

Senate Bill No. 343

(By Senators Klempa, D. Facemire, Nohe and Yost)

[Introduced January 31, 2011; referred to the Committee on
Transportation and Infrastructure; and then to the Committee on
Finance.]

A BILL to amend and reenact §17A-3-14 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to authorizing the Division of Motor Vehicles to issue a special license plate for applicants who are hearing impaired; establishing requirements for eligibility; and fees.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §17A-3-14 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 3. ORIGINAL AND RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION; ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATES OF TITLE.

§17A-3-14. Registration plates generally; description of plates; issuance of special numbers and plates; registration fees; special application fees; exemptions; commissioner to promulgate forms;

1 **suspension and nonrenewal.**

2 (a) The division upon registering a vehicle shall issue to the
3 owner one registration plate for a motorcycle, trailer, semitrailer
4 or other motor vehicle.

5 (b) Registration plates issued by the division shall meet the
6 following requirements:

7 (1) Every registration plate shall be of reflectorized material
8 and have displayed upon it the registration number assigned to the
9 vehicle for which it is issued; the name of this state, which may
10 be abbreviated; and the year number for which it is issued or the
11 date of expiration of the plate.

12 (2) Every registration plate and the required letters and
13 numerals on the plate shall be of sufficient size to be plainly
14 readable from a distance of one hundred feet during daylight:
15 *Provided*, That the requirements of this subdivision shall not apply
16 to the year number for which the plate is issued or the date of
17 expiration.

18 (3) Registration numbering for registration plates shall begin
19 with number two.

20 (c) The division may not issue, permit to be issued or
21 distribute any special registration plates except as follows:

22 (1) The Governor shall be issued two registration plates, on
23 one of which shall be imprinted the numeral one and on the other
24 the word one.

1 (2) State officials and judges may be issued special
2 registration plates as follows:

3 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to
4 the Secretary of State, State Superintendent of Schools, Auditor,
5 Treasurer, Commissioner of Agriculture and the Attorney General,
6 the members of both houses of the Legislature, including the
7 elected officials of both houses of the Legislature, the justices
8 of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia, the
9 representatives and senators of the state in the Congress of the
10 United States, the judges of the West Virginia circuit courts,
11 active and retired on senior status, the judges of the United
12 States district courts for the State of West Virginia and the
13 judges of the United States Court of Appeals for the fourth
14 circuit, if any of the judges are residents of West Virginia, a
15 special registration plate for a Class A motor vehicle and a
16 special registration plate for a Class G motorcycle owned by the
17 official or his or her spouse: *Provided*, That the division may
18 issue a Class A special registration plate for each vehicle titled
19 to the official and a Class G special registration plate for each
20 motorcycle titled to the official.

21 (B) Each plate issued pursuant to this subdivision shall bear
22 any combination of letters and numbers not to exceed an amount
23 determined by the commissioner and a designation of the office.
24 Each plate shall supersede the regular numbered plate assigned to

1 the official or his or her spouse during the official's term of
2 office and while the motor vehicle is owned by the official or his
3 or her spouse.

4 (C) The division shall charge an annual fee of \$15 for every
5 registration plate issued pursuant to this subdivision, which is in
6 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

7 (3) The division may issue members of the National Guard forces
8 special registration plates as follows:

9 (A) Upon receipt of an application on a form prescribed by the
10 division and receipt of written evidence from the chief executive
11 officer of the Army National Guard or Air National Guard, as
12 appropriate, or the commanding officer of any United States Armed
13 Forces reserve unit that the applicant is a member thereof, the
14 division shall issue to any member of the National Guard of this
15 state or a member of any reserve unit of the United States Armed
16 Forces a special registration plate designed by the commissioner
17 for any number of Class A motor vehicles owned by the member. Upon
18 presentation of written evidence of retirement status, retired
19 members of this state's Army or Air National Guard, or retired
20 members of any reserve unit of the United States Armed Forces, are
21 eligible to purchase the special registration plate issued pursuant
22 to this subdivision.

23 (B) The division shall charge an initial application fee of \$10
24 for each special registration plate issued pursuant to this

1 subdivision, which is in addition to all other fees required by
2 this chapter. Except as otherwise provided herein, effective July
3 1, 2007, all fees currently held in the special revolving fund used
4 in the administration of this section and all fees collected by the
5 division shall be deposited in the State Road Fund.

6 (C) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased
7 spouse's National Guard forces license plate until the surviving
8 spouse dies, remarries or does not renew the license plate.

9 (4) Specially arranged registration plates may be issued as
10 follows:

11 (A) Upon appropriate application, any owner of a motor vehicle
12 subject to Class A registration, or a motorcycle subject to Class
13 G registration, as defined by this article, may request that the
14 division issue a registration plate bearing specially arranged
15 letters or numbers with the maximum number of letters or numbers to
16 be determined by the commissioner. The division shall attempt to
17 comply with the request wherever possible.

18 (B) The commissioner shall propose rules for legislative
19 approval in accordance with the provisions of chapter twenty-nine-a
20 of this code regarding the orderly distribution of the plates:

21 *Provided*, That for purposes of this subdivision, the registration
22 plates requested and issued shall include all plates bearing the
23 numbers two through two thousand.

24 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each special

1 registration plate issued pursuant to this subdivision, which is in
2 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

3 (5) The division may issue honorably discharged veterans
4 special registration plates as follows:

5 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to
6 any honorably discharged veteran of any branch of the armed
7 services of the United States a special registration plate for any
8 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant
9 with an insignia designed by the Commissioner of the Division of
10 Motor Vehicles.

11 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
12 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
13 fee is to compensate the Division of Motor Vehicles for additional
14 costs and services required in the issuing of the special
15 registration. All fees collected by the division shall be
16 deposited in the State Road Fund: *Provided*, That nothing in this
17 section may be construed to exempt any veteran from any other
18 provision of this chapter.

19 (C) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased
20 spouse's honorably discharged veterans license plate until the
21 surviving spouse dies, remarries or does not renew the license
22 plate.

23 (6) The division may issue disabled veterans special
24 registration plates as follows:

1 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to
2 any disabled veteran who is exempt from the payment of registration
3 fees under the provisions of this chapter a registration plate for
4 a vehicle titled in the name of the qualified applicant which bears
5 the letters "DV" in red and also the regular identification
6 numerals in red.

7 (B) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased
8 spouse's disabled veterans license plate until the surviving spouse
9 dies, remarries or does not renew the license plate.

10 (C) A qualified disabled veteran may obtain a second disabled
11 veterans license plate as described in this section for use on a
12 passenger vehicle titled in the name of the qualified applicant.
13 The division shall charge a one-time fee of \$10 to be deposited
14 into the State Road Fund, in addition to all other fees required by
15 this chapter, for the second plate.

16 (7) The division may issue recipients of the distinguished
17 Purple Heart medal special registration plates as follows:

18 (A) Upon appropriate application, there shall be issued to any
19 armed service person holding the distinguished Purple Heart medal
20 for persons wounded in combat a registration plate for a vehicle
21 titled in the name of the qualified applicant bearing letters or
22 numbers. The registration plate shall be designed by the
23 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles and shall denote that those
24 individuals who are granted this special registration plate are

1 recipients of the Purple Heart. All letterings shall be in purple
2 where practical.

3 (B) Registration plates issued pursuant to this subdivision are
4 exempt from all registration fees otherwise required by the
5 provisions of this chapter.

6 (C) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased
7 spouse's Purple Heart medal license plate until the surviving
8 spouse dies, remarries or does not renew the license plate.

9 (D) A recipient of the Purple Heart medal may obtain a second
10 Purple Heart medal license plate as described in this section for
11 use on a passenger vehicle titled in the name of the qualified
12 applicant. The division shall charge a one-time fee of \$10 to be
13 deposited into the State Road Fund, in addition to all other fees
14 required by this chapter, for the second plate.

15 (8) The division may issue survivors of the attack on Pearl
16 Harbor special registration plates as follows:

17 (A) Upon appropriate application, the owner of a motor vehicle
18 who was enlisted in any branch of the armed services that
19 participated in and survived the attack on Pearl Harbor on December
20 7, 1941, the division shall issue a special registration plate for
21 a vehicle titled in the name of the qualified applicant. The
22 registration plate shall be designed by the Commissioner of Motor
23 Vehicles.

24 (B) Registration plates issued pursuant to this subdivision are

1 exempt from the payment of all registration fees otherwise required
2 by the provisions of this chapter.

3 (C) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased
4 spouse's survivors of the attack on Pearl Harbor license plate
5 until the surviving spouse dies, remarries or does not renew the
6 license plate.

7 (D) A survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor may obtain a
8 second survivors of the attack on Pearl Harbor license plate as
9 described in this section for use on a passenger vehicle titled in
10 the name of the qualified applicant. The division shall charge a
11 one-time fee of \$10 to be deposited into the State Road Fund, in
12 addition to all other fees required by this chapter, for the second
13 plate.

14 (9) The division may issue special registration plates to
15 nonprofit charitable and educational organizations authorized under
16 prior enactment of this subdivision as follows:

17 (A) Approved nonprofit charitable and educational organizations
18 previously authorized under the prior enactment of this subdivision
19 may accept and collect applications for special registration plates
20 from owners of Class A motor vehicles together with a special
21 annual fee of \$15, which is in addition to all other fees required
22 by this chapter. The applications and fees shall be submitted to
23 the Division of Motor Vehicles with the request that the division
24 issue a registration plate bearing a combination of letters or

1 numbers with the organizations' logo or emblem, with the maximum
2 number of letters or numbers to be determined by the commissioner.

3 (B) The commissioner shall propose rules for legislative
4 approval in accordance with the provisions of article three,
5 chapter twenty-nine-a of this code regarding the procedures for and
6 approval of special registration plates issued pursuant to this
7 subdivision.

8 (C) The commissioner shall set an appropriate fee to defray the
9 administrative costs associated with designing and manufacturing
10 special registration plates for a nonprofit charitable or
11 educational organization. The nonprofit charitable or educational
12 organization shall collect this fee and forward it to the division
13 for deposit in the State Road Fund. The nonprofit charitable or
14 educational organization may also collect a fee for marketing the
15 special registration plates.

16 (10) The division may issue specified emergency or volunteer
17 registration plates as follows:

18 (A) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a resident of the State
19 of West Virginia and who is a certified paramedic or emergency
20 medical technician, a member of a paid fire department, a member of
21 the State Fire Commission, the State Fire Marshal, the State Fire
22 Marshal's assistants, the State Fire Administrator and voluntary
23 rescue squad members may apply for a special license plate for any
24 number of Class A vehicles titled in the name of the qualified

1 applicant which bears the insignia of the profession, group or
2 commission. Any insignia shall be designed by the commissioner.
3 License plates issued pursuant to this subdivision shall bear the
4 requested insignia in addition to the registration number issued to
5 the applicant pursuant to the provisions of this article.

6 (B) Each application submitted pursuant to this subdivision
7 shall be accompanied by an affidavit signed by the fire chief or
8 department head of the applicant stating that the applicant is
9 justified in having a registration with the requested insignia;
10 proof of compliance with all laws of this state regarding
11 registration and licensure of motor vehicles; and payment of all
12 required fees.

13 (C) Each application submitted pursuant to this subdivision
14 shall be accompanied by payment of a special initial application
15 fee of \$10, which is in addition to any other registration or
16 license fee required by this chapter. All special fees shall be
17 collected by the division and deposited into the State Road Fund.

18 (11) The division may issue specified certified firefighter
19 registration plates as follows:

20 (A) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a resident of the State
21 of West Virginia and who is a certified firefighter may apply for
22 a special license plate which bears the insignia of the profession,
23 for any number of Class A vehicles titled in the name of the
24 qualified applicant. Any insignia shall be designed by the

1 commissioner. License plates issued pursuant to this subdivision
2 shall bear the requested insignia pursuant to the provisions of
3 this article. Upon presentation of written evidence of
4 certification as a certified firefighter, certified firefighters
5 are eligible to purchase the special registration plate issued
6 pursuant to this subdivision.

7 (B) Each application submitted pursuant to this subdivision
8 shall be accompanied by an affidavit stating that the applicant is
9 justified in having a registration with the requested insignia;
10 proof of compliance with all laws of this state regarding
11 registration and licensure of motor vehicles; and payment of all
12 required fees. The firefighter certification department, section
13 or division of the West Virginia University fire service extension
14 shall notify the commissioner in writing immediately when a
15 firefighter loses his or her certification. If a firefighter loses
16 his or her certification, the commissioner may not issue him or her
17 a license plate under this subsection.

18 (C) Each application submitted pursuant to this subdivision
19 shall be accompanied by payment of a special initial application
20 fee of \$10, which is in addition to any other registration or
21 license fee required by this chapter. All special fees shall be
22 collected by the division and deposited into the State Road Fund.

23 (12) The division may issue special scenic registration plates
24 as follows:

1 (A) Upon appropriate application, the commissioner shall issue
2 a special registration plate displaying a scenic design of West
3 Virginia which displays the words "Wild Wonderful" as a slogan.

4 (B) The division shall charge a special one-time initial
5 application fee of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by
6 this chapter. All initial application fees collected by the
7 division shall be deposited into the State Road Fund.

8 (13) The division may issue honorably discharged Marine Corps
9 league members special registration plates as follows:

10 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to
11 any honorably discharged Marine Corps league member a special
12 registration plate for any number of vehicles titled in the name of
13 the qualified applicant with an insignia designed by the
14 Commissioner of the Division of Motor Vehicles.

15 (B) The division may charge a special one-time initial
16 application fee of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by
17 this chapter. This special fee is to compensate the Division of
18 Motor Vehicles for additional costs and services required in the
19 issuing of the special registration and shall be collected by the
20 division and deposited in the State Road Fund: *Provided*, That
21 nothing in this section may be construed to exempt any veteran from
22 any other provision of this chapter.

23 (C) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased
24 spouse's honorably discharged Marine Corps League license plate

1 until the surviving spouse dies, remarries or does not renew the
2 license plate.

3 (14) The division may issue military organization registration
4 plates as follows:

5 (A) The division may issue a special registration plate for the
6 members of any military organization chartered by the United States
7 Congress upon receipt of a guarantee from the organization of a
8 minimum of one hundred applicants. The insignia on the plate shall
9 be designed by the commissioner.

10 (B) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue
11 members of the chartered organization in good standing, as
12 determined by the governing body of the chartered organization, a
13 special registration plate for any number of vehicles titled in the
14 name of the qualified applicant.

15 (C) The division shall charge a special one-time initial
16 application fee of \$10 for each special license plate in addition
17 to all other fees required by this chapter. All initial
18 application fees collected by the division shall be deposited into
19 the State Road Fund: *Provided*, That nothing in this section may be
20 construed to exempt any veteran from any other provision of this
21 chapter.

22 (D) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased
23 spouse's military organization registration plate until the
24 surviving spouse dies, remarries or does not renew the special

1 military organization registration plate.

2 (15) The division may issue special nongame wildlife
3 registration plates and special wildlife registration plates as
4 follows:

5 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue a
6 special registration plate displaying a species of West Virginia
7 wildlife which shall display a species of wildlife native to West
8 Virginia as prescribed and designated by the commissioner and the
9 Director of the Division of Natural Resources.

10 (B) The division shall charge an annual fee of \$15 for each
11 special nongame wildlife registration plate and each special
12 wildlife registration plate in addition to all other fees required
13 by this chapter. All annual fees collected for nongame wildlife
14 registration plates and wildlife registration plates shall be
15 deposited in a special revenue account designated the Nongame
16 Wildlife Fund and credited to the Division of Natural Resources.

17 (C) The division shall charge a special one-time initial
18 application fee of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by
19 this chapter. All initial application fees collected by the
20 division shall be deposited in the State Road Fund.

21 (16) The division may issue members of the Silver Haired
22 Legislature special registration plates as follows:

23 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to
24 any person who is a duly qualified member of the Silver Haired

1 Legislature a specialized registration plate which bears
2 recognition of the applicant as a member of the Silver Haired
3 Legislature.

4 (B) A qualified member of the Silver Haired Legislature may
5 obtain one registration plate described in this subdivision for use
6 on a passenger vehicle titled in the name of the qualified
7 applicant. The division shall charge an annual fee of \$15, in
8 addition to all other fees required by this chapter, for the plate.
9 All annual fees collected by the division shall be deposited in the
10 State Road Fund.

11 (17) Upon appropriate application, the commissioner shall issue
12 to a classic motor vehicle or classic motorcycle as defined in
13 section three-a, article ten of this chapter, a special
14 registration plate designed by the commissioner. An annual fee of
15 \$15, in addition to all other fees required by this chapter, shall
16 be charged for each classic registration plate.

17 (18) Honorably discharged veterans may be issued special
18 registration plates for motorcycles subject to Class G registration
19 as follows:

20 (A) Upon appropriate application, there shall be issued to any
21 honorably discharged veteran of any branch of the armed services of
22 the United States a special registration plate for any number of
23 motorcycles subject to Class G registration titled in the name of
24 the qualified applicant with an insignia designed by the

1 Commissioner of the Division of Motor Vehicles.

2 (B) A special initial application fee of \$10 shall be charged
3 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special fee is
4 to be collected by the division and deposited in the State Road
5 Fund: *Provided*, That nothing in this section may be construed to
6 exempt any veteran from any other provision of this chapter.

7 (C) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased
8 spouse's honorably discharged veterans license plate until the
9 surviving spouse dies, remarries or does not renew the license
10 plate.

11 (19) Racing theme special registration plates:

12 (A) The division may issue a series of special registration
13 plates displaying National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing
14 themes.

15 (B) An annual fee of \$25 shall be charged for each special
16 racing theme registration plate in addition to all other fees
17 required by this chapter. All annual fees collected for each
18 special racing theme registration plate shall be deposited into the
19 State Road Fund.

20 (C) A special application fee of \$10 shall be charged at the
21 time of initial application as well as upon application for any
22 duplicate or replacement registration plate, in addition to all
23 other fees required by this chapter. All application fees shall be
24 deposited into the State Road Fund.

1 (20) The division may issue recipients of the Navy Cross,
2 Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Force
3 Cross, Bronze Star, Silver Star or Air Medal special registration
4 plates as follows:

5 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to
6 any recipient of the Navy Cross, Distinguished Service Cross,
7 Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Force Cross, Silver Star, Bronze
8 Star or Air Medal, a registration plate for any number of vehicles
9 titled in the name of the qualified applicant bearing letters or
10 numbers. A separate registration plate shall be designed by the
11 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles for each award that denotes that
12 those individuals who are granted this special registration plate
13 are recipients of the Navy Cross, Distinguished Service Cross,
14 Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Force Cross, Silver Star or Bronze
15 Star, or Air Medal as applicable.

16 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
17 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
18 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
19 Road Fund: *Provided*, That nothing in this section exempts the
20 applicant for a special registration plate under this subdivision
21 from any other provision of this chapter.

22 (C) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased
23 spouse's Navy Cross, Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished
24 Flying Cross, Air Force Cross, Silver Star, Bronze Star or Air

1 Medal special registration plate until the surviving spouse dies,
2 remarries or does not renew the special registration plate.

3 (21) The division may issue honorably discharged veterans
4 special registration plates as follows:

5 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to
6 any honorably discharged veteran of any branch of the armed
7 services of the United States with verifiable service during World
8 War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War or
9 the War Against Terrorism a special registration plate for any
10 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant
11 with an insignia designed by the commissioner denoting service in
12 the applicable conflict.

13 (B) The division shall charge a special one-time initial
14 application fee of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by
15 law. This special fee shall be collected by the division and
16 deposited in the State Road Fund: *Provided*, That nothing contained
17 in this section may be construed to exempt any veteran from any
18 other provision of this chapter.

19 (C) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased
20 spouse's honorably discharged veterans registration plate until the
21 surviving spouse dies, remarries or does not renew the special
22 registration plate.

23 (22) The division may issue special volunteer firefighter
24 registration plates as follows:

1 (A) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a resident of West
2 Virginia and who is a volunteer firefighter may apply for a special
3 license plate for any Class A vehicle titled in the name of the
4 qualified applicant which bears the insignia of the profession in
5 white letters on a red background. The insignia shall be designed
6 by the commissioner and shall contain a fireman's helmet insignia
7 on the left side of the license plate.

8 (B) Each application submitted pursuant to this subdivision
9 shall be accompanied by an affidavit signed by the applicant's fire
10 chief, stating that the applicant is a volunteer firefighter and
11 justified in having a registration plate with the requested
12 insignia. The applicant must comply with all other laws of this
13 state regarding registration and licensure of motor vehicles and
14 must pay all required fees.

15 (C) Each application submitted pursuant to this subdivision
16 shall be accompanied by payment of a special one-time initial
17 application fee of \$10, which is in addition to any other
18 registration or license fee required by this chapter. All
19 application fees shall be deposited into the State Road Fund.

20 (23) The division may issue special registration plates which
21 reflect patriotic themes, including the display of any United
22 States symbol, icon, phrase or expression which evokes patriotic
23 pride or recognition.

24 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to

1 an applicant a registration plate of the applicant's choice,
2 displaying a patriotic theme as provided in this subdivision, for
3 a vehicle titled in the name of the applicant. A series of
4 registration plates displaying patriotic themes shall be designed
5 by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles for distribution to
6 applicants.

7 (B) The division shall charge a special one-time initial
8 application fee of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by
9 law. This special fee shall be collected by the division and
10 deposited in the State Road Fund.

11 (24) Special license plates bearing the American flag and the
12 logo "9/11/01".

13 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue
14 special registration plates which shall display the American flag
15 and the logo "9/11/01".

16 (B) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
17 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

18 (C) A special application fee of \$10 shall be charged at the
19 time of initial application as well as upon application for any
20 duplicate or replacement registration plate, in addition to all
21 other fees required by this chapter. All application fees shall be
22 deposited into the State Road Fund.

23 (25) The division may issue a special registration plate
24 celebrating the centennial of the 4-H youth development movement

1 and honoring the Future Farmers of America organization as follows:

2 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
3 special registration plate depicting the symbol of the 4-H
4 organization which represents the head, heart, hands and health as
5 well as the symbol of the Future Farmers of America organization
6 which represents a cross section of an ear of corn for any number
7 of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant.

8 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
9 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
10 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
11 Road Fund.

12 (C) The division shall charge an annual fee of \$15 for each
13 special 4-H Future Farmers of America registration plate in
14 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

15 (26) The division may issue special registration plates to
16 educators in the state's elementary and secondary schools and in
17 the state's institutions of higher education as follows:

18 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
19 special registration plate designed by the commissioner for any
20 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant.

21 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
22 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
23 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
24 Road Fund.

1 (C) The division shall charge an annual fee of \$15 for each
2 special educator registration plate in addition to all other fees
3 required by this chapter.

4 (27) The division may issue special registration plates to
5 members of the Nemesis Shrine as follows:

6 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
7 special registration plate designed by the commissioner for any
8 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant.
9 Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer
10 sufficient proof of membership in Nemesis Shrine.

11 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
12 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
13 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
14 Road Fund.

15 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
16 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

17 (D) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (d) of this
18 section, the time period for the Nemesis Shrine to comply with the
19 minimum one hundred prepaid applications is hereby extended to
20 January 15, 2005.

21 (28) The division may issue volunteers and employees of the
22 American Red Cross special registration plates as follows:

23 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to
24 any person who is a duly qualified volunteer or employee of the

1 American Red Cross a specialized registration plate which bears
2 recognition of the applicant as a volunteer or employee of the
3 American Red Cross for any number of vehicles titled in the name of
4 the qualified applicant.

5 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
6 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
7 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
8 Road Fund.

9 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
10 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

11 (29) The division shall issue special registration plates to
12 individuals who have received either the Combat Infantry Badge or
13 the Combat Medic Badge as follows:

14 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue a
15 special registration plate designed by the commissioner for any
16 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant.
17 Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer
18 sufficient proof that they have received either the Combat Infantry
19 Badge or the Combat Medic Badge.

20 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
21 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
22 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
23 Road Fund.

24 (30) The division may issue special registration plates to

1 members of the Knights of Columbus as follows:

2 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue a
3 special registration plate designed by the commissioner for any
4 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant.
5 Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer
6 sufficient proof of membership in the Knights of Columbus.

7 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
8 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
9 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
10 Road Fund.

11 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
12 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

13 (D) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (d) of this
14 section, the time period for the Knights of Columbus to comply with
15 the minimum one hundred prepaid applications is hereby extended to
16 January 15, 2007.

17 (31) The division may issue special registration plates to
18 former members of the Legislature as follows:

19 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue a
20 special registration plate designed by the commissioner for any
21 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant.
22 Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer
23 sufficient proof of former service as an elected or appointed
24 member of the West Virginia House of Delegates or the West Virginia

1 Senate.

2 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
3 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
4 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
5 Road Fund. The design of the plate shall indicate total years of
6 service in the Legislature.

7 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
8 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

9 (32) Democratic state or county executive committee member
10 special registration plates:

11 (A) The division shall design and issue special registration
12 plates for use by democratic state or county executive committee
13 members. The design of the plates shall include an insignia of a
14 donkey and shall differentiate by wording on the plate between
15 state and county executive committee members.

16 (B) An annual fee of \$25 shall be charged for each democratic
17 state or county executive committee member registration plate in
18 addition to all other fees required by this chapter. All annual
19 fees collected for each special plate issued under this subdivision
20 shall be deposited into the State Road Fund.

21 (C) A special application fee of \$10 shall be charged at the
22 time of initial application as well as upon application for any
23 duplicate or replacement registration plate, in addition to all
24 other fees required by this chapter. All application fees shall be

1 deposited into the State Road Fund.

2 (D) The division shall not begin production of a plate
3 authorized under the provisions of this subdivision until the
4 division receives at least one hundred completed applications from
5 the state or county executive committee members, including all fees
6 required pursuant to this subdivision.

7 (E) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (d) of this
8 section, the time period for the democratic executive committee to
9 comply with the minimum one hundred prepaid applications is hereby
10 extended to January 15, 2005.

11 (33) The division may issue honorably discharged female
12 veterans special registration plates as follows:

13 (A) Upon appropriate application, there shall be issued to any
14 female honorably discharged veteran, of any branch of the armed
15 services of the United States, a special registration plate for any
16 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant
17 with an insignia designed by the Commissioner of the Division of
18 Motor Vehicles to designate the recipient as a woman veteran.

19 (B) A special initial application fee of \$10 shall be charged
20 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special fee
21 shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State Road
22 Fund: *Provided*, That nothing in this section may be construed to
23 exempt any veteran from any other provision of this chapter.

24 (C) A surviving spouse may continue to use his deceased

1 spouse's honorably discharged veterans license plate until the
2 surviving spouse dies, remarries or does not renew the license
3 plate.

4 (34) The division may issue special registration plates bearing
5 the logo, symbol, insignia, letters or words demonstrating
6 association with West Liberty State College to any resident owner
7 of a motor vehicle. Resident owners may apply for the special
8 license plate for any number of Class A vehicles titled in the name
9 of the applicant. The special registration plates shall be
10 designed by the commissioner. Each application submitted pursuant
11 to this subdivision shall be accompanied by payment of a special
12 initial application fee of \$15, which is in addition to any other
13 registration or license fee required by this chapter. The division
14 shall charge an annual fee of \$15 for each special registration
15 plate in addition to all other fees required by this chapter. All
16 special fees shall be collected by the division and deposited into
17 the State Road Fund.

18 (35) The division may issue special registration plates to
19 members of the Harley Owners Group as follows:

20 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
21 special registration plate designed by the commissioner for any
22 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant.
23 Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer
24 sufficient proof of membership in the Harley Owners Group.

1 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
2 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
3 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
4 Road Fund.

5 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
6 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

7 (36) The division may issue special registration plates for
8 persons retired from any branch of the armed services of the United
9 States as follows:

10 (A) Upon appropriate application, there shall be issued to any
11 person who has retired after service in any branch of the armed
12 services of the United States, a special registration plate for any
13 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant
14 with an insignia designed by the Commissioner of the Division of
15 Motor Vehicles to designate the recipient as retired from the armed
16 services of the United States.

17 (B) A special initial application fee of \$10 shall be charged
18 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special fee
19 shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State Road
20 Fund: *Provided*, That nothing in this section may be construed to
21 exempt any registrants from any other provision of this chapter.

22 (C) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased
23 spouse's retired military license plate until the surviving spouse
24 dies, remarries or does not renew the license plate.

1 (37) The division may issue special registration plates bearing
2 the logo, symbol, insignia, letters or words demonstrating
3 association with or support for Fairmont State College as follows:

4 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
5 special registration plate designed by the commissioner for any
6 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant.

7 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
8 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
9 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
10 Road Fund.

11 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
12 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

13 (38) The division may issue special registration plates
14 honoring the farmers of West Virginia as follows:

15 (A) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a resident of West
16 Virginia may apply for a special license plate depicting a farming
17 scene or other apt reference to farming, whether in pictures or
18 words, at the discretion of the commissioner.

19 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
20 of \$10. This special fee shall be collected by the division and
21 deposited in the State Road Fund.

22 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
23 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

24 (39) The division shall issue special registration plates

1 promoting education as follows:

2 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue a
3 special registration plate displaying a children's education-
4 related theme as prescribed and designated by the commissioner and
5 the state superintendent of Schools.

6 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
7 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
8 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
9 Road Fund.

10 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
11 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

12 (40) The division may issue members of the 82nd Airborne
13 Division Association special registration plates as follows:

14 (A) The division may issue a special registration plate for
15 members of the 82nd Airborne Division Association upon receipt of
16 a guarantee from the organization of a minimum of one hundred
17 applicants. The insignia on the plate shall be designed by the
18 commissioner.

19 (B) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue
20 members of the 82nd Airborne Division Association in good standing,
21 as determined by the governing body of the organization, a special
22 registration plate for any number of vehicles titled in the name of
23 the qualified applicant.

24 (C) The division shall charge a special one-time initial

1 application fee of \$10 for each special license plate in addition
2 to all other fees required by this chapter. All initial
3 application fees collected by the division shall be deposited into
4 the State Road Fund: *Provided*, That nothing in this section may be
5 construed to exempt the applicant from any other provision of this
6 chapter.

7 (D) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased
8 spouse's special 82nd Airborne Division Association registration
9 plate until the surviving spouse dies, remarries or does not renew
10 the special registration plate.

11 (41) The division may issue special registration plates to
12 survivors of wounds received in the line of duty as a member with
13 a West Virginia law-enforcement agency.

14 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to
15 any member of a municipal police department, sheriff's department,
16 the State Police or the law-enforcement division of the Division of
17 Natural Resources who has been wounded in the line of duty and
18 awarded a Purple Heart in recognition thereof by the West Virginia
19 Chiefs of Police Association, the West Virginia Sheriffs'
20 Association, the West Virginia Troopers Association or the Division
21 of Natural Resources a special registration plate for one vehicle
22 titled in the name of the qualified applicant with an insignia
23 appropriately designed by the commissioner.

24 (B) Registration plates issued pursuant to this subdivision are

1 exempt from the registration fees otherwise required by the
2 provisions of this chapter.

3 (C) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased
4 spouse's special registration plate until the surviving spouse
5 dies, remarries or does not renew the plate.

6 (D) Survivors of wounds received in the line of duty as a
7 member with a West Virginia law-enforcement agency may obtain a
8 license plate as described in this section for use on a passenger
9 vehicle titled in the name of the qualified applicant. The
10 division shall charge a one-time fee of \$10 to be deposited into
11 the State Road Fund, in addition to all other fees required by this
12 chapter, for the second plate.

13 (42) The division may issue a special registration plate for
14 persons who are Native Americans and residents of this state.

15 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to
16 an applicant who is a Native American resident of West Virginia a
17 registration plate for a vehicle titled in the name of the
18 applicant with an insignia designed by the Commissioner of the
19 Division of Motor Vehicles to designate the recipient as a Native
20 American.

21 (B) The division shall charge a special one-time initial
22 application fee of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by
23 law. This special fee shall be collected by the division and
24 deposited in the State Road Fund.

1 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
2 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

3 (43) The division may issue special registration plates
4 commemorating the centennial anniversary of the creation of Davis
5 and Elkins College as follows:

6 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
7 special registration plate designed by the commissioner to
8 commemorate the centennial anniversary of Davis and Elkins College
9 for any number of vehicles titled in the name of the applicant.

10 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
11 of \$10. This special fee shall be collected by the division and
12 deposited in the State Road Fund.

13 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
14 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

15 (44) The division may issue special registration plates
16 recognizing and honoring breast cancer survivors.

17 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
18 special registration plate designed by the commissioner to
19 recognize and honor breast cancer survivors, such plate to
20 incorporate somewhere in the design the "pink ribbon emblem", for
21 any number of vehicles titled in the name of the applicant.

22 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
23 of \$10. This special fee shall be deposited in the State Road
24 Fund.

1 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
2 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

3 (45) The division may issue special registration plates to
4 members of the Knights of Pythias or Pythian Sisters as follows:

5 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
6 special registration plate designed by the commissioner for any
7 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant.

8 Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer
9 sufficient proof of membership in the Knights of Pythias or Pythian
10 Sisters.

11 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
12 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
13 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
14 Road Fund.

15 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
16 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

17 (46) The commissioner may issue special registration plates for
18 whitewater rafting enthusiasts as follows:

19 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
20 special registration plate designed by the commissioner for any
21 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant.

22 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
23 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
24 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State

1 Road Fund.

2 (C) The division shall charge an annual fee of \$15 for each
3 special registration plate in addition to all other fees required
4 by this chapter.

5 (47) The division may issue special registration plates to
6 members of Lions International as follows:

7 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
8 special registration plate designed by the commissioner in
9 consultation with Lions International for any number of vehicles
10 titled in the name of the qualified applicant. Persons desiring
11 the special registration plate shall offer sufficient proof of
12 membership in Lions International.

13 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
14 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
15 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
16 Road Fund.

17 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
18 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

19 (48) The division may issue special registration plates
20 supporting organ donation as follows:

21 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
22 special registration plate designed by the commissioner which
23 recognizes, supports and honors organ and tissue donors and
24 includes the words "Donate Life".

1 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
2 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
3 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
4 Road Fund.

5 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
6 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

7 (49) The division may issue special registration plates to
8 members of the West Virginia Bar Association as follows:

9 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
10 special registration plate designed by the commissioner in
11 consultation with the West Virginia Bar Association for any number
12 of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant. Persons
13 desiring the special registration plate shall offer sufficient
14 proof of membership in the West Virginia Bar Association.

15 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
16 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
17 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
18 Road Fund.

19 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
20 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

21 (50) The division may issue special registration plates bearing
22 an appropriate logo, symbol or insignia combined with the words
23 "SHARE THE ROAD" designed to promote bicycling in the state as
24 follows:

1 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
2 special registration plate designed by the commissioner for any
3 number of vehicles titled in the name of the applicant.

4 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
5 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
6 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
7 Road Fund.

8 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
9 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

10 (51) The division may issue special registration plates
11 honoring coal miners as follows:

12 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue a
13 special registration plate depicting and displaying coal miners in
14 mining activities as prescribed and designated by the commissioner
15 and the board of the National Coal Heritage Area Authority.

16 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
17 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
18 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
19 Road Fund.

20 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
21 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

22 (52) The division may issue special registration plates to
23 present and former Boy Scouts as follows:

24 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a

1 special registration plate designed by the Commissioner for any
2 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant.
3 Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer
4 sufficient proof of present or past membership in the Boy Scouts as
5 either a member or a leader.

6 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
7 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
8 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
9 Road Fund.

10 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
11 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

12 (53) The division may issue special registration plates to
13 present and former Boy Scouts who have achieved Eagle Scout status
14 as follows:

15 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
16 special registration plate designed by the commissioner for any
17 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant.
18 Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer
19 sufficient proof of achievement of Eagle Scout status.

20 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
21 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
22 fee shall be deposited in the State Road Fund.

23 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
24 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

1 (54) The division may issue special registration plates
2 recognizing and memorializing victims of domestic violence.

3 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
4 special registration plate designed by the commissioner to
5 recognize and memorialize victims of domestic violence, such plate
6 to incorporate somewhere in the design the "purple ribbon emblem",
7 for any number of vehicles titled in the name of the applicant.

8 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
9 of \$10. This special fee shall be deposited in the State Road
10 Fund.

11 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
12 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

13 (55) The division may issue special registration plates bearing
14 the logo, symbol, insignia, letters or words demonstrating
15 association with or support for the University of Charleston as
16 follows:

17 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
18 special registration plate designed by the commissioner for any
19 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant.

20 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
21 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
22 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
23 Road Fund.

24 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in

1 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

2 (56) The division may issue special registration plates to
3 members of the Sons of the American Revolution as follows:

4 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
5 special registration plate designed by the commissioner in
6 consultation with the Sons of the American Revolution for any
7 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant.
8 Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer
9 sufficient proof of membership in the Sons of the American
10 Revolution.

11 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
12 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
13 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
14 Road Fund.

15 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in
16 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

17 (57) The commissioner may issue special registration plates for
18 horse enthusiasts as follows:

19 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
20 special registration plate designed by the commissioner for any
21 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant.

22 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
23 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
24 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State

1 Road Fund.

2 (C) The division shall charge an annual fee of \$15 for each
3 special registration plate in addition to all other fees required
4 by this chapter.

5 (58) The commissioner may issue special registration plates to
6 the next of kin of a member of any branch of the armed services of
7 the United States killed in combat as follows:

8 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue a
9 special registration plate for any number of vehicles titled in the
10 name of a qualified applicant depicting the Gold Star awarded by
11 the United States Department of Defense as prescribed and
12 designated by the commissioner.

13 (B) The next of kin shall provide sufficient proof of receiving
14 a Gold Star lapel button from the United States Department of
15 Defense in accordance with Public Law 534, 89th Congress, and
16 criteria established by the United States Department of Defense,
17 including criteria to determine next of kin.

18 (C) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
19 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
20 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
21 Road Fund.

22 (D) The provisions of subsection (d) of this section are not
23 applicable for the issuance of the special license plates
24 designated by this subdivision.

1 (59) The commissioner may issue special registration plates for
2 retired or former Justices of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West
3 Virginia as follows:

4 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
5 special registration plate designed by the commissioner for any
6 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant.

7 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
8 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
9 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
10 Road Fund.

11 (C) The division shall charge an annual fee of \$15 for each
12 special registration plate in addition to all other fees required
13 by this chapter.

14 (D) The provisions of subsection (d) of this section are not
15 applicable for the issuance of the special license plates
16 designated by this subdivision.

17 (60) Upon approval by the commissioner of an appropriate
18 application, and upon all requirements of this subdivision being
19 satisfied, the division may issue special registration plates for
20 class A and class G motor vehicles to members of an organization
21 for which a special registration plate has not been issued pursuant
22 to any other subdivision in this subsection prior to January 1,
23 2010, in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision.

24 (A) An organization desiring to create a special registration

1 plate must comply with the following requirements to be eligible
2 to apply for the creation and issuance of a special registration
3 plate:

4 (i) The organization must be a nonprofit organization organized
5 and existing under Section 501(c)(3) of Title 26 of the Internal
6 Revenue Code and based, headquartered or have a chapter in West
7 Virginia;

8 (ii) The organization may be organized for, but may not be
9 restricted to, social, civic, higher education or entertainment
10 purposes;

11 (iii) The organization may not be a political party and may not
12 have been created or exist primarily to promote a specific
13 political or social belief, as determined by the commissioner in
14 his or her sole discretion;

15 (iv) The organization may not have as its primary purpose the
16 promotion of any specific faith, religion, religious belief or
17 anti-religion;

18 (v) The name of the organization may not be the name of a
19 special product or brand name, and may not be construed, as
20 determined by the commissioner, as promoting a product or brand
21 name; and

22 (vi) The organization's lettering, logo, image or message to
23 be placed on the registration plate, if created, may not be
24 obscene, offensive or objectionable as determined by the

1 commissioner in his or her sole discretion.

2 (B) Beginning July 1, 2010, an organization requesting the
3 creation and issuance of a special registration plate may make
4 application with the division. The application shall include
5 sufficient information, as determined by the commissioner, to
6 determine whether the special registration plate requested and the
7 organization making the application meet all of the requirements
8 set forth in this subdivision (60). The application shall also
9 include a proposed design, including lettering, logo, image or
10 message to be placed on the registration plate. The commissioner
11 shall notify the organization of the commissioner's approval or
12 disapproval of the application.

13 (C) (i) The commissioner may not begin the design or production
14 of any license plates authorized and approved pursuant to this
15 subdivision (60), subsection (c) of this section until the
16 organization which applied for the special registration plate has
17 collected and submitted collectively to the division applications
18 completed by at least two hundred fifty persons and collectively
19 deposited with the division all fees necessary to cover the first
20 year's basic registration, one-time design and manufacturing costs
21 and to cover the first year additional annual fee for all of the
22 applications submitted.

23 (ii) If the organization fails to submit the required number
24 of applications and fees within six months of the effective date of

1 the approval of the application for the plate by the commissioner,
2 the plate will not be produced until a new application is submitted
3 and is approved by the commissioner: *Provided*, That an
4 organization that is unsuccessful in obtaining the minimum number
5 of applications may not make a new application for a special plate
6 until at least two years have passed since the approval of the
7 previous application of the organization.

8 (D) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
9 of \$25 for each special license plate in addition to all other fees
10 required by law. This special fee shall be collected by the
11 division and deposited in the State Road Fund.

12 (E) The division shall charge an annual fee of \$15 for each
13 special registration plate in addition to all other fees required
14 by this chapter.

15 (F) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
16 special registration plate designed by the commissioner in
17 consultation with the organization for any number of vehicles
18 titled in the name of a qualified registration plate applicant.
19 Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer
20 sufficient proof of membership in the organization.

21 (G) The commissioner shall discontinue the issuance or renewal
22 of the registration of any special plate issued pursuant to this
23 subdivision (60) if:

24 (i) The number of valid registrations for the specialty plate

1 falls below two hundred fifty plates for at least twelve
2 consecutive months; or

3 (ii) The organization no longer exists or no longer meets the
4 requirements of this subdivision.

5 (61) The commissioner may issue special registration plates for
6 persons who are hearing impaired as certified by a licensed
7 physician or an audiologist certified by the American Speech-
8 Language-Hearing Association as follows:

9 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a
10 special registration plate designed by the commissioner for any
11 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant.

12 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee
13 of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This special
14 fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
15 Road Fund.

16 (C) The minimum number of applications requirements of
17 subsection (d) of this section are not applicable for the issuance
18 of the special license plates designated by this subdivision.

19 (d) The minimum number of applications required prior to design
20 and production of a special license plate shall be as follows:

21 (1) The commissioner may not begin the design or production of
22 any license plates for which eligibility is based on membership or
23 affiliation with a particular private organization until at least
24 one hundred persons complete an application and deposit with the

1 organization a check to cover the first year's basic registration,
2 one-time design and manufacturing costs and to cover the first year
3 additional annual fee. If the organization fails to submit the
4 required number of applications with attached checks within six
5 months of the effective date of the original authorizing
6 legislation, the plate will not be produced and will require
7 legislative reauthorization: *Provided*, That an organization or
8 group that is unsuccessful in obtaining the minimum number of
9 applications may not request reconsideration of a special plate
10 until at least two years have passed since the effective date of
11 the original authorization: *Provided, however*, That the provisions
12 of this subdivision (1) are not applicable to the issuance of
13 plates authorized pursuant to subdivision (60), subsection (c) of
14 this section.

15 (2) The commissioner may not begin the design or production of
16 any license plates authorized by this section for which membership
17 or affiliation with a particular organization is not required until
18 at least two hundred fifty registrants complete an application and
19 deposit a fee with the division to cover the first year's basic
20 registration fee, one-time design and manufacturing fee and
21 additional annual fee if applicable. If the commissioner fails to
22 receive the required number of applications within six months of
23 the effective date of the original authorizing legislation, the
24 plate will not be produced and will require legislative

1 reauthorization: *Provided*, That if the minimum number of
2 applications is not satisfied within the six months of the
3 effective date of the original authorizing legislation, a person
4 may not request reconsideration of a special plate until at least
5 two years have passed since the effective date of the original
6 authorization.

7 (e) (1) Nothing in this section requires a charge for a free
8 prisoner of war license plate or a free recipient of the
9 Congressional Medal of Honor license plate for a vehicle titled in
10 the name of the qualified applicant as authorized by other
11 provisions of this code.

12 (2) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased
13 spouse's prisoner of war license plate or Congressional Medal of
14 Honor license plate until the surviving spouse dies, remarries or
15 does not renew the license plate.

16 (3) Qualified former prisoners of war and recipients of the
17 Congressional Medal of Honor may obtain a second special
18 registration plate for use on a passenger vehicle titled in the
19 name of the qualified applicant. The division shall charge a one-
20 time fee of \$10 to be deposited into the State Road Fund, in
21 addition to all other fees required by this chapter, for the second
22 special plate.

23 (f) The division may issue special ten-year registration plates
24 as follows:

1 (1) The commissioner may issue or renew for a period of no more
2 than ten years any registration plate exempted from registration
3 fees pursuant to any provision of this code or any restricted use
4 antique motor vehicle license plate authorized by section three-a,
5 article ten of this chapter: *Provided*, That the provisions of this
6 subsection do not apply to any person who has had a special
7 registration suspended for failure to maintain motor vehicle
8 liability insurance as required by section three, article two-a,
9 chapter seventeen-d of this code or failure to pay personal
10 property taxes as required by section three-a of this article.

11 (2) An initial nonrefundable fee shall be charged for each
12 special registration plate issued pursuant to this subsection,
13 which is the total amount of fees required by section fifteen,
14 article ten of this chapter, section three, article three of this
15 chapter or section three-a, article ten of this chapter for the
16 period requested.

17 (g) The provisions of this section may not be construed to
18 exempt any registrant from maintaining motor vehicle liability
19 insurance as required by section three, article two-a, chapter
20 seventeen-d of this code or from paying personal property taxes on
21 any motor vehicle as required by section three-a of this article.

22 (h) The commissioner may, in his or her discretion, issue a
23 registration plate of reflectorized material suitable for permanent
24 use on motor vehicles, trailers and semitrailers, together with

1 appropriate devices to be attached to the registration to indicate
2 the year for which the vehicles have been properly registered or
3 the date of expiration of the registration. The design and
4 expiration of the plates shall be determined by the commissioner.
5 The commissioner shall, whenever possible and cost effective,
6 implement the latest technology in the design, production and
7 issuance of registration plates, indices of registration renewal
8 and vehicle ownership documents, including, but not limited to,
9 offering Internet renewal of vehicle registration and the use of
10 bar codes for instant identification of vehicles by scanning
11 equipment to promote the efficient and effective coordination and
12 communication of data for improving highway safety, aiding law
13 enforcement and enhancing revenue collection.

14 (i) Any license plate issued or renewed pursuant to this
15 chapter which is paid for by a check that is returned for
16 nonsufficient funds is void without further notice to the
17 applicant. The applicant may not reinstate the registration until
18 the returned check is paid by the applicant in cash, money order or
19 certified check and all applicable fees assessed as a result
20 thereof have been paid.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to provide for the issuance of special license plates for the hearing impaired. The bill also exempts this plate from the minimum number of applications requirements.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would

be added.