

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

**2026 REGULAR SESSION**

**ENROLLED**

**House Bill 4976**

BY DELEGATE LINVILLE

[Passed March 10, 2026; in effect 90 days from  
passage (June 8, 2026)]



1 AN ACT to amend and reenact §17A-3-14e of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended,  
2 relating to license plates; and clarifying the requirements needed before approving  
3 production of license plates.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

**ARTICLE 3. ORIGINAL AND RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION; ISSUANCE OF  
CERTIFICATES OF TITLE.**

**§17A-3-14e. Special registration plates for organizations.**

1 (a) The division may continue to issue all special registration plates to organizations issued  
2 under a prior enactment of §17A-3-14 of this code.

3 (b) An organization requesting the creation and issuance of a special registration plate  
4 shall make application with the division. The application shall include sufficient information, as  
5 determined by the commissioner, to determine whether the special registration plate requested,  
6 and the organization making the application, meet all the requirements set forth in this section  
7 and legislative rule. The application shall include a proposed design, including lettering, logo,  
8 image, or message to be placed on the registration plate. The commissioner shall notify the  
9 organization of the commissioner's approval or disapproval of the application.

10 (c) (1) The commissioner may not begin the design or production of any license plates  
11 authorized and approved pursuant to this section until the organization which applied for the  
12 special registration plate has collected and submitted collectively to the division applications  
13 completed by at least 100 persons of class A vehicles, or 50 persons of class G vehicles, and  
14 collectively deposited with the division all fees necessary to cover the first year's basic  
15 registration, one-time design and manufacturing costs, and the first year additional annual fee for  
16 all of the submitted applications.

17           (2) By concurrent resolution of the Legislature, the requirement to collectively deposited  
18 with the division all fees necessary to cover the first year's basic registration, one-time design,  
19 and manufacturing costs may be waived for any organization.

20           (d) If the organization fails to submit the required number of applications and fees within  
21 six months of the effective date of the approval of the application for the plate by the  
22 commissioner, the plate may not be produced until a new application is submitted and is approved  
23 by the commissioner: *Provided*, That an organization that is unsuccessful in obtaining the  
24 minimum number of applications may not make a new application for a special plate until at least  
25 two years have passed since the approval of the previous application of the organization.

26           (e) The division shall charge a special initial application fee of \$25 for each special license  
27 plate in addition to all other fees required by this chapter. This special fee shall be collected by  
28 the division and deposited in the State Road Fund.

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

31           (g) Upon appropriate application, the division may issue a special registration plate  
32 designed by the commissioner in consultation with the organization for any number of vehicles  
33 titled in the name of a qualified registration plate applicant. Persons desiring the special  
34 registration plate shall offer sufficient proof of membership in the organization unless the  
35 organization has identified in the application that the special registration plate is desired to be  
36 made available for general issuance.

37           (h) The commissioner may discontinue the issuance or renewal of the registration of any  
38 special plate issued pursuant to this section if:

39           (1) The number of valid registrations for the specialty plate falls below 100 plates of class  
40 A vehicles, or 50 plates of class G vehicles for at least 12 consecutive months; or

41           (2) The organization no longer exists or no longer meets the requirements of this section.

42           (i) If a new design is requested after issuance of a special registration plate, the  
43 organization shall pay the costs of design and any unused material from the previous design. In  
44 addition, the division shall charge a special initial application fee of \$25 for each newly designed  
45 special license plate in addition to all other fees required by this chapter.



The Clerk of the House of Delegates and the Clerk of the Senate hereby certify that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

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*Clerk of the House of Delegates*

.....  
*Clerk of the Senate*

Originated in the House of Delegates.

In effect 90 days from passage.

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*Speaker of the House of Delegates*

.....  
*President of the Senate*

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The within is ..... this the.....  
Day of ....., 2026.

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*Governor*