

HOUSE BILL 250

R4

3lr1358

By: **Delegates Griffith, Attar, Boyce, Buckel, Charles, Feldmark, Forbes, Ghrist, Guyton, Hartman, Hornberger, Ivey, A. Johnson, S. Johnson, R. Long, Mangione, McComas, Pippy, Reilly, and Rogers**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2023

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 1, 2023

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Disabled Veteran Registration Plates – Issuance**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Motor Vehicle Administration to issue certain special
4 disabled veteran registration plates to certain disabled veterans; prohibiting the
5 Administration from charging certain persons the fee required for replacement
6 registration plates under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the
7 issuance of special disabled veteran registration plates.

8 ~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~
9 ~~Article – Transportation~~
10 ~~Section 13–616(e)~~
11 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
12 ~~(2020 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)~~

13 BY adding to
14 Article – Transportation
15 Section 13–619.4
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
19 Article – Transportation
20 Section 13–903(a)(8)

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.



Annotated Code of Maryland
(2020 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

Article – Transportation

~~13-616.~~

~~(e) (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b)(4) of this section, special registration and special registration plates may be issued under this section only if the applicant submits proof satisfactory to the Administration that the applicant is an individual with a disability described in subsection (b)(1) of this section.~~

~~(2) Except as provided by paragraph (3) of this subsection and subsection (b)(4) of this section, the Administration may not accept applications for special registration under this section from an applicant who, at the time of application:~~

~~(i) Possesses one valid special registration issued under this section;~~
~~or~~

~~(ii) Possesses two parking placards issued under § 13-616.1 of this subtitle.~~

~~(3) An individual may possess two valid special registrations for Class D motorcycles in addition to the special registration authorized under subsection (b) of this section and the parking placards authorized under § 13-616.1 of this subtitle.~~

~~(4) THE ADMINISTRATION MAY ISSUE A DISABLED VETERAN REGISTRATION PLATE IN RECOGNITION OF THE VEHICLE OWNER'S MILITARY SERVICE RELATED INJURIES TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS AT LEAST A 50% SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABLED AMERICAN VETERAN, AS DESIGNATED OR CLASSIFIED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.~~

13-619.4.

(A) THE OWNER OF A MOTOR VEHICLE, OR A LESSEE OF THE VEHICLE UNDER A LEASE NOT INTENDED AS SECURITY, MAY APPLY TO THE ADMINISTRATION FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF SPECIAL DISABLED VETERAN REGISTRATION PLATES UNDER THIS SECTION FOR A VEHICLE INCLUDED IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES:

(1) A CLASS A (PASSENGER) VEHICLE;

1 (2) A CLASS E (TRUCK) VEHICLE WITH A ONE TON OR LESS
2 MANUFACTURER'S RATED CAPACITY;

3 (3) A CLASS M (MULTIPURPOSE) VEHICLE; OR

4 (4) A CLASS D (MOTORCYCLE) VEHICLE.

5 (B) TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A SPECIAL DISABLED VETERAN REGISTRATION
6 PLATE UNDER THIS SECTION, AN APPLICANT SHALL PROVIDE PROOF THAT IS
7 SATISFACTORY TO THE ADMINISTRATION THAT THE APPLICANT IS AN ARMED
8 FORCES VETERAN WHO IS BETWEEN 50% AND 99%, INCLUSIVE,
9 SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABLED AS DESIGNATED OR CLASSIFIED BY THE U.S.
10 DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

11 (C) THE ADMINISTRATION MAY ISSUE A SPECIAL DISABLED VETERAN
12 REGISTRATION PLATE THAT DOES NOT DISPLAY THE INTERNATIONAL SYMBOL OF
13 ACCESS IN RECOGNITION OF THE VEHICLE OWNER'S SERVICE-CONNECTED
14 DISABILITY TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS AN ARMED FORCES VETERAN AND IS
15 BETWEEN 50% AND 99%, INCLUSIVE, SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABLED.

16 (D) THE ADMINISTRATION:

17 (1) SHALL CHARGE THE ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE AND
18 SURCHARGE OTHERWISE REQUIRED UNDER THIS TITLE FOR SPECIAL DISABLED
19 VETERAN REGISTRATION PLATES ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION; AND

20 (2) MAY NOT CHARGE OR RETAIN ANY ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THE
21 SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES.

22 (E) SPECIAL DISABLED VETERAN REGISTRATION PLATES ISSUED UNDER
23 THIS SECTION:

24 (1) MAY CONSIST OF ANY COMBINATION OF LETTERS, NUMERALS, OR
25 BOTH; AND

26 (2) SHALL STATE "DISABLED VETERAN" ON THE SPECIAL
27 REGISTRATION PLATES.

28 (F) (1) IF THE OWNERSHIP OF A MOTOR VEHICLE ASSIGNED SPECIAL
29 DISABLED VETERAN REGISTRATION PLATES UNDER THIS SECTION IS TRANSFERRED
30 FROM THE DISABLED VETERAN WHO QUALIFIED FOR THE SPECIAL REGISTRATION
31 PLATES TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO DOES NOT QUALIFY FOR THE SPECIAL
32 REGISTRATION PLATES:

(I) 1. THE TRANSFEROR SHALL RETURN THE SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES TO THE ADMINISTRATION; AND

2. THE TRANSFEREE SHALL OBTAIN VEHICLE TITLE, REGISTRATION, AND REGISTRATION PLATES AS REQUIRED BY LAW; AND

(II) IF THE TRANSFEROR AND THE TRANSFEREE WERE JOINT OWNERS OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE BEFORE THE TRANSFER, THE ADMINISTRATION MAY NOT CHARGE THE TRANSFEREE THE FEE OTHERWISE REQUIRED FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF REGISTRATION PLATES UNDER § 13-952 OF THIS TITLE.

(2) IF THE OWNERSHIP OF A MOTOR VEHICLE ASSIGNED SPECIAL DISABLED VETERAN REGISTRATION PLATES UNDER THIS SECTION IS TRANSFERRED FROM THE DISABLED VETERAN WHO QUALIFIED FOR THE SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES TO THE DISABLED VETERAN'S SPOUSE WHO DOES NOT QUALIFY FOR THE SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES:

(I) 1. THE TRANSFEROR SHALL RETURN THE SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES TO THE ADMINISTRATION; AND

2. THE TRANSFEREE SHALL OBTAIN VEHICLE TITLE, REGISTRATION, AND REGISTRATION PLATES AS REQUIRED BY LAW; AND

(II) THE ADMINISTRATION MAY NOT CHARGE THE TRANSFEREE THE FEE OTHERWISE REQUIRED FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF REGISTRATION PLATES UNDER § 13-952 OF THIS TITLE.

(G) THE ADMINISTRATION MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS NECESSARY TO GOVERN THE ISSUANCE OF THE SPECIAL DISABLED VETERAN REGISTRATION PLATES UNDER THIS SECTION.

13-903.

(a) The following vehicles are exempt from the registration fees specified in this subtitle:

(8) A vehicle owned by, or leased to, and personally used by a veteran who:

(i) As designated or classified by the Veterans' Administration, has lost the use of a hand, arm, or leg, or is totally disabled; or

(ii) Has a permanent impairment of both eyes so that:

1. The central visual acuity is 20/200 or less in the better eye, with corrective glasses; or

1 2. There is a field defect in which the peripheral field has
2 contracted to such an extent that the widest diameter of visual field subtends an angular
3 distance no greater than 20 degrees in the better eye;

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
5 October 1, 2023.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.