

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2019 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2545

BY DELEGATE CANESTRARO, ZUKOFF, LOVEJOY,
ROBINSON, FLUHARTY, DISERIO, MILLER AND PYLES

[Introduced January 21, 2019; Referred
to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and Homeland
Security then Finance.]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §17A-10-8 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
 2 to exempting recipients of the distinguished Purple Heart medal from payment of the
 3 vehicle registration fee for West Virginia residents.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 10. FEES FOR REGISTRATION, LICENSING, ETC.

§17A-10-8. Vehicles exempt from payment of registration fee.

1 The following specified vehicles shall be exempt from the payment of any registration fees:

2 (1) Any vehicle owned or operated by the United States government, the State of West
 3 Virginia or any of their political subdivisions. The proper representative of the United States
 4 government, the State of West Virginia or any of their political subdivisions shall make an
 5 application for registration for the vehicle and the registration plate or plates issued for the vehicle
 6 shall be displayed as provided in this chapter;

7 (2) Any fire vehicle owned or operated by a volunteer fire department organized for the
 8 protection of community property;

9 (3) Any ambulance or any other emergency rescue vehicle owned or operated by a
 10 nonprofit, charitable organization and used exclusively for charitable purposes;

11 (4) Any vehicle owned by a disabled veteran as defined by the provisions of Public Law
 12 663 of the 79th Congress of the United States, or Public Law 187 of the 82nd Congress of the
 13 United States, or Public Law 77 of the 90th Congress of the United States; except for vehicles
 14 used for hire which are owned by disabled veterans;

15 (5) Not more than one vehicle owned by a veteran with a 100 percent total and permanent
 16 service-connected disability as certified by the Director of the Department of Veterans' Affairs of
 17 West Virginia and not used for commercial purposes;

18 (6) Not more than one Class A or Class G vehicle, as defined in §17
 19 A-10-1 of this code, owned by a former prisoner of war and not used for commercial
 20 purposes. For purposes of this subdivision, the term "prisoner of war" means any member of the

21 Armed Forces of the United States, including the United States Coast Guard and National Guard,
22 who was held by any hostile force with which the United States was actually engaged in armed
23 conflict during any period of the incarceration; or any person, military or civilian, assigned to duty
24 on the U.S.S. Pueblo who was captured by the military forces of North Korea on January 23,
25 1968, and thereafter held prisoner; except any person who, at any time, voluntarily, knowingly
26 and without duress, gave aid to or collaborated with or in any manner served any such hostile
27 force;

28 (7) Not more than one Class A or Class G vehicle, as defined in section one of this article,
29 owned by a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor and not used for commercial purposes;
30 ~~and~~

31 (8) Vehicles registered in the name of community action agencies and used exclusively
32 for a Head Start program; and

33 (9) Not more than one vehicle owned by a recipient of the distinguished Purple Heart
34 medal and not used for commercial purposes: *Provided*, That the vehicle has a special registration
35 plate for distinguished Purple Heart medal recipients referred to in §17A-3-14(c)(7) of this chapter.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to exempt recipients of the distinguished Purple Heart medal from payment of the vehicle registration fee for West Virginia residents.

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