

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2023 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2211

FISCAL
NOTE

By Delegate Mallow

[Introduced January 11, 2023; Referred to the
Committee on Veterans' Affairs and Homeland
Security then Finance]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §17A-3-14 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
 2 to exempting honorably discharged veteran of any branch of the armed services of the
 3 United States from the payment of registration fees under the provisions of this chapter,
 4 except for a special initial application fee of \$10.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

**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; suspension and nonrenewal.**

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

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

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

7 (2) Every registration plate and the required letters and numerals on the plate shall be of
 8 sufficient size to be plainly readable from a distance of 100 feet during daylight: *Provided*, That the
 9 requirements of this subdivision shall not apply to the year number for which the plate is issued or
 10 the date of expiration.

11 (3) Registration numbering for registration plates shall begin with the number two.

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

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

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

17 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to the Secretary of State, State
18 Superintendent of Schools, Auditor, Treasurer, Commissioner of Agriculture, and the Attorney
19 General, the members of both houses of the Legislature, including the elected officials of both
20 houses of the Legislature, the justices of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia, the
21 representatives and senators of the state in the Congress of the United States, the judges of the
22 West Virginia circuit courts, active and retired on senior status, the judges of the United States
23 district courts for the State of West Virginia and the judges of the United States Court of Appeals
24 for the fourth circuit, if any of the judges are residents of West Virginia, a special registration plate
25 for a Class A motor vehicle and a special registration plate for a Class G motorcycle owned by the
26 official or his or her spouse: *Provided*, That the division may issue a Class A special registration
27 plate for each vehicle titled to the official and a Class G special registration plate for each
28 motorcycle titled to the official.

29 (B) Each plate issued pursuant to this subdivision shall bear any combination of letters and
30 numbers not to exceed an amount determined by the commissioner and a designation of the
31 office. Each plate shall supersede the regular numbered plate assigned to the official or his or her
32 spouse during the official's term of office and while the motor vehicle is owned by the official or his
33 or her spouse.

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

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

38 (A) Upon receipt of an application on a form prescribed by the division and receipt of
39 written evidence from the chief executive officer of the Army National Guard or Air National Guard,
40 as appropriate, or the commanding officer of any United States armed forces reserve unit that the
41 applicant is a member thereof, the division shall issue to any member of the National Guard of this

42 state or a member of any reserve unit of the United States armed forces a special registration plate
43 designed by the commissioner for any number of Class A motor vehicles owned by the member.
44 Upon presentation of written evidence of retirement status, retired members of this state's Army or
45 Air National Guard, or retired members of any reserve unit of the United States armed forces, are
46 eligible to purchase the special registration plate issued pursuant to this subdivision.

47 (B) The division shall charge an initial application fee of \$10 for each special registration
48 plate issued pursuant to this subdivision, which is in addition to all other fees required by this
49 chapter. Except as otherwise provided herein, effective July 1, 2007, all fees currently held in the
50 special revolving fund used in the administration of this section and all fees collected by the
51 division shall be deposited in the State Road Fund.

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

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

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

60 (B) The commissioner shall propose rules for legislative approval in accordance with the
61 provisions of §29A-1-1 *et seq.* of this code regarding the orderly distribution of the plates:
62 *Provided,* That for purposes of this subdivision, the registration plates requested and issued shall
63 include all plates bearing the numbers two through 2,000.

64 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each special registration plate issued
65 pursuant to this subdivision, which is in addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

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

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

72 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee of \$10 in addition to all other
73 fees required by law, but the division shall not charge any other fees for the registration, renewal or
74 registration, or other licensing of a personal vehicle under this subdivision. This special fee is to
75 compensate the Division of Motor Vehicles for additional costs and services required in the issuing
76 of the special registration. All fees collected by the division shall be deposited in the State Road
77 Fund. ~~Provided, That nothing in this section may be construed to exempt any veteran from any~~
78 ~~other provision of this chapter~~

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

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

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

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

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

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

96 (A) Upon appropriate application, there shall be issued to any armed service person
97 holding the distinguished Purple Heart medal for persons wounded in combat a registration plate
98 for a vehicle titled in the name of the qualified applicant bearing letters or numbers. The
99 registration plate shall be designed by the Commissioner of the Division of Motor Vehicles and
100 shall denote that those individuals who are granted this special registration plate are recipients of
101 the Purple Heart. All letterings shall be in purple where practical.

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

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

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

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

112 (A) Upon appropriate application, the owner of a motor vehicle who was enlisted in any
113 branch of the armed services that participated in and survived the attack on Pearl Harbor on
114 December 7, 1941, the division shall issue a special registration plate for a vehicle titled in the
115 name of the qualified applicant. The registration plate shall be designed by the Commissioner of
116 the Division of Motor Vehicles.

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

119 (C) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased spouse's survivors of the

120 attack on Pearl Harbor license plate until the surviving spouse dies, remarries, or does not renew
121 the license plate.

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

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

128 (A) Approved nonprofit charitable and educational organizations previously authorized
129 under the prior enactment of this subdivision may accept and collect applications for special
130 registration plates from owners of Class A motor vehicles together with a special annual fee of
131 \$15, which is in addition to all other fees required by this chapter. The applications and fees shall
132 be submitted to the Division of Motor Vehicles with the request that the division issue a registration
133 plate bearing a combination of letters or numbers with the organization's logo or emblem, with the
134 maximum number of letters or numbers to be determined by the commissioner.

135 (B) The commissioner shall propose rules for legislative approval in accordance with the
136 provisions of §29A-3-1 *et seq.* of this code regarding the procedures for and approval of special
137 registration plates issued pursuant to this subdivision.

138 (C) The commissioner shall set an appropriate fee to defray the administrative costs
139 associated with designing and manufacturing special registration plates for a nonprofit charitable
140 or educational organization. The nonprofit charitable or educational organization shall collect this
141 fee and forward it to the division for deposit in the State Road Fund. The nonprofit charitable or
142 educational organization may also collect a fee for marketing the special registration plates.

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

145 (A) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a resident of the State of West Virginia and who is

146 a certified paramedic or emergency medical technician, a member of a paid fire department, a
147 member of the State Fire Commission, the State Fire Marshal, the State Fire Marshal's assistants,
148 the State Fire Administrator, and voluntary rescue squad members may apply for a special license
149 plate for any number of Class A vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant which bears
150 the insignia of the profession, group, or commission. Any insignia shall be designed by the
151 commissioner. License plates issued pursuant to this subdivision shall bear the requested insignia
152 in addition to the registration number issued to the applicant pursuant to the provisions of this
153 article.

154 (B) Each application submitted pursuant to this subdivision shall be accompanied by an
155 affidavit signed by the fire chief or department head of the applicant stating that the applicant is
156 justified in having a registration with the requested insignia, proof of compliance with all laws of this
157 state regarding registration and licensure of motor vehicles, and payment of all required fees.

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

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

163 (A) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a resident of the State of West Virginia and who is
164 a certified firefighter may apply for a special license plate which bears the insignia of the
165 profession, for any number of Class A vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant. Any
166 insignia shall be designed by the commissioner. License plates issued pursuant to this subdivision
167 shall bear the requested insignia pursuant to the provisions of this article. Upon presentation of
168 written evidence of certification as a certified firefighter, certified firefighters are eligible to
169 purchase the special registration plate issued pursuant to this subdivision.

170 (B) Each application submitted pursuant to this subdivision shall be accompanied by an
171 affidavit stating that the applicant is justified in having a registration with the requested insignia,

172 proof of compliance with all laws of this state regarding registration and licensure of motor
173 vehicles, and payment of all required fees. The firefighter certification department, section, or
174 division of the West Virginia University fire service extension shall notify the commissioner in
175 writing immediately when a firefighter loses his or her certification. If a firefighter loses his or her
176 certification, the commissioner may not issue him or her a license plate under this subdivision.

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

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

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

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

187 (13) The division may issue honorably discharged Marine Corps League members special
188 registration plates as follows:

189 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to any honorably discharged
190 Marine Corps League member a special registration plate for any number of vehicles titled in the
191 name of the qualified applicant with an insignia designed by the Commissioner of the Division of
192 Motor Vehicles.

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

198 (C) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased spouse's honorably
199 discharged Marine Corps League license plate until the surviving spouse dies, remarries, or does
200 not renew the license plate.

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

202 (A) The division may issue a special registration plate for the members of any military
203 organization chartered by the United States Congress upon receipt of a guarantee from the
204 organization of a minimum of 100 applicants. The insignia on the plate shall be designed by the
205 commissioner.

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

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

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

216 (15) The division may issue special nongame wildlife registration plates and special wildlife
217 registration plates as follows:

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

222 (B) The division shall charge an annual fee of \$15 for each special nongame wildlife
223 registration plate and each special wildlife registration plate in addition to all other fees required by

224 this chapter. All annual fees collected for nongame wildlife registration plates and wildlife
225 registration plates shall be deposited in a special revenue account designated the Nongame
226 Wildlife Fund and credited to the Division of Natural Resources.

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

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

232 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to any person who is a duly
233 qualified member of the Silver Haired Legislature a specialized registration plate which bears
234 recognition of the applicant as a member of the Silver Haired Legislature.

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

240 (17) Upon appropriate application, the commissioner shall issue to a classic motor vehicle
241 or classic motorcycle, as defined in §17A-10-3a of this code, a special registration plate designed
242 by the commissioner. An annual fee of \$15, in addition to all other fees required by this chapter,
243 shall be charged for each classic registration plate.

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

246 (A) Upon appropriate application, there shall be issued to any honorably discharged
247 veteran of any branch of the armed services of the United States a special registration plate for
248 any number of motorcycles subject to Class G registration titled in the name of the qualified
249 applicant with an insignia designed by the Commissioner of the Division of Motor Vehicles.

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

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

257 (19) Racing theme special registration plates:

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

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

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

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

269 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to any recipient of the Navy
270 Cross, Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Force Cross, Silver Star,
271 Bronze Star, or Air Medal, a registration plate for any number of vehicles titled in the name of the
272 qualified applicant bearing letters or numbers. A separate registration plate shall be designed by
273 the Commissioner of the Division of Motor Vehicles for each award that denotes that those
274 individuals who are granted this special registration plate are recipients of the Navy Cross,
275 Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Force Cross, Silver Star, Bronze

276 Star, or Air Medal as applicable.

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

281 (C) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased spouse's Navy Cross,
282 Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Force Cross, Silver Star, Bronze
283 Star, or Air Medal special registration plate until the surviving spouse dies, remarries, or does not
284 renew the special registration plate.

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

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

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

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

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

301 (A) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a resident of West Virginia and who is a volunteer

302 firefighter may apply for a special license plate for any Class A vehicle titled in the name of the
303 qualified applicant which bears the insignia of the profession in white letters on a red background.
304 The insignia shall be designed by the commissioner and shall contain a fireman's helmet insignia
305 on the left side of the license plate.

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

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

315 (23) The division may issue special registration plates which reflect patriotic themes,
316 including the display of any United States symbol, icon, phrase, or expression which evokes
317 patriotic pride or recognition. The division shall also issue registration plates with the words "In
318 God We Trust":

319 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to an applicant a registration plate
320 of the applicant's choice, displaying a patriotic theme as provided in this subdivision, for a vehicle
321 titled in the name of the applicant. A series of registration plates displaying patriotic themes shall
322 be designed by the Commissioner of the Division of Motor Vehicles for distribution to applicants.

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

326 (C) The provisions of §17A-3-14(d) of this code are not applicable for the issuance of the
327 license plates designated by this subdivision.

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

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

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

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

336 (25) The division may issue a special registration plate celebrating the centennial of the 4-
337 H youth development movement and honoring the Future Farmers of America organization as
338 follows:

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

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

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

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

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

353 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee of \$10 in addition to all other

354 fees required by law. This special fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
355 Road Fund.

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

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

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

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

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

369 (D) Notwithstanding the provisions of §17A-3-14(d) of this code, the time period for the
370 Nemesis Shrine to comply with the minimum 100 prepaid applications is hereby extended to
371 January 15, 2005.

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

374 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to any person who is a duly
375 qualified volunteer or employee of the American Red Cross a specialized registration plate which
376 bears recognition of the applicant as a volunteer or employee of the American Red Cross for any
377 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant.

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

380 Road Fund.

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

383 (29) The division shall issue special registration plates to individuals who have received
384 the U.S. Army Combat Infantryman Badge, Combat Action Badge, or Combat Medical Badge; the
385 U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Navy, or U.S. Coast Guard Combat Action Ribbon; or the U.S. Air Force
386 Combat Action Medal as follows:

387 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue a special registration plate
388 designed by the commissioner for any number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified
389 applicant. Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer sufficient proof that they have
390 received the U.S. Army Combat Infantryman Badge, Combat Action Badge, or Combat Medical
391 Badge; the U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Navy, or U.S. Coast Guard Combat Action Ribbon; or the U.S.
392 Air Force Combat Action Medal.

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

396 (30) The division may issue special registration plates to members of the Knights of
397 Columbus as follows:

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

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

405 (C) An annual fee of \$15 shall be charged for each plate in addition to all other fees

406 required by this chapter.

407 (D) Notwithstanding the provisions of §17A-3-14(d) of this code, the time period for the
408 Knights of Columbus to comply with the minimum 100 prepaid applications is hereby extended to
409 January 15, 2007.

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

412 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue a special registration plate
413 designed by the commissioner for any number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified
414 applicant. Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer sufficient proof of former
415 service as an elected or appointed member of the West Virginia House of Delegates or the West
416 Virginia Senate.

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

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

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

423 (A) The division shall design and issue special registration plates for use by democratic
424 state or county executive committee members. The design of the plates shall include an insignia of
425 a donkey and shall differentiate by wording on the plate between state and county executive
426 committee members.

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

431 (C) A special application fee of \$10 shall be charged at the time of initial application as well

432 as upon application for any duplicate or replacement registration plate, in addition to all other fees
433 required by this chapter. All application fees shall be deposited into the State Road Fund.

434 (D) The division shall not begin production of a plate authorized under the provisions of this
435 subdivision until the division receives at least 100 completed applications from the state or county
436 executive committee members, including all fees required pursuant to this subdivision.

437 (E) Notwithstanding the provisions of §17A-3-14(d) of this code, the time period for the
438 democratic executive committee to comply with the minimum 100 prepaid applications is hereby
439 extended to January 15, 2005.

440 (33) The division may issue honorably discharged female veterans' special registration
441 plates as follows:

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

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

451 (C) A surviving spouse may continue to use his deceased spouse's honorably discharged
452 veterans license plate until the surviving spouse dies, remarries, or does not renew the license
453 plate.

454 (34) The division may issue special registration plates bearing the logo, symbol, insignia,
455 letters, or words demonstrating association with West Liberty State College to any resident owner
456 of a motor vehicle. Resident owners may apply for the special license plate for any number of
457 Class A vehicles titled in the name of the applicant. The special registration plates shall be

458 designed by the commissioner. Each application submitted pursuant to this subdivision shall be
459 accompanied by payment of a special initial application fee of \$15, which is in addition to any other
460 registration or license fee required by this chapter. The division shall charge an annual fee of \$15
461 for each special registration plate in addition to all other fees required by this chapter. All special
462 fees shall be collected by the division and deposited into the State Road Fund.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

484 other provision of this chapter.

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

487 (37) The division may issue special registration plates bearing the logo, symbol, insignia,
488 letters, or words demonstrating association with or support for Fairmont State University as
489 follows:

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

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

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

498 (38) The division may issue special registration plates honoring the farmers of West
499 Virginia, and the division may issue special beekeeper pollinator registration plates as follows:

500 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue a special registration plate
501 depicting a farming scene or other apt reference to farming, whether in pictures or words, at the
502 discretion of the commissioner. Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue a special
503 registration plate displaying a pollinator species or advocating its protection as prescribed and
504 designated by the commissioner.

505 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee of \$10 for each plate in addition
506 to all other fees required by law. This special fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in
507 the State Road Fund.

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

510 (39) The division shall issue special registration plates promoting education as follows:

511 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue a special registration plate
512 displaying a children's education-related theme as prescribed and designated by the
513 commissioner and the State Superintendent of Schools.

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

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

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

521 (A) The division may issue a special registration plate for members of the 82nd Airborne
522 Division Association upon receipt of a guarantee from the organization of a minimum of 100
523 applicants. The insignia on the plate shall be designed by the commissioner.

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

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

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

534 (41) The division may issue special registration plates to applicants supporting law-
535 enforcement officers, to retired members of the West Virginia State Police, and to survivors of

536 wounds received in the line of duty as a member with a West Virginia law-enforcement agency as
537 follows:

538 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue a special registration plate
539 designed by the commissioner which recognizes, supports, and honors the men and women of
540 law-enforcement and includes the words "Back the Blue". Upon appropriate application, the
541 division shall issue to any member of a municipal police department, sheriff's department, the
542 State Police, or the law-enforcement division of the Division of Natural Resources who has been
543 wounded in the line of duty and awarded a Purple Heart in recognition thereof by the West Virginia
544 Chiefs of Police Association, the West Virginia Sheriffs' Association, the West Virginia Troopers
545 Association, or the Division of Natural Resources a special registration plate for one vehicle titled
546 in the name of the qualified applicant with an insignia appropriately designed by the commissioner.

547 (B) For special registration plates supporting law-enforcement officers, the division shall
548 charge a special initial application fee of \$10 in addition to all other fees required by law. This
549 special fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State Road Fund. An annual fee
550 of \$15 shall be charged for each plate supporting law-enforcement officers in addition to all other
551 fees required by this chapter.

552 (C) Registration plates issued pursuant to this subdivision to survivors of wounds received
553 in the line of duty as a member with a West Virginia law-enforcement agency are exempt from the
554 registration fees otherwise required by the provisions of this chapter. A surviving spouse may
555 continue to use his or her deceased spouse's special registration plate until the surviving spouse
556 dies, remarries, or does not renew the plate. Survivors of wounds received in the line of duty as a
557 member with a West Virginia law-enforcement agency may obtain a license plate as described in
558 this subdivision for use on a passenger vehicle titled in the name of the qualified applicant. The
559 division shall charge a one-time fee of \$10 to be deposited into the State Road Fund, in addition to
560 all other fees required by this chapter, for the second plate.

561 (D) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue special registration plates

562 designed by the commissioner for any number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified
563 applicant who offers sufficient proof of being a retired member of the West Virginia State Police.
564 The division shall charge a special initial application fee of \$10 in addition to all other fees required
565 by law. This special fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State Road Fund.

566 (42) The division may issue a special registration plate for persons who are Native-
567 Americans and residents of this state:

568 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to an applicant who is a Native-
569 American resident of West Virginia a registration plate for a vehicle titled in the name of the
570 applicant with an insignia designed by the Commissioner of the Division of Motor Vehicles to
571 designate the recipient as a Native-American.

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

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

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

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

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

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

586 (44) The division may issue special registration plates recognizing and honoring breast
587 cancer survivors. The division may also issue special registration plates to support a cure for

588 childhood cancer:

589 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a special registration plate
590 designed by the commissioner to recognize and honor breast cancer survivors, such plate to
591 incorporate somewhere in the design the "pink ribbon emblem", for any number of vehicles titled in
592 the name of the applicant. Upon appropriate application, the division may also issue a special
593 registration plate designed by the commissioner to support a cure for childhood cancer, such plate
594 to incorporate somewhere in the design the gold ribbon emblem with "WV Kids Cancer Crusaders"
595 below or next to the emblem and "Cure Childhood Cancer" at the bottom of the plate, for any
596 number of vehicles titled in the name of the applicant.

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

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

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

603 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a special registration plate
604 designed by the commissioner for any number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified
605 applicant. Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer sufficient proof of membership
606 in the Knights of Pythias or Pythian Sisters.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

633 (48) The division may issue special registration plates supporting organ donation and
634 adoption as follows:

635 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a special registration plate
636 designed by the commissioner which recognizes, supports, and honors organ and tissue donors
637 and includes the words "Donate Life", and the division may issue a special registration plate
638 designed by the commissioner which supports and encourages adoption and includes the words
639 "Choose Life".

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

666 (51) The division may issue special registration plates honoring coal miners and the coal
667 industry, as well as other professions, as set forth in this subdivision as follows:

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

671 (ii) The division may issue registration plates with the words "Friends of Coal".

672 (iii) The division may issue special registration plates recognizing the occupation of
673 linemen, showing appreciation for workers who construct and maintain utility lines, and depicting a
674 scene or other apt reference to the occupation of linemen, whether in words or pictures, at the
675 discretion of the commissioner.

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

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

681 (D) The provisions of §17A-3-14(d) of this code are not applicable for the issuance of
682 license plates designated by this subdivision.

683 (52) The division may issue special registration plates to present and former Boy Scouts,
684 and to present and former members of the Civil Air Patrol as follows:

685 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a special registration plate
686 designed by the commissioner for any number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified
687 applicant. Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer sufficient proof of present or
688 past membership in the Boy Scouts as either a member or a leader, or in the Civil Air Patrol, as
689 applicable. The special registration plates for the Civil Air Patrol shall be designed by the
690 commissioner in cooperation with the Civil Air Patrol.

691 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee of \$10 in addition to all other

692 fees required by law. This special fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
693 Road Fund.

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

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

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

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

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

706 (54) The division may issue special registration plates recognizing and memorializing
707 victims of domestic violence:

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

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

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

716 (55) The division may issue special registration plates bearing the logo, symbol, insignia,
717 letters, or words demonstrating association with, or support for, the University of Charleston as

718 follows:

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

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

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

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

729 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a special registration plate
730 designed by the commissioner in consultation with the Sons of the American Revolution for any
731 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant. Persons desiring the special
732 registration plate shall offer sufficient proof of membership in the Sons of the American Revolution.

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

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

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

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

743 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee of \$10 in addition to all other

744 fees required by law. This special fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State
745 Road Fund.

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

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

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

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

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

760 (D) The provisions of §17A-3-14(d) of this code are not applicable for the issuance of
761 special license plates designated by this subdivision.

762 (59) The commissioner may issue special registration plates for retired or former justices of
763 the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia as follows:

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

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

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

772 (D) The provisions of §17A-3-14(d) of this code are not applicable for the issuance of
773 special license plates designated by this subdivision.

774 (60) Upon approval by the commissioner of an appropriate application, and upon all
775 requirements of this subdivision being satisfied, the division may issue special registration plates
776 for Class A and Class G motor vehicles to members of an organization for which a special
777 registration plate has not been issued pursuant to any other subdivision in this subsection prior to
778 January 1, 2010, in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision:

779 (A) An organization desiring to create a special registration plate must comply with the
780 following requirements to be eligible to apply for the creation and issuance of a special registration
781 plate:

782 (i) The organization must be a nonprofit organization organized and existing under Section
783 501(c)(3) of Title 26 of the Internal Revenue Code and based, headquartered, or have a chapter in
784 West Virginia;

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

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

790 (iv) The organization may not have as its primary purpose the promotion of any specific
791 faith, religion, religious belief, or antireligion;

792 (v) The name of the organization may not be the name of a special product or brand name,
793 and may not be construed, as determined by the commissioner, as promoting a product or brand
794 name; and

795 (vi) The organization's lettering, logo, image, or message to be placed on the registration

796 plate, if created, may not be obscene, offensive, or objectionable as determined by the
797 commissioner in his or her sole discretion.

798 (B) Beginning July 1, 2010, an organization requesting the creation and issuance of a
799 special registration plate may make application with the division. The application shall include
800 sufficient information, as determined by the commissioner, to determine whether the special
801 registration plate requested, and the organization making the application, meet all the
802 requirements set forth in this subdivision. The application shall also include a proposed design,
803 including lettering, logo, image, or message to be placed on the registration plate. The
804 commissioner shall notify the organization of the commissioner's approval or disapproval of the
805 application.

806 (C)(i) The commissioner may not begin the design or production of any license plates
807 authorized and approved pursuant to this subdivision until the organization which applied for the
808 special registration plate has collected and submitted collectively to the division applications
809 completed by at least 250 persons and collectively deposited with the division all fees necessary to
810 cover the first year's basic registration, one-time design and manufacturing costs, and to cover the
811 first year additional annual fee for all of the applications submitted.

812 (ii) If the organization fails to submit the required number of applications and fees within six
813 months of the effective date of the approval of the application for the plate by the commissioner,
814 the plate will not be produced until a new application is submitted and is approved by the
815 commissioner: *Provided*, That an organization that is unsuccessful in obtaining the minimum
816 number of applications may not make a new application for a special plate until at least two years
817 have passed since the approval of the previous application of the organization.

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

821 (E) The division shall charge an annual fee of \$15 for each special registration plate in

822 addition to all other fees required by this chapter.

823 (F) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a special registration plate
824 designed by the commissioner in consultation with the organization for any number of vehicles
825 titled in the name of a qualified registration plate applicant. Persons desiring the special
826 registration plate shall offer sufficient proof of membership in the organization.

827 (G) The commissioner shall discontinue the issuance or renewal of the registration of any
828 special plate issued pursuant to this subdivision if:

829 (i) The number of valid registrations for the specialty plate falls below 250 plates for at least
830 12 consecutive months; or

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

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

835 (1) The commissioner may not begin the design or production of any license plates for
836 which eligibility is based on membership or affiliation with a particular private organization until at
837 least 100 persons complete an application and deposit with the organization a check to cover the
838 first year's basic registration, one-time design and manufacturing costs, and to cover the first year
839 additional annual fee. If the organization fails to submit the required number of applications with
840 attached checks within six months of the effective date of the original authorizing legislation, the
841 plate will not be produced and will require legislative reauthorization: *Provided*, That an
842 organization or group that is unsuccessful in obtaining the minimum number of applications may
843 not request reconsideration of a special plate until at least two years have passed since the
844 effective date of the original authorization: *Provided, however*, That the provisions of this
845 subdivision are not applicable to the issuance of plates authorized pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(60) of
846 this code.

847 (2) The commissioner may not begin the design or production of any license plates

848 authorized by this section for which membership or affiliation with a particular organization is not
849 required until at least 250 registrants complete an application and deposit a fee with the division to
850 cover the first year's basic registration fee, one-time design and manufacturing fee, and additional
851 annual fee, if applicable. If the commissioner fails to receive the required number of applications
852 within six months of the effective date of the original authorizing legislation, the plate will not be
853 produced and will require legislative reauthorization: *Provided*, That if the minimum number of
854 applications is not satisfied within the six months of the effective date of the original authorizing
855 legislation, a person may not request reconsideration of a special plate until at least two years
856 have passed since the effective date of the original authorization.

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

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

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

867 (f) The division may issue special 10-year registration plates as follows:

868 (1) The commissioner may issue or renew for a period of no more than 10 years any
869 registration plate exempted from registration fees pursuant to any provision of this code or any
870 restricted use antique motor vehicle license plate authorized by §17A-10-3a of this code:
871 *Provided*, That the provisions of this subsection do not apply to any person who has had a special
872 registration suspended for failure to maintain motor vehicle liability insurance as required by §17D-
873 2A-3 of this code or failure to pay personal property taxes as required by §17A-3-3a of this code.

874 (2) An initial nonrefundable fee shall be charged for each special registration plate issued
875 pursuant to this subsection, which is the total amount of fees required by §17A-3-3, §17A-10-3a, or
876 §17A-10-15 of this code for the period requested.

877 (g) The provisions of this section may not be construed to exempt any registrant from
878 maintaining motor vehicle liability insurance as required by §17D-2A-3 of this code or from paying
879 personal property taxes on any motor vehicle as required by §17A-3-3a of this code.

880 (h) The commissioner may, in his or her discretion, issue a registration plate of
881 reflectorized material suitable for permanent use on motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers,
882 together with appropriate devices to be attached to the registration to indicate the year for which
883 the vehicles have been properly registered or the date of expiration of the registration. The design
884 and expiration of the plates shall be determined by the commissioner. The commissioner shall,
885 whenever possible and cost effective, implement the latest technology in the design, production,
886 and issuance of registration plates, indices of registration renewal and vehicle ownership
887 documents, including, but not limited to, offering Internet renewal of vehicle registration and the
888 use of bar codes for instant identification of vehicles by scanning equipment to promote the
889 efficient and effective coordination and communication of data for improving highway safety,
890 aiding law enforcement, and enhancing revenue collection.

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

895 (j) The division shall, upon request of a qualifying applicant, exempt one nonexempt
896 military special registration plate per qualifying applicant from all registration fees. For purposes of
897 this subsection:

898 (1) "Exempt military special registration plate" means a special registration plate related to
899 military service that is issued pursuant to this section for which registration fees are exempt

900 pursuant to this section or §17A-10-8 of this code, including, but not limited to, a special
901 registration plate issued to one of the following:

902 (A) A disabled veteran pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(6), §17A-10-8(4), or §17A-10-8(5) of this
903 code;

904 (B) A recipient of the Purple Heart medal pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(7) of this code;

905 (C) A survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(8) of this code;

906 (D) A former prisoner of war pursuant to §17A-10-8(6) of this code; or

907 (E) A recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor pursuant to §17A-10-8(7) of this code.

908 (2) "Nonexempt military special registration plate" means a special registration plate
909 related to military service that is issued pursuant to this section for which registration fees are not
910 exempt pursuant to this section or §17A-10-8 of this code, including, but not limited to, special
911 registration plate issued to one of the following:

912 (A) A member of the National Guard forces pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(3) of this code;

913 (B) An honorably discharged veteran pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(5) or §17A-3-14(c)(21) of
914 this code;

915 (C) An honorably discharged Marine Corps League member pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(13)
916 of this code;

917 (D) A member of a military organization pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(14) of this code;

918 (E) A recipient of the Navy Cross, Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished Flying
919 Cross, Air Force Cross, Bronze Star, Silver Star, or Air Medal pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(20) of this
920 code;

921 (F) A recipient of the Combat Infantry Badge or the Combat Medic Badge pursuant to
922 §17A-3-14(c)(29) of this code;

923 (G) An honorably discharged female veteran pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(33) of this code;

924 (H) A person retired from any branch of the armed services of the United States pursuant
925 to §17A-3-14(c)(36) of this code; or

926 (l) A member of the 82nd Airborne Division Association pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(40) of
927 this code.

928 (3) "Qualifying applicant" means an applicant who qualifies for an exempt military special
929 registration plate, and who also qualifies for a nonexempt military special registration plate, who
930 requests that the division issue one such nonexempt military special registration plate instead of
931 such exempt military special registration plate in order to have such nonexempt military special
932 registration plate be exempt from the payment of registration fees.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to exempt honorably discharged veteran of any branch of the armed services of the United States from the payment of registration fees under the provisions of this chapter, except for a special initial application fee of \$10.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.