

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 156 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY PAYNE, GEIST, HESS, BARRAR, BOYD, GABLER, GROVE,
 KNOWLES, METZGAR, MILLER, MOUL, O'NEILL, PEIFER, PYLE,
 REICHLEY, ROCK, VULAKOVICH AND MARSHALL, JANUARY 21, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, JANUARY 21, 2011

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
 2 Statutes, further providing for the registered gross weight
 3 limit of certain registration plates.

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

6 Section 1. Sections 1307(a.1), 1338(a)(9), 1341, 1342(a),
 7 (c) and (d), 1346, 1348, 1350, 1350.1, 1351, 1352, 1353,
 8 1354(a), 1355, 1356, 1357, 1358, 1359(a), 1360, 1362, 1363, 1364
 9 and 1365(a) of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated

10 Statutes are amended to read:

11 § 1307. Period of registration.

12 * * *

13 (a.1) Seasonal registration.--Upon application on a form
 14 prescribed by the department, the owner or lessee of a passenger
 15 car, recreational motor vehicle, motorcycle, truck or farm
 16 vehicle which does not have a gross vehicle weight rating of
 17 more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds may register the vehicle with
 18 the department for a period of successive months of less than

1 one year. The applicant shall specify the period of months
2 during which the vehicle shall be registered. Except when the
3 department initially converts a currently valid annual
4 registration to a seasonal registration, the annual fee
5 prescribed for the vehicle by Chapter 19 (relating to fees)
6 shall be paid in full by the applicant regardless of the number
7 of months chosen for registration by the applicant. Upon receipt
8 of the appropriate fee and the properly completed form,
9 including all information required by this chapter, the
10 department shall issue a seasonal registration that shall expire
11 on the last day of the expiration month chosen by the
12 registrant. No insurer of a vehicle belonging to any owner or
13 lessee who obtains a seasonal registration and who applies for
14 or receives a reduced automobile insurance premium on account
15 thereof shall be required to provide any contractual coverage,
16 whether in the form of the provision of a defense or the payment
17 of first-party or third-party benefits or otherwise, to the
18 owner or lessee in connection with any event occurring during
19 that part of the year in which the vehicle is not registered;
20 and such owner or lessee shall be treated for all purposes,
21 including, without limitation, ascertaining rights to stack
22 coverages and to uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage,
23 as a person who does not own that vehicle and has no duty to
24 carry financial responsibility on it for that part of the year.

25 * * *

26 § 1338. Person with disability plate and placard.

27 (a) Person with disability plate.--On the application of any
28 person who:

29 * * *

30 (9) is a person in loco parentis of a person specified

1 in paragraph (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7) or (8);
2 the department shall issue a special registration plate for one
3 passenger car or truck with a registered gross weight of not
4 more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds, designating the vehicle so
5 licensed as being used by a person with a disability. Special
6 plates for persons with disabilities may also be issued for
7 vehicles operated exclusively for the use and benefit of persons
8 with disabilities. In the case of a motorcycle, the department
9 shall issue a decal containing the international symbol for
10 access for persons with disabilities for display on the
11 registration plate.

12 * * *

13 § 1341. Special registration plates generally.

14 Upon request by the applicant, the department may issue
15 registration plates consisting of any combination of numbers,
16 letters or numbers and letters. These special plates may be
17 issued for special groups or for special purposes and bear an
18 appropriate designation. Special groups may charge a fee for
19 authorization to request a registration plate bearing the name
20 of the group. They shall have the same force and effect as
21 regular registration plates. The department may refuse any
22 combination of letters and numbers for cause and shall adopt
23 reasonable rules and regulations for the issuance of the plates
24 and for carrying out the provisions of this section. The
25 applicant shall comply with all laws and regulations pertaining
26 to registration including the payment of any additional fees.
27 The department is authorized to reissue a combination of numbers
28 or letters for a personal plate if the department records reveal
29 that no activity, such as renewal or transfer of the personal
30 registration plate, has occurred for a period of five or more

1 consecutive years and provided that the personal registration
2 plate was never reported as lost or stolen. Whenever the
3 department reissues an inactive personal plate, the department
4 may purge its records of all references to the previous owners
5 of that personal plate. The department shall, however, note upon
6 its records the reissuance of the personal plate and to whom the
7 plate was issued. The special registration plate may be used
8 only on a passenger car or truck with a registered gross weight
9 of not more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds. If the vehicle is
10 licensed to a business that is not a member of the special
11 group, the department shall issue the plate as long as the
12 business owner or officer making application is a member of that
13 group.

14 § 1342. Veteran plates and placard.

15 (a) Severely disabled veteran plate.--On the application of
16 a veteran whose service-connected disability is certified at
17 100% by the service unit of the armed forces in which the
18 veteran served or by the United States Veterans' Administration
19 or who has a service-connected disability of the type enumerated
20 in section 1338 (relating to person with disability plate and
21 placard), the department shall issue a special registration
22 plate designating the vehicle as belonging to a severely
23 disabled veteran. The registration plate shall have a white
24 background, shall have blue numbers or letters as the department
25 may determine, shall have the words "disabled veteran" in at
26 least ten-point bold type inscribed in red at the bottom of the
27 plate and shall include the international symbol for access for
28 persons with disabilities. Only one special registration plate
29 shall be issued to a veteran under this section. It may be used
30 only on a passenger car or truck with a registered gross weight

1 of not more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds. In the case of a
2 motorcycle, the department shall issue a decal containing the
3 international symbol for access for persons with disabilities
4 and the words "disabled veteran" for display on the registration
5 plate.

6 * * *

7 (c) Disabled veteran plates.--On the application of any
8 veteran having a disability certified by the service unit of the
9 armed forces in which the veteran served or by the United States
10 Veterans' Administration as service-connected, the department
11 shall issue a special registration plate designating the vehicle
12 as belonging to a disabled veteran. The registration plate shall
13 have a white background, shall have numbers or letters as the
14 department may determine and shall have the words "disabled
15 veteran" in at least ten-point bold type inscribed at the bottom
16 of the plate. Only one special registration plate shall be
17 issued to a veteran under this section. It may be used only on a
18 passenger car or truck with a registered gross weight of not
19 more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds.

20 (d) Prisoner of war plate.--On the application of an ex-
21 prisoner of war whose imprisonment while in the service of the
22 armed forces of the United States is certified by the
23 appropriate branch of the armed forces, the department shall
24 issue a special registration plate designating the vehicle as
25 belonging to an ex-prisoner of war. The registration plate shall
26 contain the letters "POW" and such other numbers or letters as
27 the department may determine and shall have the words "prisoner
28 of war" in at least ten-point bold type inscribed at the bottom
29 of the plate. Only one special registration plate shall be
30 issued to an ex-prisoner of war under this subsection. The

1 special registration plate may be used only on a passenger car
2 or truck with a registered gross weight of not more than
3 [10,000] 14,000 pounds.

4 * * *

5 § 1346. Special plates for recipients of Purple Heart.

6 Upon application of any person who is a recipient of the
7 Purple Heart, the department shall issue to such person a
8 special registration plate designating the vehicle so licensed
9 as belonging to a person who is a recipient of the Purple Heart.
10 A severely disabled veteran, as described in section 1342(a)
11 (relating to veteran plates and placard), who is qualified to
12 receive a plate under this section may also elect to receive a
13 placard under section 1342(b). The special registration plate
14 may be used only on a passenger car or truck with a registered
15 gross weight of not more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds.

16 § 1348. Special plates for Pearl Harbor survivors.

17 Upon application of any person who is a survivor of Pearl
18 Harbor, accompanied by a fee of \$20 which shall be in addition
19 to the annual registration fee and by such documentation as the
20 department shall require, the department shall issue to such
21 person a special registration plate designating the vehicle so
22 licensed as belonging to a person who is a survivor of Pearl
23 Harbor. The special registration plate may be used only on a
24 passenger car or truck with a registered gross weight of not
25 more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds.

26 § 1350. Special plates for veterans of Korean War.

27 Upon application of any person who is a veteran of the Korean
28 War, accompanied by a fee of \$20, which shall be in addition to
29 the annual registration fee, and by such documentation as the
30 department shall require, the department shall issue to the

1 person a special registration plate designating the vehicle so
2 licensed as belonging to a person who is a veteran of the Korean
3 War. The special registration plate may be used only on a
4 passenger car or truck with a registered gross weight of not
5 more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds.

6 § 1350.1. Special plates for recipients of Korean Defense
7 Service Medal.

8 Upon application of any person who is a recipient of the
9 Korean Defense Service Medal, accompanied by a fee of \$20 which
10 shall be in addition to the annual registration fee and by such
11 documentation as the department shall require, the department
12 shall issue to the person a special registration plate
13 designating the vehicle so licensed as belonging to a person who
14 is a recipient of the Korean Defense Service Medal. The
15 department shall design and produce the special registration
16 plate. The special registration plate may be used only on a
17 passenger car or truck with a registered gross weight of not
18 more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds.

19 § 1351. Special plates for veterans of Persian Gulf War.

20 Upon application of any person who is a veteran of the
21 Persian Gulf War, accompanied by a fee of \$20, which shall be in
22 addition to the annual registration fee, and by such
23 documentation as the department shall require, the department
24 shall issue to the person a special registration plate
25 designating the vehicle so licensed as belonging to a person who
26 is a veteran of the Persian Gulf War. The special registration
27 plate may be used only on a passenger car or truck with a
28 registered gross weight of not more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds.

29 § 1352. Wild resource conservation plate.

30 The department, in consultation with the Wild Resource

1 Conservation Board, shall design a special wild resource
2 conservation registration plate. Upon application of any person,
3 accompanied by a fee of \$35 which shall be in addition to the
4 annual registration fee, the department shall issue the plate
5 for a passenger car, motor home, trailer or truck with a
6 registered gross weight of not more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds.
7 The Wild Resource Conservation Fund shall receive \$15 of each
8 additional fee for this plate.

9 § 1353. Preserve our heritage registration plate.

10 The department, in consultation with the Pennsylvania
11 Historical and Museum Commission, shall design a special
12 preserve our heritage registration plate. Upon receipt of an
13 application, accompanied by a fee of \$35 which shall be in
14 addition to the annual registration fee, the department shall
15 issue the plate for a passenger car, motor home, trailer or
16 truck with a registered gross weight of not more than [10,000]
17 14,000 pounds. The Historical Preservation Fund shall receive
18 \$15 of each additional fee for this plate.

19 § 1354. Flagship Niagara commemorative registration plate.

20 (a) Plate.--The department, in consultation with the
21 Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, shall design a
22 Flagship Niagara commemorative registration plate. Upon
23 application of any person, accompanied by a fee of \$35 which
24 shall be in addition to the annual registration fee, the
25 department shall issue the plate for a passenger car, motor
26 home, trailer or truck with a registered gross weight of not
27 more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds.

28 * * *

29 § 1355. Zoological plate.

30 The department, in consultation with the Pennsylvania

1 Zoological Council, shall design a special zoological
2 registration plate. Upon application of any person, accompanied
3 by a fee of \$35 which shall be in addition to the annual
4 registration fee, the department shall issue the plate for a
5 passenger car, motor home, trailer or truck with a registered
6 gross weight of not more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds. The
7 Zoological Enhancement Fund shall receive \$15 of the fee paid by
8 the applicant for the plate.

9 § 1356. Special plates for recipients of Expeditionary Forces
10 Medal.

11 Upon application of any person who is a recipient of the
12 Expeditionary Forces Medal, accompanied by a fee of \$20 which
13 shall be in addition to the annual registration fee and by such
14 documentation as the department shall require, the department
15 shall issue to such person a special registration plate
16 designating the vehicle so registered as belonging to a person
17 who is a recipient of the Expeditionary Forces Medal. The
18 special registration plate may be used only on a passenger car
19 or truck with a registered gross weight of not more than
20 [10,000] 14,000 pounds.

21 § 1357. Special plates for World War II veterans.

22 Upon application of any person who is a veteran of World War
23 II, accompanied by a fee of \$20 which shall be in addition to
24 the annual registration fee and by such documentation as the
25 department shall require, the department shall issue to such
26 person a special registration plate carrying the symbol of a
27 ruptured duck designating the vehicle so registered as belonging
28 to a person who is a veteran of World War II. The special
29 registration plate may be used only on a passenger car or truck
30 with a registered gross weight of not more than [10,000] 14,000

1 pounds.

2 § 1358. DARE plate.

3 The department, in consultation with the Pennsylvania
4 Commission on Crime and Delinquency, shall design a special drug
5 abuse resistance education (DARE) registration plate which
6 utilizes the DARE logo or slogan in the design. Upon application
7 of any person, accompanied by a fee of \$35 which shall be in
8 addition to the annual registration fee, the department shall
9 issue the plate for a passenger car, motor home, trailer or
10 truck with a registered gross weight of not more than [10,000]
11 14,000 pounds. The Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program shall
12 receive \$15 of each additional fee for this plate.

13 § 1359. Special plates for steelworkers.

14 (a) General rule.--Upon application of any person who is a
15 steelworker, accompanied by a fee of \$20 which shall be in
16 addition to the annual registration fee and by such
17 documentation as the department shall require, the department
18 shall issue to such person a special registration plate
19 designating the vehicle so licensed as belonging to a person who
20 is a steelworker. The special registration plate may be used
21 only on a passenger car or a truck with a registered gross
22 weight of not more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds. The plate shall
23 bear the likeness of the official emblem of the American Iron
24 and Steel Institute.

25 * * *

26 § 1360. Special plates for veterans of Vietnam Conflict.

27 Upon application of any person who is a veteran of the
28 Vietnam Conflict as that term is defined for the awarding of the
29 Vietnam Service Medal, accompanied by a fee of \$20 in addition
30 to the annual registration fee and by such documentation as the

1 department shall require, the department shall issue to the
2 person a special registration plate designating the vehicle so
3 licensed as belonging to a person who is a veteran of the
4 Vietnam Conflict. The special registration plate may be used
5 only on a passenger car or truck with a registered gross weight
6 of not more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds.

7 § 1362. Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans plate.

8 Upon application of any person who is a veteran of the
9 liberation or occupation of Iraq, accompanied by a fee of \$20
10 which shall be in addition to the annual registration fee and by
11 documentation as the department shall require, the department
12 shall issue to the person a special registration plate
13 designating the vehicle so licensed as belonging to a person who
14 is a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The special
15 registration plate may be used only on a passenger car or truck
16 with a registered gross weight of not more than [10,000] 14,000
17 pounds.

18 § 1363. Operation Enduring Freedom veterans plate.

19 Upon application of any person who is a veteran of the
20 liberation or occupation of Afghanistan, accompanied by a fee of
21 \$20 which shall be in addition to the annual registration fee
22 and by documentation as the department shall require, the
23 department shall issue to the person a special registration
24 plate designating the vehicle so licensed as belonging to a
25 person who is a veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom. The
26 special registration plate may be used only on a passenger car
27 or truck with a registered gross weight of not more than
28 [10,000] 14,000 pounds.

29 § 1364. Special plates for veterans.

30 Upon application of any person who is an honorably discharged

1 veteran of the armed forces of the United States or a reserve
2 component of the armed forces as defined in 51 Pa.C.S. § 7301
3 (relating to definitions), accompanied by a fee of \$20 which
4 shall be in addition to the annual registration fee and by such
5 documentation as the department shall require, the department
6 shall issue to the person a special registration plate
7 designating the vehicle as belonging to a person who is a
8 veteran of the armed forces of the United States. The special
9 registration plate may be used only on a passenger car or truck
10 with a registered gross weight of not more than [10,000] 14,000
11 pounds.

12 § 1365. Gold Star Family plate.

13 (a) General rule.--Upon application of a family member of a
14 person who was killed while serving on active duty in the
15 military, accompanied by a fee of \$20 which shall be in addition
16 to the annual registration fee and by such documentation as the
17 department shall require, the department shall issue to the
18 family member a special registration plate designating the
19 vehicle so licensed as belonging to a family member of a person
20 who was killed while serving on active duty in the military. The
21 department shall design and produce the special registration
22 plate carrying the Service Flag Gold Star rimmed with blue which
23 represents sacrifice to the cause of liberty and freedom. The
24 words "Gold Star Family" shall be clearly displayed along the
25 bottom of the plate. The special registration plate may be used
26 only on a passenger car or truck with a registered gross weight
27 of not more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds.

28 * * *

29 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.