

# WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

## 2021 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

### House Bill 3061

FISCAL  
NOTE

BY DELEGATE WAMSLEY

[Introduced March 11, 2021; Referred to the  
Committee on Veterans' Affairs and Homeland  
Security then Finance]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §17A-3-14 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating  
 2 to exempting disabled veterans with any percentage of disability from the payment of  
 3 registration fees under the provisions of this chapter.

*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  
 5 the registration number assigned to the vehicle for which it is issued; the name of this state, which  
 6 may be abbreviated; and the year number for which it is issued or the date of expiration of the  
 7 plate.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

68 (5) The division may issue honorably discharged veterans special registration plates as

69 follows:

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

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

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

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

83 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to any disabled veteran who is  
84 exempt from the payment of registration fees under the provisions of this chapter a registration  
85 plate for a vehicle titled in the name of the qualified applicant which bears the letters "DV" in red  
86 and also the regular identification numerals in red: *Provided, That effective on or before July 1,*  
87 *2021, a disabled veteran with any percent of disability is exempt from the payment of registration*  
88 *fees under the provisions of this chapter.*

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

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

95 Fund, in addition to all other fees required by this chapter, for the second plate.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

146 (10) The division may issue specified emergency or volunteer registration plates as

147 follows:

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

197 (B) The division may charge a special one-time initial application fee of \$10 in addition to  
198 all other fees required by this chapter. This special fee is to compensate the Division of Motor

199 Vehicles for additional costs and services required in the issuing of the special registration and  
200 shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State Road Fund: *Provided*, That nothing  
201 in this section may be construed to exempt any veteran from any other provision of this chapter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

225 of Natural Resources.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

250 (A) Upon appropriate application, there shall be issued to any honorably discharged

251 veteran of any branch of the armed services of the United States a special registration plate for  
252 any number of motorcycles subject to Class G registration titled in the name of the qualified  
253 applicant with an insignia designed by the Commissioner of the Division of Motor Vehicles.

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

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

261 (19) Racing theme special registration plates:

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

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

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

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

273 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to any recipient of the Navy  
274 Cross, Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Force Cross, Silver Star,  
275 Bronze Star, or Air Medal, a registration plate for any number of vehicles titled in the name of the  
276 qualified applicant bearing letters or numbers. A separate registration plate shall be designed by

277 the Commissioner of the Division of Motor Vehicles for each award that denotes that those  
278 individuals who are granted this special registration plate are recipients of the Navy Cross,  
279 Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Force Cross, Silver Star, Bronze  
280 Star, or Air Medal as applicable.

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

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

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

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

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

301 (C) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased spouse's honorably  
302 discharged veterans' registration plate until the surviving spouse dies, remarries, or does not

303 renew the special registration plate.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

329 all other fees required by law. This special fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in  
330 the State Road Fund.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

379 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division shall issue to any person who is a duly  
380 qualified volunteer or employee of the American Red Cross a specialized registration plate which



381 bears recognition of the applicant as a volunteer or employee of the American Red Cross for any  
382 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

407 required by this chapter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

485 other provision of this chapter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

584 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a special registration plate  
585 designed by the commissioner to recognize and honor breast cancer survivors, such plate to  
586 incorporate somewhere in the design the "pink ribbon emblem", for any number of vehicles titled  
587 in the name of the applicant. Upon appropriate application, the division may also issue a special  
588 registration plate designed by the commissioner to support a cure for childhood cancer, such plate



589 to incorporate somewhere in the design the gold ribbon emblem with “WV Kids Cancer Crusaders”  
590 below or next to the emblem and “Cure Childhood Cancer” at the bottom of the plate, for any  
591 number of vehicles titled in the name of the applicant.

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

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

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

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

602 (B) The division shall charge a special initial application fee of \$10 in addition to all other  
603 fees required by law. This special fee shall be collected by the division and deposited in the State  
604 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 (46) The commissioner may issue special registration plates for whitewater rafting  
608 enthusiasts 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

641 designed by the commissioner in consultation with the West Virginia Bar Association for any  
642 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant. Persons desiring the special  
643 registration plate shall offer sufficient proof of membership in the West Virginia Bar Association.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

667 Road Fund.

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

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

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

674 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a special registration plate  
675 designed by the commissioner for any number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified  
676 applicant. Persons desiring the special registration plate shall offer sufficient proof of present or  
677 past membership in the Boy Scouts as either a member or a leader.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

716 (A) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a special registration plate  
717 designed by the commissioner in consultation with the Sons of the American Revolution for any  
718 number of vehicles titled in the name of the qualified applicant. Persons desiring the special

719 registration plate shall offer sufficient proof of membership in the Sons of the American  
720 Revolution.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

770 (i) The organization must be a nonprofit organization organized and existing under Section

771 501(c)(3) of Title 26 of the Internal Revenue Code and based, headquartered, or have a chapter  
772 in West Virginia;

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

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

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

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

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

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

794 (C)(i) The commissioner may not begin the design or production of any license plates  
795 authorized and approved pursuant to this subdivision until the organization which applied for the  
796 special registration plate has collected and submitted collectively to the division applications



797 completed by at least 250 persons and collectively deposited with the division all fees necessary  
798 to cover the first year's basic registration, one-time design and manufacturing costs, and to cover  
799 the first year additional annual fee for all of the applications submitted.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

848 (2) A surviving spouse may continue to use his or her deceased spouse's prisoner of war

849 license plate or Congressional Medal of Honor license plate until the surviving spouse dies,  
850 remarries, or does not renew the license plate.

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

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

857 (1) The commissioner may issue or renew for a period of no more than 10 years any  
858 registration plate exempted from registration fees pursuant to any provision of this code or any  
859 restricted use antique motor vehicle license plate authorized by §17A-10-3a of this code:  
860 *Provided*, That the provisions of this subsection do not apply to any person who has had a special  
861 registration suspended for failure to maintain motor vehicle liability insurance as required by  
862 §17D-2A-3 of this code or failure to pay personal property taxes as required by §17A-3-3a of this  
863 code.

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

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

870 (h) The commissioner may, in his or her discretion, issue a registration plate of  
871 reflectorized material suitable for permanent use on motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers,  
872 together with appropriate devices to be attached to the registration to indicate the year for which  
873 the vehicles have been properly registered or the date of expiration of the registration. The design  
874 and expiration of the plates shall be determined by the commissioner. The commissioner shall,

875 whenever possible and cost effective, implement the latest technology in the design, production,  
876 and issuance of registration plates, indices of registration renewal and vehicle ownership  
877 documents, including, but not limited to, offering Internet renewal of vehicle registration and the  
878 use of bar codes for instant identification of vehicles by scanning equipment to promote the  
879 efficient and effective coordination and communication of data for improving highway safety,  
880 aiding law enforcement, and enhancing revenue collection.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

899 (2) "Nonexempt military special registration plate" means a special registration plate  
900 related to military service that is issued pursuant to this section for which registration fees are not

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

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

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

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

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

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

912 (F) A recipient of the Combat Infantry Badge or the Combat Medic Badge pursuant to  
913 §17A-3-14(c)(29) of this code;

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

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

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

919 (3) "Qualifying applicant" means an applicant who qualifies for an exempt military special  
920 registration plate, and who also qualifies for a nonexempt military special registration plate, who  
921 requests that the division issue one such nonexempt military special registration plate instead of  
922 such exempt military special registration plate in order to have such nonexempt military special  
923 registration plate be exempt from the payment of registration fees.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to exempt disabled veterans with any percentage of disability from the payment of registration fees under the provisions of this chapter.

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