

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2023 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 77

By Senators Weld and Caputo

[Introduced January 11, 2023; referred
to the Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §17A-3-14 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
2 to updating language regarding special license plates for Fairmont State University.

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 may not apply to the year number for which the plate is
10 issued or the date of expiration.

11 (3) Registration numbering for registration plates shall begin with 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. This special fee is to compensate the Division of Motor Vehicles for additional
74 costs and services required in the issuing of the special registration. All fees collected by the
75 division shall be deposited in the State Road Fund: *Provided*, That nothing in this section may be
76 construed to exempt any veteran from any other provision of this chapter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

94 (A) Upon appropriate application, there shall be issued to any armed service person
95 holding the distinguished Purple Heart medal for persons wounded in combat a registration plate

96 for a vehicle titled in the name of the qualified applicant bearing letters or numbers. The
97 registration plate shall be designed by the Commissioner of the Division of Motor Vehicles and
98 shall denote that those individuals who are granted this special registration plate are recipients of
99 the Purple Heart. All letterings shall be in purple where practical.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

120 (D) A survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor may obtain a second survivors of the attack on
121 Pearl Harbor license plate as described in this section for use on a passenger vehicle titled in the

122 name of the qualified applicant. The division shall charge a one-time fee of \$10 to be deposited
123 into the State Road Fund, in addition to all other fees required by this chapter, for the second plate.

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

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

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

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

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

143 (A) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a resident of the State of West Virginia and who is
144 a certified paramedic or emergency medical technician, a member of a paid fire department, a
145 member of the State Fire Commission, the State Fire Marshal, the State Fire Marshal's assistants,
146 the State Fire Administrator, and voluntary rescue squad members may apply for a special license
147 plate for any number of Class A vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant which bears

148 the insignia of the profession, group, or commission. Any insignia shall be designed by the
149 commissioner. License plates issued pursuant to this subdivision shall bear the requested insignia
150 in addition to the registration number issued to the applicant pursuant to the provisions of this
151 article.

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

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

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

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

168 (B) Each application submitted pursuant to this subdivision shall be accompanied by an
169 affidavit stating that the applicant is justified in having a registration with the requested insignia;
170 proof of compliance with all laws of this state regarding registration and licensure of motor
171 vehicles; and payment of all required fees. The firefighter certification department, section, or
172 division of the West Virginia University fire service extension shall notify the commissioner in
173 writing immediately when a firefighter loses his or her certification. If a firefighter loses his or her

174 certification, the commissioner may not issue him or her a license plate under this subdivision.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

225 (C) The division shall charge a special one-time initial application fee of \$10 in addition to

226 all other fees required by this chapter. All initial application fees collected by the division shall be
227 deposited in the State Road Fund.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

255 (19) Racing theme special registration plates:

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

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

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

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

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

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

278 plate under this subdivision from any other provision of this chapter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

330 required by this chapter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

381 (29) The division shall issue special registration plates to individuals who have received

382 either the Combat Infantry Badge or the Combat Medic Badge as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

406 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue a special registration plate
407 designed by the commissioner for any number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified

408 applicant. Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer sufficient proof of former
409 service as an elected or appointed member of the West Virginia House of Delegates or the West
410 Virginia Senate.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

448 (34) The division may issue special registration plates bearing the logo, symbol, insignia,
449 letters, or words demonstrating association with West Liberty State College to any resident owner
450 of a motor vehicle. Resident owners may apply for the special license plate for any number of
451 Class A vehicles titled in the name of the applicant. The special registration plates shall be
452 designed by the commissioner. Each application submitted pursuant to this subdivision shall be
453 accompanied by payment of a special initial application fee of \$15, which is in addition to any other
454 registration or license fee required by this chapter. The division shall charge an annual fee of \$15
455 for each special registration plate in addition to all other fees required by this chapter. All special
456 fees shall be collected by the division and deposited into the State Road Fund.

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

459 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a special registration plate

460 designed by the commissioner for any number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified
461 applicant. Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer sufficient proof of membership
462 in the Harley Owners Group.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

484 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a special registration plate
485 designed by the commissioner for any number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified

486 applicant.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

512 required by this chapter.

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

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

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

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

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

528 (41) The division may issue special registration plates supporting law-enforcement
529 officers, and the division may issue special registration plates to survivors of wounds received in
530 the line of duty as a member with a West Virginia law-enforcement agency as follows:

531 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue a special registration plate
532 designed by the commissioner which recognizes, supports, and honors the men and women of
533 law-enforcement and includes the words "Back the Blue". Upon appropriate application, the
534 division shall issue to any member of a municipal police department, sheriff's department, the
535 State Police, or the law-enforcement division of the Division of Natural Resources who has been
536 wounded in the line of duty and awarded a Purple Heart in recognition thereof by the West Virginia
537 Chiefs of Police Association, the West Virginia Sheriffs' Association, the West Virginia Troopers

538 Association, or the Division of Natural Resources a special registration plate for one vehicle titled
539 in the name of the qualified applicant with an insignia appropriately designed by the commissioner.

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

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

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

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

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

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

564 required by this chapter.

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

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

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

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

574 (44) The division may issue special registration plates recognizing and honoring breast
575 cancer survivors. The division may also issue special registration plates to support a cure for
576 childhood cancer:

577 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a special registration plate
578 designed by the commissioner to recognize and honor breast cancer survivors, such plate to
579 incorporate somewhere in the design the "pink ribbon emblem", for any number of vehicles titled in
580 the name of the applicant. Upon appropriate application, the division may also issue a special
581 registration plate designed by the commissioner to support a cure for childhood cancer, such plate
582 to incorporate somewhere in the design the gold ribbon emblem with "WV Kids Cancer Crusaders"
583 below or next to the emblem and "Cure Childhood Cancer" at the bottom of the plate, for any
584 number of vehicles titled in the name of the applicant.

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

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

589 (45) The division may issue special registration plates to members of the Knights of

590 Pythias or Pythian Sisters as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

652 (51) The division may issue special registration plates honoring coal miners and the coal
653 industry as follows:

654 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue a special registration plate
655 depicting and displaying coal miners in mining activities as prescribed and designated by the
656 commissioner and the board of the National Coal Heritage Area Authority. The division may also
657 issue registration plates with the words "Friends of Coal".

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

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

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

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

667 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a special registration plate

668 designed by the commissioner for any number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified
669 applicant. Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer sufficient proof of present or
670 past membership in the Boy Scouts as either a member or a leader.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

692 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee of \$10. This special fee shall be
693 deposited in the State 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 (55) The division may issue special registration plates bearing the logo, symbol, insignia,
697 letters, or words demonstrating association with or support for the University of Charleston as
698 follows:

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

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 collected by the division and deposited in the State
704 Road Fund.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

744 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a special registration plate
745 designed by the commissioner for any number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified

746 applicant.

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

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

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

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

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

762 (i) The organization must be a nonprofit organization organized and existing under Section
763 501(c)(3) of Title 26 of the Internal Revenue Code and based, headquartered, or have a chapter in
764 West Virginia;

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

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

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

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

775 (vi) The organization's lettering, logo, image, or message to be placed on the registration
776 plate, if created, may not be obscene, offensive, or objectionable as determined by the
777 commissioner in his or her sole discretion.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

809 (i) The number of valid registrations for the specialty plate falls below 250 plates for at least
810 12 consecutive months; or

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

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

815 (1) The commissioner may not begin the design or production of any license plates for
816 which eligibility is based on membership or affiliation with a particular private organization until at
817 least 100 persons complete an application and deposit with the organization a check to cover the
818 first year's basic registration, one-time design and manufacturing costs, and to cover the first year
819 additional annual fee. If the organization fails to submit the required number of applications with
820 attached checks within six months of the effective date of the original authorizing legislation, the
821 plate will not be produced and will require legislative reauthorization: *Provided*, That an
822 organization or group that is unsuccessful in obtaining the minimum number of applications may
823 not request reconsideration of a special plate until at least two years have passed since the

824 effective date of the original authorization: *Provided, however,* That the provisions of this
825 subdivision are not applicable to the issuance of plates authorized pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(60) of
826 this code.

827 (2) The commissioner may not begin the design or production of any license plates
828 authorized by this section for which membership or affiliation with a particular organization is not
829 required until at least 250 registrants complete an application and deposit a fee with the division to
830 cover the first year's basic registration fee, one-time design and manufacturing fee, and additional
831 annual fee if applicable. If the commissioner fails to receive the required number of applications
832 within six months of the effective date of the original authorizing legislation, the plate will not be
833 produced and will require legislative reauthorization: *Provided,* That if the minimum number of
834 applications is not satisfied within the six months of the effective date of the original authorizing
835 legislation, a person may not request reconsideration of a special plate until at least two years
836 have passed since the effective date of the original authorization.

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

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

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

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

848 (1) The commissioner may issue or renew for a period of no more than 10 years any
849 registration plate exempted from registration fees pursuant to any provision of this code or any

850 restricted use antique motor vehicle license plate authorized by §17A-10-3a of this code:
851 *Provided*, That the provisions of this subsection do not apply to any person who has had a special
852 registration suspended for failure to maintain motor vehicle liability insurance as required by §17D-
853 2A-3 of this code or failure to pay personal property taxes as required by §17A-3-3a of this code.

854 (2) An initial nonrefundable fee shall be charged for each special registration plate issued
855 pursuant to this subsection, which is the total amount of fees required by §17A-3-3, §17A-10-3a, or
856 §17A-10-15 of this code for the period requested.

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

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

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

875 (j) The division shall, upon request of a qualifying applicant, exempt one nonexempt

876 military special registration plate per qualifying applicant from all registration fees. For purposes of
877 this subsection:

878 (1) "Exempt military special registration plate" means a special registration plate related to
879 military service that is issued pursuant to this section for which registration fees are exempt
880 pursuant to this section or §17A-10-8 of this code, including, but not limited to, a special
881 registration plate issued to one of the following:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

901 (F) A recipient of the Combat Infantry Badge or the Combat Medic Badge pursuant to

902 §17A-3-14(c)(29) of this code;

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

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

906 (I) A member of the 82nd Airborne Division Association pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(40) of
907 this code.

908 (3) "Qualifying applicant" means an applicant who qualifies for an exempt military special
909 registration plate, and who also qualifies for a nonexempt military special registration plate, who
910 requests that the division issue one such nonexempt military special registration plate instead of
911 such exempt military special registration plate in order to have such nonexempt military special
912 registration plate be exempt from the payment of registration fees.

NOTE: This bill updates language regarding special license plates for Fairmont State University.

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