

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, DENLINGER AND CALTAGIRONE, JANUARY 21, 2011

SENATOR RAFFERTY, TRANSPORTATION, IN SENATE, AS AMENDED, MAY 23, 2012

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 ~~for~~ OR farm ←
16 vehicle ~~or antique, classic and collectible vehicle~~ which does ←

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

28 \* \* \*

29 § 1338. Person with disability plate and placard.

30 (a) Person with disability plate.--On the application of any

1 person who:

2 \* \* \*

3 (9) is a person in loco parentis of a person specified  
4 in paragraph (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7) or (8);

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

15 \* \* \*

16 § 1341. Special registration plates generally.

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

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

17 § 1342. Veteran plates and placard.

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

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

9 \* \* \*

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

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

1 of war" in at least ten-point bold type inscribed at the bottom  
2 of the plate. Only one special registration plate shall be  
3 issued to an ex-prisoner of war under this subsection. The  
4 special registration plate may be used only on a passenger car  
5 or truck with a registered gross weight of not more than  
6 [10,000] 14,000 pounds.

7 \* \* \*

8 § 1346. Special plates for recipients of Purple Heart.

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

19 § 1348. Special plates for Pearl Harbor survivors.

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

29 § 1350. Special plates for veterans of Korean War.

30 Upon application of any person who is a veteran of the Korean

1 War, accompanied by a fee of \$20, which shall be in addition to  
2 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 Korean  
6 War. The special registration plate may be used only on a  
7 passenger car or truck with a registered gross weight of not  
8 more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds.

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

11 Upon application of any person who is a recipient of the  
12 Korean Defense Service 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 the person a special registration plate  
16 designating the vehicle so licensed as belonging to a person who  
17 is a recipient of the Korean Defense Service Medal. The  
18 department shall design and produce the special registration  
19 plate. The special registration plate 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 § 1351. Special plates for veterans of Persian Gulf War.

23 Upon application of any person who is a veteran of the  
24 Persian Gulf War, accompanied by a fee of \$20, which shall be in  
25 addition to the annual registration fee, and by such  
26 documentation as the department shall require, the department  
27 shall issue to the person a special registration plate  
28 designating the vehicle so licensed as belonging to a person who  
29 is a veteran of the Persian Gulf War. The special registration  
30 plate may be used only on a passenger car or truck with a

1 registered gross weight of not more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds.

2 § 1352. Wild resource conservation plate.

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

10 The Wild Resource Conservation Fund shall receive \$15 of each  
11 additional fee for this plate.

12 § 1353. Preserve our heritage registration plate.

13 The department, in consultation with the Pennsylvania  
14 Historical and Museum Commission, shall design a special  
15 preserve our heritage registration plate. Upon receipt of an  
16 application, accompanied by a fee of \$35 which shall be in  
17 addition to the annual registration fee, the department shall  
18 issue the plate for a passenger car, motor home, trailer or  
19 truck with a registered gross weight of not more than [10,000]  
20 14,000 pounds. The Historical Preservation Fund shall receive  
21 \$15 of each additional fee for this plate.

22 § 1354. Flagship Niagara commemorative registration plate.

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



1 \* \* \*

2 § 1355. Zoological plate.

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

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

14 Upon application of any person who is a recipient of the  
15 Expeditionary Forces Medal, accompanied by a fee of \$20 which  
16 shall be in 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 registered as belonging to a person  
20 who is a recipient of the Expeditionary Forces Medal. The  
21 special registration plate may be used only on a passenger car  
22 or truck with a registered gross weight of not more than  
23 [10,000] 14,000 pounds.

24 § 1357. Special plates for World War II veterans.

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

1 to a person who is a veteran of World War II. The special  
2 registration plate may be used only on a passenger car or truck  
3 with a registered gross weight of not more than [10,000] 14,000  
4 pounds.

5 § 1358. DARE plate.

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

16 § 1359. Special plates for steelworkers.

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

28 \* \* \*

29 § 1360. Special plates for veterans of Vietnam Conflict.

30 Upon application of any person who is a veteran of the

1 Vietnam Conflict as that term is defined for the awarding of the  
2 Vietnam Service Medal, accompanied by a fee of \$20 in addition  
3 to the annual registration fee and by such documentation as the  
4 department shall require, the department shall issue to the  
5 person a special registration plate designating the vehicle so  
6 licensed as belonging to a person who is a veteran of the  
7 Vietnam Conflict. 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.

10 § 1362. Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans plate.

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

21 § 1363. Operation Enduring Freedom veterans plate.

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

1 [10,000] 14,000 pounds.

2 § 1364. Special plates for veterans.

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

15 § 1365. Gold Star Family plate.

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

1 \* \* \*

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