

## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## HOUSE BILL

No. 98

Session of  
2011

INTRODUCED BY J. EVANS, GEIST, BARRAR, BEAR, BOBACK, BOYD,  
BROOKS, CALTAGIRONE, DAY, DeWEESE, EVERETT, GIBBONS,  
GINGRICH, HARKINS, HENNESSEY, HESS, HUTCHINSON, M. K. KELLER,  
KILLION, MANN, MILLARD, MILLER, PAYNE, PEIFER, PYLE,  
READSHAW, REICHLEY, SCAVELLO, SONNEY, VULAKOVICH, WATSON,  
WHITE, KULA, MARSHALL, MAJOR AND MURT, JANUARY 19, 2011

SENATOR RAFFERTY, TRANSPORTATION, IN SENATE, AS AMENDED,  
DECEMBER 13, 2011

## AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, further providing for special registration plates  
3 generally and for personal registration plates; and making  
4 editorial changes.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Sections 1333(b.1), 1341, 1786(h)(2) and 1931 of  
8 Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended  
9 to read:

10 § 1333. Lost, stolen, damaged or illegible registration plate.

11 \* \* \*

12 (b.1) Illegible registration plate.--The department may  
13 reissue a registration plate upon request by a registrant when  
14 it is determined by an authorized representative of the  
15 department or law enforcement that the registration plate is  
16 illegible from a reasonable distance. The department may select

1 the style of the reissued registration plate and, except in the  
2 case of personal registration plates issued under section 1341  
3 (relating to special registration plates [generally]), the  
4 registration plate number.

5 \* \* \*

6 § 1341. Special registration plates [generally].

7 (a) General rule.--Upon request by the applicant, the  
8 department may issue registration plates consisting of any  
9 combination of numbers, letters or numbers and letters. [These  
10 special plates may be issued for special groups or for special  
11 purposes and bear an appropriate designation. Special groups may  
12 charge a fee for authorization to request a registration plate  
13 bearing the name of the group.] They shall have the same force  
14 and effect as regular registration plates. The department may  
15 refuse any combination of letters and numbers for cause and  
16 shall adopt reasonable rules and regulations for the issuance of  
17 the plates and for carrying out the provisions of this section.  
18 The applicant shall comply with all laws and regulations  
19 pertaining to registration including the payment of any  
20 additional fees.

21 (b) Personal registration plates.--Upon request by the  
22 applicant, the department is authorized to issue personal  
23 registration plates. The department is authorized to reissue a  
24 combination of numbers or letters for a personal plate if the  
25 department records reveal that no activity, such as renewal or  
26 transfer of the personal registration plate, has occurred for a  
27 period of five or more consecutive years and provided that the  
28 personal registration plate was never reported as lost or  
29 stolen. Whenever the department reissues an inactive personal  
30 plate, the department may purge its records of all references to

1 the previous owners of that personal plate. The department  
2 shall, however, note upon its records the reissuance of the  
3 personal plate and to whom the plate was issued. [The special] A  
4 personal registration plate may be used only on a passenger car, ←  
5 ~~motorcycle~~ or [OR], MOTORCYCLE, truck with a registered gross ←  
6 weight of not more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds, TRAILER or a ←  
7 motor home.

8 (c) Organization registration plates.--Upon request by the  
9 applicant, the department is authorized to issue organization  
10 registration plates. Organization registration plates may be  
11 issued for special groups or for special purposes and bear an  
12 appropriate designation. Special groups may charge a fee for  
13 authorization to request a registration plate bearing the name  
14 of the group. If the vehicle is licensed to a business that is  
15 not a member of the special group, the department shall issue  
16 the plate as long as the business owner or officer making  
17 application is a member of that group. An organization  
18 registration plate may be used only on a passenger car or truck  
19 with a registered gross weight of not more than 14,000 pounds or  
20 a motor home.

21 § 1786. Required financial responsibility.

22 \* \* \*

23 (h) Reinstatement of voluntarily surrendered registration  
24 plate and card.--

25 \* \* \*

26 (2) Any registration plate issued under sections 1340  
27 (relating to antique and classic plates) and 1341 (relating  
28 to [personal plate] special registration plates) shall be  
29 returned by the department to the owner of the motor vehicle  
30 upon receipt of proof of financial responsibility.

1           \* \* \*

2   § 1931.   [Personal] Special registration plates.

3       The fee for issuance of a [personal] special registration  
4   plate shall be \$20 which shall be in addition to the annual  
5   registration fee. Only one payment of the issuance fee shall be  
6   charged for each [personal] special registration issued or  
7   replaced.

8       Section 2.   This act shall take effect in 120 days.