

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 770 Session of 2013

INTRODUCED BY ADOLPH, CARROLL, HAHN, CALTAGIRONE, KNOWLES,
MILLARD, CUTLER, COHEN, KORTZ, GINGRICH, EVANKOVICH,
READSHAW, HESS, FLECK, MOUL, GILLEN, GRELL, EVERETT, GROVE,
M. K. KELLER, FABRIZIO, DENLINGER, MURT, KAUFFMAN AND QUINN,
FEBRUARY 25, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, FEBRUARY 25, 2013

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; providing for
4 Appalachian Trail organization registration plates; and
5 making editorial changes.

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

8 Section 1. Sections 1333(b.1) and 1341 of Title 75 of the
9 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended 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
17 the style of the reissued registration plate and, except in the
18 case of personal registration plates issued under section 1341

1 (relating to special registration plates [generally]), the
2 registration plate number.

3 * * *

4 § 1341. Special registration plates [generally].

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

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

1 personal plate and to whom the plate was issued. [The special] A
2 personal registration plate may be used only on a passenger car
3 [or], motorcycle, truck with a registered gross weight of not
4 more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds, trailer or motor home.

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

18 Section 2. Title 75 is amended by adding sections to read:
19 § 1341.1 Personal organization registration plates.

20 (a) General rule.--The department may, upon application of
21 any person and upon payment of the additional fee under this
22 section, issue a personal organization registration plate to
23 applicants for special registration plates authorized in this
24 chapter.

25 (b) Additional fee.--

26 (1) The department shall collect an additional fee of up
27 to \$300 for any personal special registration plate or
28 personal organization registration plates issued under
29 subsection (a).

30 (2) For any personal plate issued under sections 1338

1 (relating to person with disability plate and placard) and
2 1342 (relating to veteran plates and placard), the department
3 shall collect only an additional fee of \$50.

4 § 1352.1. Appalachian Trail organization registration plates.

5 The department, in consultation with the Appalachian Trail
6 Conservancy, shall design a special Appalachian Trail
7 organization registration plate. The plate, at a minimum, shall
8 contain the image of a hiker and the Appalachian Trail
9 Conservancy logo and distinctive coloring. Upon application of
10 any person, accompanied by the appropriate fee, the department
11 shall issue the plate for a passenger car or truck with a
12 registered gross weight of not more than 14,000 pounds or a
13 motor home.

14 Section 3. Sections 1786(h) (2) and 1931 of Title 75 are
15 amended to read:

16 § 1786. Required financial responsibility.

17 * * *

18 (h) Reinstatement of voluntarily surrendered registration
19 plate and card.--

20 * * *

21 (2) Any registration plate issued under sections 1340
22 (relating to antique and classic plates) and 1341 (relating
23 to [personal plate] special registration plates) shall be
24 returned by the department to the owner of the motor vehicle
25 upon receipt of proof of financial responsibility.

26 * * *

27 § 1931. [Personal] Special registration plates.

28 The fee for issuance of a [personal] special registration
29 plate shall be \$20 which shall be in addition to the annual
30 registration fee. Only one payment of the issuance fee shall be

1 charged for each [personal] special registration issued or
2 replaced.

3 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 120 days.