

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, MARSHALL AND DENLINGER, JANUARY 21, 2011

AS AMENDED ON SECOND CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, MARCH 7, 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 OR ANTIQUE, CLASSIC AND COLLECTIBLE VEHICLE which does ←
17 not have a gross vehicle weight rating of more than [10,000]

1 14,000 pounds may register the vehicle with the department for a
2 period of successive months of less than one year. The applicant
3 shall specify the period of months during which the vehicle
4 shall be registered. Except when the department initially
5 converts a currently valid annual registration to a seasonal
6 registration, the annual fee prescribed for the vehicle by
7 Chapter 19 (relating to fees) shall be paid in full by the
8 applicant regardless of the number of months chosen for
9 registration by the applicant. Upon receipt of the appropriate
10 fee and the properly completed form, including all information
11 required by this chapter, the department shall issue a seasonal
12 registration that shall expire on the last day of the expiration
13 month chosen by the registrant. No insurer of a vehicle
14 belonging to any owner or lessee who obtains a seasonal
15 registration and who applies for or receives a reduced
16 automobile insurance premium on account thereof shall be
17 required to provide any contractual coverage, whether in the
18 form of the provision of a defense or the payment of first-party
19 or third-party benefits or otherwise, to the owner or lessee in
20 connection with any event occurring during that part of the year
21 in which the vehicle is not registered; and such owner or lessee
22 shall be treated for all purposes, including, without
23 limitation, ascertaining rights to stack coverages and to
24 uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage, as a person who
25 does not own that vehicle and has no duty to carry financial
26 responsibility on it for that part of the year.

27 * * *

28 § 1338. Person with disability plate and placard.

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

1 * * *

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

14 * * *

15 § 1341. Special registration plates generally.

16 Upon request by the applicant, the department may issue
17 registration plates consisting of any combination of numbers,
18 letters or numbers and letters. These special plates may be
19 issued for special groups or for special purposes and bear an
20 appropriate designation. Special groups may charge a fee for
21 authorization to request a registration plate bearing the name
22 of the group. They shall have the same force and effect as
23 regular registration plates. The department may refuse any
24 combination of letters and numbers for cause and shall adopt
25 reasonable rules and regulations for the issuance of the plates
26 and for carrying out the provisions of this section. The
27 applicant shall comply with all laws and regulations pertaining
28 to registration including the payment of any additional fees.
29 The department is authorized to reissue a combination of numbers
30 or letters for a personal plate if the department records reveal

1 that no activity, such as renewal or transfer of the personal
2 registration plate, has occurred for a period of five or more
3 consecutive years and provided that the personal registration
4 plate was never reported as lost or stolen. Whenever the
5 department reissues an inactive personal plate, the department
6 may purge its records of all references to the previous owners
7 of that personal plate. The department shall, however, note upon
8 its records the reissuance of the personal plate and to whom the
9 plate was issued. The special registration plate may be used
10 only on a passenger car or truck with a registered gross weight
11 of not more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds. If the vehicle is
12 licensed to a business that is not a member of the special
13 group, the department shall issue the plate as long as the
14 business owner or officer making application is a member of that
15 group.

16 § 1342. Veteran plates and placard.

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

1 shall be issued to a veteran under this section. It may be used
2 only on a passenger car or truck with a registered gross weight
3 of not more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds. In the case of a
4 motorcycle, the department shall issue a decal containing the
5 international symbol for access for persons with disabilities
6 and the words "disabled veteran" for display on the registration
7 plate.

8 * * *

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

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

1 of the plate. Only one special registration plate shall be
2 issued to an ex-prisoner of war under this subsection. The
3 special registration plate may be used only on a passenger car
4 or truck with a registered gross weight of not more than
5 [10,000] 14,000 pounds.

6 * * *

7 § 1346. Special plates for recipients of Purple Heart.

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

18 § 1348. Special plates for Pearl Harbor survivors.

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

28 § 1350. Special plates for veterans of Korean War.

29 Upon application of any person who is a veteran of the Korean
30 War, accompanied by a fee of \$20, which shall be in addition to

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

8 § 1350.1. Special plates for recipients of Korean Defense
9 Service Medal.

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

21 § 1351. Special plates for veterans of Persian Gulf War.

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

1 § 1352. Wild resource conservation plate.

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

11 § 1353. Preserve our heritage registration plate.

12 The department, in consultation with the Pennsylvania
13 Historical and Museum Commission, shall design a special
14 preserve our heritage registration plate. Upon receipt of an
15 application, accompanied by a fee of \$35 which shall be in
16 addition to the annual registration fee, the department shall
17 issue the plate for a passenger car, motor home, trailer or
18 truck with a registered gross weight of not more than [10,000]
19 14,000 pounds. The Historical Preservation Fund shall receive
20 \$15 of each additional fee for this plate.

21 § 1354. Flagship Niagara commemorative registration plate.

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

30 * * *

1 § 1355. Zoological plate.

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

11 § 1356. Special plates for recipients of Expeditionary Forces
12 Medal.

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

23 § 1357. Special plates for World War II veterans.

24 Upon application of any person who is a veteran of World War
25 II, accompanied by a fee of \$20 which shall be in addition to
26 the annual registration fee and by such documentation as the
27 department shall require, the department shall issue to such
28 person a special registration plate carrying the symbol of a
29 ruptured duck designating the vehicle so registered as belonging
30 to a person who is a veteran of World War II. The special

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

4 § 1358. DARE plate.

5 The department, in consultation with the Pennsylvania
6 Commission on Crime and Delinquency, shall design a special drug
7 abuse resistance education (DARE) registration plate which
8 utilizes the DARE logo or slogan in the design. Upon application
9 of any person, accompanied by a fee of \$35 which shall be in
10 addition to the annual registration fee, the department shall
11 issue the plate for a passenger car, motor home, trailer or
12 truck with a registered gross weight of not more than [10,000]
13 14,000 pounds. The Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program shall
14 receive \$15 of each additional fee for this plate.

15 § 1359. Special plates for steelworkers.

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

27 * * *

28 § 1360. Special plates for veterans of Vietnam Conflict.

29 Upon application of any person who is a veteran of the
30 Vietnam Conflict as that term is defined for the awarding of the

1 Vietnam Service Medal, accompanied by a fee of \$20 in addition
2 to the annual registration fee and by such documentation as the
3 department shall require, the department shall issue to the
4 person a special registration plate designating the vehicle so
5 licensed as belonging to a person who is a veteran of the
6 Vietnam Conflict. The special registration plate may be used
7 only on a passenger car or truck with a registered gross weight
8 of not more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds.

9 § 1362. Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans plate.

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

20 § 1363. Operation Enduring Freedom veterans plate.

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

1 § 1364. Special plates for veterans.

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

14 § 1365. Gold Star Family plate.

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

30 * * *

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