

# WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

## 2024 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

### House Bill 4014

FISCAL  
NOTE

By Delegate Westfall

[Introduced January 10, 2024; Referred to the  
Committee on Technology and Infrastructure then  
Government Organization]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §17A-3-14 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating  
 2 to the authority of the Division of Motor Vehicles to issue a special registration plate for  
 3 autism awareness.

*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. ~~suspension of  
 registration; \_\_\_\_\_ electronic \_\_\_\_\_ signatures.~~**

1 (a) The division, upon registering a vehicle, shall issue to the owner one registration plate  
 2 ~~with a registration number consisting of a combination of letters, numerals, symbols, or characters~~  
 3 ~~in a configuration determined by the commissioner.~~ for a motorcycle, trailer, semitrailer, or other  
 4 motor vehicle.

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

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

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

15 (3) ~~The commissioner may assign any additional feature to facilitate reciprocal~~

16 ~~agreements, facilitate interstate travel, promote highway safety, or promote the efficient operation~~  
17 ~~of the division.~~ Registration numbering for registration plates shall begin with the number two.

18 (c) ~~The commissioner may suspend the registration of any owner who displays a damaged~~  
19 ~~or illegible plate or otherwise fails to comply with the requirements of §17A-3-19 of this code.~~ The  
20 division may not issue, permit to be issued, or distribute any special registration plates except as  
21 follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

46 (A) Upon receipt of an application on a form prescribed by the division and receipt of  
47 written evidence from the chief executive officer of the Army National Guard or Air National Guard,  
48 as appropriate, or the commanding officer of any United States armed forces reserve unit that the  
49 applicant is a member thereof, the division shall issue to any member of the National Guard of this  
50 state or a member of any reserve unit of the United States armed forces a special registration plate  
51 designed by the commissioner for any number of Class A motor vehicles owned by the member.  
52 Upon presentation of written evidence of retirement status, retired members of this state's Army or  
53 Air National Guard, or retired members of any reserve unit of the United States armed forces, are  
54 eligible to purchase the special registration plate issued pursuant to this subdivision.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

93 (B) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased spouse's disabled

94 veterans license plate until the surviving spouse dies, remarries, or does not renew the license  
95 plate.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

118 (A) Upon appropriate application, the owner of a motor vehicle who was enlisted in any  
119 branch of the armed services that participated in and survived the attack on Pearl Harbor on

120 December 7, 1941, the division shall issue a special registration plate for a vehicle titled in the  
121 name of the qualified applicant. The registration plate shall be designed by the Commissioner of  
122 the Division of Motor Vehicles.

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

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

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

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

134 (A) Approved nonprofit charitable and educational organizations previously authorized  
135 under the prior enactment of this subdivision may accept and collect applications for special  
136 registration plates from owners of Class A motor vehicles together with a special annual fee of  
137 \$15, which is in addition to all other fees required by this chapter. The applications and fees shall  
138 be submitted to the Division of Motor Vehicles with the request that the division issue a registration  
139 plate bearing a combination of letters or numbers with the organization's logo or emblem, with the  
140 maximum number of letters or numbers to be determined by the commissioner.

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

144 (C) The commissioner shall set an appropriate fee to defray the administrative costs  
145 associated with designing and manufacturing special registration plates for a nonprofit charitable

146 or educational organization. The nonprofit charitable or educational organization shall collect this  
147 fee and forward it to the division for deposit in the State Road Fund. The nonprofit charitable or  
148 educational organization may also collect a fee for marketing the special registration plates.

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

151 (A) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a resident of the State of West Virginia and who is  
152 a certified paramedic or emergency medical technician, a member of a paid fire department, a  
153 member of the State Fire Commission, the State Fire Marshal, the State Fire Marshal's assistants,  
154 the State Fire Administrator, and voluntary rescue squad members may apply for a special license  
155 plate for any number of Class A vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant which bears  
156 the insignia of the profession, group, or commission. Any insignia shall be designed by the  
157 commissioner. License plates issued pursuant to this subdivision shall bear the requested insignia  
158 in addition to the registration number issued to the applicant pursuant to the provisions of this  
159 article.

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

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

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

169 (A) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a resident of the State of West Virginia and who is  
170 a certified firefighter may apply for a special license plate which bears the insignia of the  
171 profession, for any number of Class A vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant. Any

172 insignia shall be designed by the commissioner. License plates issued pursuant to this subdivision  
173 shall bear the requested insignia pursuant to the provisions of this article. Upon presentation of  
174 written evidence of certification as a certified firefighter, certified firefighters are eligible to  
175 purchase the special registration plate issued pursuant to this subdivision.

176 (B) Each application submitted pursuant to this subdivision shall be accompanied by an  
177 affidavit stating that the applicant is justified in having a registration with the requested insignia,  
178 proof of compliance with all laws of this state regarding registration and licensure of motor  
179 vehicles, and payment of all required fees. The firefighter certification department, section, or  
180 division of the West Virginia University fire service extension shall notify the commissioner in  
181 writing immediately when a firefighter loses his or her certification. If a firefighter loses his or her  
182 certification, the commissioner may not issue him or her a license plate under this subdivision.

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

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

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

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

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

195 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to any honorably discharged  
196 Marine Corps League member a special registration plate for any number of vehicles titled in the  
197 name of the qualified applicant with an insignia designed by the Commissioner of the Division of

198 Motor Vehicles.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

263 (19) Racing theme special registration plates:

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

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

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

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

275 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to any recipient of the Navy

276 Cross, Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Force Cross, Silver Star,  
277 Bronze Star, or Air Medal, a registration plate for any number of vehicles titled in the name of the  
278 qualified applicant bearing letters or numbers. A separate registration plate shall be designed by  
279 the Commissioner of the Division of Motor Vehicles for each award that denotes that those  
280 individuals who are granted this special registration plate are recipients of the Navy Cross,  
281 Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Force Cross, Silver Star, Bronze  
282 Star, or Air Medal as applicable.

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

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

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

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

299 (B) The division shall charge a special one-time initial application fee of \$10 in addition to  
300 all other fees required by law. This special fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in  
301 the State Road Fund: *Provided*, That nothing contained in this section may be construed to

302 exempt any veteran from any other provision of this chapter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

325 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to an applicant a registration plate  
326 of the applicant's choice, displaying a patriotic theme as provided in this subdivision, for a vehicle  
327 titled in the name of the applicant. A series of registration plates displaying patriotic themes shall

328 be designed by the Commissioner of the Division of Motor Vehicles for distribution to applicants.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

406 applicant. Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer sufficient proof of membership  
407 in the Knights of Columbus.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

432 committee members.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

457 (C) A surviving spouse may continue to use his deceased spouse's honorably discharged

458 veterans license plate until the surviving spouse dies, remarries, or does not renew the license  
459 plate.

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

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

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

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

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

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

482 (A) Upon appropriate application, there shall be issued to any person who has retired after  
483 service in any branch of the armed services of the United States, a special registration plate for

484 any number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant with an insignia designed by the  
485 Commissioner of the Division of Motor Vehicles to designate the recipient as retired from the  
486 armed services of the United States.

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

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

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

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

499 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee of \$10 in addition to all other  
500 fees required by law. This special fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State  
501 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 (38) The division may issue special registration plates honoring the farmers of West  
505 Virginia, and the division may issue special beekeeper pollinator registration plates as follows:

506 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue a special registration plate  
507 depicting a farming scene or other apt reference to farming, whether in pictures or words, at the  
508 discretion of the commissioner. Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue a special  
509 registration plate displaying a pollinator species or advocating its protection as prescribed and

510 designated by the commissioner.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

533 (C) The division shall charge a special one-time initial application fee of \$10 for each  
534 special license plate in addition to all other fees required by this chapter. All initial application fees  
535 collected by the division shall be deposited into the State Road Fund: *Provided*, That nothing in

536 this section may be construed to exempt the applicant from any other provision of this chapter.

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

540 (41) The division may issue special registration plates to applicants supporting law-  
541 enforcement officers, to retired members of the West Virginia State Police, and to survivors of  
542 wounds received in the line of duty as a member with a West Virginia law-enforcement agency as  
543 follows:

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

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

558 (C) Registration plates issued pursuant to this subdivision to survivors of wounds received  
559 in the line of duty as a member with a West Virginia law-enforcement agency are exempt from the  
560 registration fees otherwise required by the provisions of this chapter. A surviving spouse may  
561 continue to use his or her deceased spouse's special registration plate until the surviving spouse

562 dies, remarries, or does not renew the plate. Survivors of wounds received in the line of duty as a  
563 member with a West Virginia law-enforcement agency may obtain a license plate as described in  
564 this subdivision for use on a passenger vehicle titled in the name of the qualified applicant. The  
565 division shall charge a one-time fee of \$10 to be deposited into the State Road Fund, in addition to  
566 all other fees required by this chapter, for the second plate.

567 (D) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue special registration plates  
568 designed by the commissioner for any number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified  
569 applicant who offers sufficient proof of being a retired member of the West Virginia State Police.  
570 The division shall charge a special initial application fee of \$10 in addition to all other fees required  
571 by law. This special fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State Road Fund.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

639 (48) The division may issue special registration plates supporting organ donation and

640 adoption as follows:

641 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a special registration plate  
642 designed by the commissioner which recognizes, supports, and honors organ and tissue donors  
643 and includes the words "Donate Life", and the division may issue a special registration plate  
644 designed by the commissioner which supports and encourages adoption and includes the words  
645 "Choose Life".

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

666 designed by the commissioner for any number of vehicles titled in the name of the applicant.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

692 designed by the commissioner for any number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified  
693 applicant. Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer sufficient proof of present or  
694 past membership in the Boy Scouts as either a member or a leader, or in the Civil Air Patrol, as  
695 applicable. The special registration plates for the Civil Air Patrol shall be designed by the  
696 commissioner in cooperation with the Civil Air Patrol.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

780 (60) The division may issue a special registration plate for autism awareness as follows:

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

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

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

789 ~~(60)~~ (61) Upon approval by the commissioner of an appropriate application, and upon all  
790 requirements of this subdivision being satisfied, the division may issue special registration plates  
791 for Class A and Class G motor vehicles to members of an organization for which a special  
792 registration plate has not been issued pursuant to any other subdivision in this subsection prior to  
793 January 1, 2010, in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision:

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

796 plate:

797 (i) The organization must be a nonprofit organization organized and existing under Section  
798 501(c)(3) of Title 26 of the Internal Revenue Code and based, headquartered, or have a chapter in  
799 West Virginia;

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

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

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

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

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

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

821 (C)(i) The commissioner may not begin the design or production of any license plates

822 authorized and approved pursuant to this subdivision until the organization which applied for the  
823 special registration plate has collected and submitted collectively to the division applications  
824 completed by at least 250 persons and collectively deposited with the division all fees necessary to  
825 cover the first year's basic registration, one-time design and manufacturing costs, and to cover the  
826 first year additional annual fee for all of the applications submitted.

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

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

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

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

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

844 (i) The number of valid registrations for the specialty plate falls below 250 plates for at least  
845 12 consecutive months; or

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

848 ~~(d) Any license plate issued or renewed pursuant to this chapter which is paid for by a~~  
849 ~~check that is returned for nonsufficient funds is void without further notice to the applicant. The~~  
850 ~~applicant may not reinstate the registration until the returned check is paid by the applicant in cash,~~  
851 ~~money order, or certified check and all applicable fees assessed as a result thereof have been~~  
852 ~~paid. The minimum number of applications required prior to design and production of a special~~  
853 ~~license plate shall be as follows:~~

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

866 (2) The commissioner may not begin the design or production of any license plates  
867 authorized by this section for which membership or affiliation with a particular organization is not  
868 required until at least 250 registrants complete an application and deposit a fee with the division to  
869 cover the first year's basic registration fee, one-time design and manufacturing fee, and additional  
870 annual fee, if applicable. If the commissioner fails to receive the required number of applications  
871 within six months of the effective date of the original authorizing legislation, the plate will not be  
872 produced and will require legislative reauthorization: *Provided*, That if the minimum number of  
873 applications is not satisfied within the six months of the effective date of the original authorizing

874 legislation, a person may not request reconsideration of a special plate until at least two years  
875 have passed since the effective date of the original authorization.

876 ~~(e)(1) In furtherance of the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, §39A-1-1 et seq. of this~~  
877 ~~code, the division may accept or authorize an electronic signature in any instance the law required~~  
878 ~~to be enforced by the commissioner requires a signature or a pen and ink signature. Nothing in this~~  
879 section requires a charge for a free prisoner of war license plate or a free recipient of the  
880 Congressional Medal of Honor license plate for a vehicle titled in the name of the qualified  
881 applicant as authorized by other provisions of this code.

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

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

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

890 (1) The commissioner may issue or renew for a period of no more than 10 years any  
891 registration plate exempted from registration fees pursuant to any provision of this code or any  
892 restricted use antique motor vehicle license plate authorized by §17A-10-3a of this code:  
893 Provided, That the provisions of this subsection do not apply to any person who has had a special  
894 registration suspended for failure to maintain motor vehicle liability insurance as required by §17D-  
895 2A-3 of this code or failure to pay personal property taxes as required by §17A-3-3a of this code.

896 (2) An initial nonrefundable fee shall be charged for each special registration plate issued  
897 pursuant to this subsection, which is the total amount of fees required by §17A-3-3, §17A-10-3a, or  
898 §17A-10-15 of this code for the period requested.

899 (g) The provisions of this section may not be construed to exempt any registrant from

900 maintaining motor vehicle liability insurance as required by §17D-2A-3 of this code or from paying  
901 personal property taxes on any motor vehicle as required by §17A-3-3a of this code.

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

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

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

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

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

- 926 (B) A recipient of the Purple Heart medal pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(7) of this code;
- 927 (C) A survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(8) of this code;
- 928 (D) A former prisoner of war pursuant to §17A-10-8(6) of this code; or
- 929 (E) A recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor pursuant to §17A-10-8(7) of this code.
- 930 (2) "Nonexempt military special registration plate" means a special registration plate
- 931 related to military service that is issued pursuant to this section for which registration fees are not
- 932 exempt pursuant to this section or §17A-10-8 of this code, including, but not limited to, special
- 933 registration plate issued to one of the following:
- 934 (A) A member of the National Guard forces pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(3) of this code;
- 935 (B) An honorably discharged veteran pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(5) or §17A-3-14(c)(21) of
- 936 this code;
- 937 (C) An honorably discharged Marine Corps League member pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(13)
- 938 of this code;
- 939 (D) A member of a military organization pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(14) of this code;
- 940 (E) A recipient of the Navy Cross, Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished Flying
- 941 Cross, Air Force Cross, Bronze Star, Silver Star, or Air Medal pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(20) of this
- 942 code;
- 943 (F) A recipient of the Combat Infantry Badge or the Combat Medic Badge pursuant to
- 944 §17A-3-14(c)(29) of this code;
- 945 (G) An honorably discharged female veteran pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(33) of this code;
- 946 (H) A person retired from any branch of the armed services of the United States pursuant
- 947 to §17A-3-14(c)(36) of this code; or
- 948 (I) A member of the 82nd Airborne Division Association pursuant to §17A-3-14(c)(40) of
- 949 this code.
- 950 (3) "Qualifying applicant" means an applicant who qualifies for an exempt military special
- 951 registration plate, and who also qualifies for a nonexempt military special registration plate, who

952 requests that the division issue one such nonexempt military special registration plate instead of  
953 such exempt military special registration plate in order to have such nonexempt military special  
954 registration plate be exempt from the payment of registration fees.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to authorize the Division of Motor Vehicles to issue special registration plates for autism awareness.

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