

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, FREEMAN, MICOZZIE, SCAVELLO AND  
EMRICK, FEBRUARY 25, 2013

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, IN SENATE, MARCH 17, 2014

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. IN REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR <--  
7 LOST, STOLEN, DAMAGED OR ILLEGIBLE REGISTRATION PLATE AND FOR  
8 SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES GENERALLY; PROVIDING FOR PERSONAL  
9 ORGANIZATION REGISTRATION PLATES AND FOR APPALACHIAN TRAIL  
10 ORGANIZATION REGISTRATION PLATES; IN FINANCIAL  
11 RESPONSIBILITY, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR REQUIRED FINANCIAL  
12 RESPONSIBILITY; IN FEES, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR PERSONAL <--  
13 REGISTRATION PLATES; IN RULES OF THE ROAD IN GENERAL, FURTHER  
14 PROVIDING FOR MAXIMUM SPEED LIMITS; AND, IN SIZE, WEIGHT AND  
15 LOAD, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR CONDITIONS OF PERMITS AND  
16 SECURITY FOR DAMAGES.

17 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
18 hereby enacts as follows:

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

21 § 1333. Lost, stolen, damaged or illegible registration plate.

22 \* \* \*

1 (b.1) Illegible registration plate.--The department may  
2 reissue a registration plate upon request by a registrant when  
3 it is determined by an authorized representative of the  
4 department or law enforcement that the registration plate is  
5 illegible from a reasonable distance. The department may select  
6 the style of the reissued registration plate and, except in the  
7 case of personal registration plates issued under section 1341  
8 (relating to special registration plates [generally]), the  
9 registration plate number.

10 \* \* \*

11 § 1341. Special registration plates [generally].

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

26 (b) Personal registration plates.--Upon request by the  
27 applicant, the department is authorized to issue personal  
28 registration plates. The department is authorized to reissue a  
29 combination of numbers or letters for a personal plate if the  
30 department records reveal that no activity, such as renewal or

1 transfer of the personal registration plate, has occurred for a  
2 period of five or more consecutive years and provided that the  
3 personal registration plate was never reported as lost or  
4 stolen. Whenever the department reissues an inactive personal  
5 plate, the department may purge its records of all references to  
6 the previous owners of that personal plate. The department  
7 shall, however, note upon its records the reissuance of the  
8 personal plate and to whom the plate was issued. [The special] A  
9 personal registration plate may be used only on a passenger car  
10 ~~for~~, ~~motorcycle~~, truck, with a registered gross weight of not <--  
11 more than [10,000] 14,000 pounds, MOTORCYCLE, trailer or motor  
12 home.

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

26 Section 2. Title 75 is amended by adding sections to read:  
27 § 1341.1. Personal organization registration plates.

28 (a) General rule.--The department may, upon application of  
29 any person and upon payment of the additional fee under this  
30 section, issue a personal organization registration plate to

1 applicants for special registration plates authorized in this  
2 chapter.

3 (b) Additional fee.--

4 (1) The department shall collect an additional fee of  
5 \$100 for personal organization registration plates issued  
6 under subsection (a).

7 (2) For any personal plate issued under sections 1338  
8 (relating to person with disability plate and placard) and  
9 1342 (relating to veteran plates and placard), the department  
10 shall collect only an additional fee of \$50.

11 § 1352.1. Appalachian Trail organization registration plates.

12 (a) General rule.--The department, in consultation with the  
13 Appalachian Trail Conservancy, shall design a special  
14 Appalachian Trail organization registration plate. The plate, at  
15 a minimum, shall contain the image of a hiker and the  
16 Appalachian Trail Conservancy logo and distinctive coloring.  
17 The Appalachian Trail Conservancy may charge a fee for the  
18 authorization to request the registration plate. Upon request by  
19 the applicant, the department shall issue the plate for a  
20 passenger car or truck with a registered gross weight of not  
21 more than 14,000 pounds or a motor home. The fee provided under  
22 section 1931 (relating to ~~special~~ PERSONAL registration plates) <--  
23 shall apply.

24 (b) Proceeds.--It is the intent of the General Assembly that  
25 proceeds received by the Appalachian Trail Conservancy under  
26 this section are to be used exclusively for trail maintenance  
27 and improvement.

28 ~~Section 3. Sections 1786(h)(2) and 1931 of Title 75 are <--~~  
29 ~~amended to read: SECTIONS 1786(D)(1.1) AND (H)(2), 1931, 3362(A) <--~~  
30 ~~(1.1) AND 4962(F.3) INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH OF TITLE 75, AMENDED~~

1 ~~OR ADDED NOVEMBER 25, 2013 (P.L.974, NO.89), ARE AMENDED TO~~

2 ~~READ:~~

3 SECTION 3. SECTION 1786(H) (2) OF TITLE 75 IS AMENDED TO <--

4 READ:

5 § 1786. Required financial responsibility.

6 \* \* \*

7 ~~(D) SUSPENSION OF REGISTRATION AND OPERATING PRIVILEGE.~~ <--

8 \* \* \*

9 ~~(1.1) IN LIEU OF SERVING A REGISTRATION SUSPENSION OR~~  
10 ~~OPERATING PRIVILEGE SUSPENSION, OR BOTH, IMPOSED UNDER THIS~~  
11 ~~SECTION, AN OWNER OR REGISTRANT MAY PAY TO THE DEPARTMENT A~~  
12 ~~CIVIL PENALTY OF \$500, THE RESTORATION FEE PRESCRIBED UNDER~~  
13 ~~SECTION 1960 AND FURNISH PROOF OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN~~  
14 ~~A MANNER DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT. AN OWNER OR REGISTRANT~~  
15 ~~MAY EXERCISE THIS OPTION NO MORE THAN ONCE IN A 12 MONTH~~  
16 ~~PERIOD.~~

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 ~~§ 1931. [PERSONAL] SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES.~~ <--

4 ~~THE FEE FOR ISSUANCE OF A [PERSONAL] SPECIAL REGISTRATION~~  
5 ~~PLATE SHALL BE \$76 WHICH SHALL BE IN ADDITION TO THE ANNUAL~~  
6 ~~REGISTRATION FEE. ONLY ONE PAYMENT OF THE ISSUANCE FEE SHALL BE~~  
7 ~~CHARGED FOR EACH [PERSONAL] SPECIAL REGISTRATION ISSUED OR~~  
8 ~~REPLACED.~~

9 SECTION 3.1. SECTIONS 3362(A)(1.1) AND 4962(F.3) <--

10 INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH OF TITLE 75, AMENDED OR ADDED NOVEMBER  
11 25, 2013 (P.L.974, NO.89), ARE AMENDED TO READ:

12 § 3362. MAXIMUM SPEED LIMITS.

13 (A) GENERAL RULE.--EXCEPT WHEN A SPECIAL HAZARD EXISTS THAT  
14 REQUIRES LOWER SPEED FOR COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 3361 (RELATING  
15 TO DRIVING VEHICLE AT SAFE SPEED), THE LIMITS SPECIFIED IN THIS  
16 SECTION OR ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SUBCHAPTER SHALL BE MAXIMUM  
17 LAWFUL SPEEDS AND NO PERSON SHALL DRIVE A VEHICLE AT A SPEED IN  
18 EXCESS OF THE FOLLOWING MAXIMUM LIMITS:

19 \* \* \*

20 (1.1) 65 MILES PER HOUR OR 70 MILES PER HOUR FOR ALL  
21 VEHICLES ON FREEWAYS WHERE THE DEPARTMENT HAS POSTED A 65-  
22 MILES-PER-HOUR OR 70-MILES-PER-HOUR SPEED LIMIT.

23 \* \* \*

24 § 4962. CONDITIONS OF PERMITS AND SECURITY FOR DAMAGES.

25 \* \* \*

26 (F.3) ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZED TRAVEL PERIODS.--[WITH RESPECT  
27 TO OVERSIZED VEHICLES (OVER-LENGTH, OVER-WIDTH OR OVER-HEIGHT) ]  
28 EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED UNDER THIS TITLE, A PERMITTED  
29 VEHICLE, COMBINATION OR LOAD WHICH IS OVERSIZED (OVER-LENGTH,  
30 OVER-WIDTH OR OVER-HEIGHT), OVERWEIGHT OR BOTH OVERSIZED AND

1 OVERWEIGHT MAY OPERATE UNDER A PERMIT FROM SUNRISE TO SUNSET  
2 EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK, EXCEPT AS FOLLOWS:

3 \* \* \*

4 Section 4. This act shall take effect ~~in 120 days.~~ AS <--  
5 FOLLOWS:

6 ~~(1) THE AMENDMENT OF 75 PA.C.S. § 1786(D) (1.1) SHALL~~ <--  
7 ~~TAKE EFFECT JANUARY 1, 2015.~~

8 ~~(2)~~ (1) THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS SHALL TAKE EFFECT <--  
9 IMMEDIATELY:

10 (I) THE AMENDMENT OF 75 PA.C.S. §§ 3362 (A) (1.1) AND  
11 4962 (F.3) .

12 (II) THIS SECTION.

13 ~~(3)~~ (2) THE REMAINDER OF THIS ACT SHALL TAKE EFFECT IN <--  
14 120 DAYS.