CLASS OF VEHICLE THAT THE ADMINISTRATION  
7 DESIGNATES BY REGULATION.

8           (5)    “REGISTRATION NUMBER RIGHT” MEANS A REVOCABLE,  
9 TRANSFERABLE AUTHORIZATION ISSUED BY THE ADMINISTRATION TO HAVE A  
10 PARTICULAR OLD LINE NUMBER ASSIGNED TO THE REGISTRATION OF A  
11 QUALIFYING VEHICLE.

12        (B)    (1)    THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL DEVELOP AND MAKE AVAILABLE  
13 FOR QUALIFYING VEHICLES AN OLD LINE PLATE.

14                   (2)   (I)    THE STATE SHALL RETAIN OWNERSHIP OF ALL OLD LINE  
15 PLATES.

16                               (II)   A HOLDER OF A REGISTRATION NUMBER RIGHT DOES NOT  
17 HAVE PROPERTY INTEREST IN AN OLD LINE PLATE.

18                   (3)    AN OLD LINE PLATE SHALL RESEMBLE THE WHITE CHARACTERS  
19 ON BLACK BACKGROUND REGISTRATION PLATE ISSUED BY THE STATE FOR DISPLAY  
20 ON A MOTOR VEHICLE IN 1911.

21        (C)    (1)    THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL MAINTAIN AN INVENTORY OF  
22 UNASSIGNED OLD LINE NUMBERS.

23                   (2)    (I)    EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS  
24 PARAGRAPH, THE ADMINISTRATION MAY NOT REASSIGN AN ACTIVE NUMERIC-ONLY  
25 VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBER TO BE AN OLD LINE NUMBER.

26                               (II)   ON REQUEST OF A HOLDER OF AN ACTIVE NUMERIC-ONLY  
27 VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBER AND PAYMENT OF THE REGISTRATION PLATE  
28 REPLACEMENT FEE ESTABLISHED UNDER § 13-952 OF THIS TITLE, THE  
29 ADMINISTRATION SHALL:

1                               1.     ISSUE THE HOLDER A REGISTRATION NUMBER RIGHT;

2   AND

3                               2.     EXCHANGE     THE     INDIVIDUAL'S     CURRENT  
4   REGISTRATION PLATE WITH AN OLD LINE PLATE BEARING THE HOLDER'S CURRENT  
5   REGISTRATION NUMBER.

6           (D)   (1)   THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL:

7                               (I)    ESTABLISH AND OPERATE A PUBLIC AUCTION PROGRAM TO  
8   AWARD REGISTRATION NUMBER RIGHTS IN OLD LINE NUMBERS; AND

9                               (II)   ADOPT RESERVE PRICES, BID INCREMENTS, BIDDER  
10   QUALIFICATIONS, AND OFFER NUMBER CATEGORIES.

11                           (2)   AN AUCTION UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE LIVE, ONLINE,  
12   OR BY SEALED BID AND SHALL BE CONDUCTED PERIODICALLY OR ON A ROLLING  
13   BASIS.

14           (E)   (1)   SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPHS (3) AND (4) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE  
15   ADMINISTRATION MAY TRANSFER A REGISTRATION NUMBER RIGHT AND ISSUE A  
16   NEW, IDENTICAL OLD LINE PLATE TO ANOTHER VEHICLE REGISTRANT ON  
17   APPLICATION AND PAYMENT OF A TRANSFER FEE DETERMINED BY THE  
18   ADMINISTRATION.

19                           (2)   (I)   SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, A  
20   REGISTRATION NUMBER RIGHT FOR AN OLD LINE NUMBER NOT ASSIGNED TO A  
21   QUALIFYING VEHICLE FOR 12 CONSECUTIVE MONTHS SHALL REVERT TO THE  
22   ADMINISTRATION 60 DAYS AFTER WRITTEN NOTICE IS SENT TO THE REGISTRANT'S  
23   LAST ADDRESS ON FILE.

24                           (II)   FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN, THE ADMINISTRATION MAY  
25   AUTHORIZE A ONE-TIME DELAY ON REVERSION OF A REGISTRATION NUMBER RIGHT  
26   FOR UP TO 12 MONTHS.

27                           (3)   A REGISTRATION NUMBER RIGHT MAY NOT BE TRANSFERRED  
28   WITHIN 180 DAYS AFTER ITS INITIAL ISSUANCE OR MOST RECENT TRANSFER.

29                           (4)   NOT MORE THAN ONE TRANSFER OF A SINGLE REGISTRATION  
30   NUMBER RIGHT MAY OCCUR DURING ANY 12-MONTH PERIOD UNLESS THE  
31   TRANSFER:

32                           (I)    IS TO OR FROM THE ESTATE OF A DECEASED HOLDER;

(II) IS TO A SPOUSE, DOMESTIC PARTNER, PARENT, CHILD, OR SIBLING OF THE HOLDER OF THE RIGHT; OR

(III) OCCURS IN CONNECTION WITH A BONA FIDE BUSINESS REORGANIZATION IN WHICH THE BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF THE ENTITY HOLDING THE RIGHT REMAINS UNCHANGED.

(F) (1) (I) THE ADMINISTRATION MAY DENY, SUSPEND, OR REVOKE A REGISTRATION NUMBER RIGHT FOR FRAUD OR MISUSE, NONPAYMENT OF REQUIRED FEES, OR A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION OR REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER THIS SECTION.

(II) THE ADMINISTRATION MAY DENY, SUSPEND, OR REVOKE A TRANSFER UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION IF THE TRANSFER IS DETERMINED BY THE ADMINISTRATION TO BE FOR THE PURPOSE OF EVADING REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION.

(2) UPON REVOCATION OR SURRENDER OF A REGISTRATION NUMBER RIGHT, THE RIGHT SHALL REVERT TO THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE OLD LINE NUMBER MAY BE RE-AUCTIONED.

(G) FEES COLLECTED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE:

(1) USED TO RECOVER THE ADMINISTRATION'S COSTS UNDER THIS SECTION; AND

(2) CREDITED TO THE TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND.

(H) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Administration shall conduct the first auction of Old Line Numbers not later than December 1, 2026.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2026.