

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, QUINN, PAINTER, HARPER, PYLE AND FREEMAN, FEBRUARY 25, 2013

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, APRIL 17, 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 PERSONAL ORGANIZATION REGISTRATION PLATES AND FOR Appalachian <--
5 Trail organization registration plates; and making editorial
6 changes.

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

9 Section 1. Sections 1333(b.1) and 1341 of Title 75 of the
10 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:

11 § 1333. Lost, stolen, damaged or illegible registration plate.

12 \* \* \*

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

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

4 \* \* \*

5 § 1341. Special registration plates [generally].

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

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

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

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

19 Section 2. Title 75 is amended by adding sections to read:  
20 § 1341.1 Personal organization registration plates.

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

26 (b) Additional fee.--

27 (1) The department shall collect an additional fee of ~~up~~<--  
28 ~~to \$300 for any personal special registration plate or \$100~~ <--  
29 FOR personal organization registration plates issued under  
30 subsection (a).

1           (2) For any personal plate issued under sections 1338  
2           (relating to person with disability plate and placard) and  
3           1342 (relating to veteran plates and placard), the department  
4           shall collect only an additional fee of \$50.

5 § 1352.1. Appalachian Trail organization registration plates.

6           (A) GENERAL RULE.--The department, in consultation with the <--  
7 Appalachian Trail Conservancy, shall design a special  
8 Appalachian Trail organization registration plate. The plate, at  
9 a minimum, shall contain the image of a hiker and the  
10 Appalachian Trail Conservancy logo and distinctive coloring.  
11 Upon application of any person, accompanied by the appropriate <--  
12 fee, THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONSERVANCY MAY CHARGE A FEE FOR THE <--  
13 AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST THE REGISTRATION PLATE. UPON REQUEST BY  
14 THE APPLICANT, the department shall issue the plate for a  
15 passenger car or truck with a registered gross weight of not  
16 more than 14,000 pounds or a motor home. THE FEE PROVIDED UNDER <--  
17 SECTION 1931 (RELATING TO SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES) SHALL  
18 APPLY.

19           (B) PROCEEDS.--IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT <--  
20 PROCEEDS RECEIVED BY THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONSERVANCY UNDER  
21 THIS SECTION ARE TO BE USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR TRAIL MAINTENANCE  
22 AND IMPROVEMENT.

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

25 § 1786. Required financial responsibility.

26           \* \* \*

27           (h) Reinstatement of voluntarily surrendered registration  
28 plate and card.--

29           \* \* \*

30           (2) Any registration plate issued under sections 1340

1 (relating to antique and classic plates) and 1341 (relating  
2 to [personal plate] special registration plates) shall be  
3 returned by the department to the owner of the motor vehicle  
4 upon receipt of proof of financial responsibility.

5 \* \* \*

6 § 1931. [Personal] Special registration plates.

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

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