

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1977



ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 335

(By Mr. Lelligan)



PASSED March 19, 1977

In Effect ninty days from Passage



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Senate Bill No. 335

(By MR. GILLIGAN)

[Passed March 19, 1977; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section twenty-three, article three, chapter seventeen-a of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to motor vehicles; increasing number of state vehicles to be operated by the arson investigators of the office of state fire marshal.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section twenty-three, article three, chapter seventeen-a of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 3. ORIGINAL AND RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION;
ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATES OF TITLE.**

**§17A-3-23. Registration plates for state, county, municipal and
other governmental vehicles.**

1 Any motor vehicle designed to carry passengers, owned
2 or leased by the state of West Virginia, or any of its
3 departments, bureaus, commissions or institutions, except
4 vehicles used by the governor, vehicles operated by the
5 department of public safety, not to exceed six vehicles
6 operated by conservation officers of the department of
7 natural resources, and not to exceed ten vehicles operated
8 by the arson investigators of the office of state fire marshal,
9 shall not be operated or driven by any person unless it
10 shall have displayed and attached to the front thereof,
11 in the same manner as regular motor vehicle registration
12 plates are attached, a plate of the same size as the regular

13 registration plate, with white lettering on a green back-
14 ground bearing the words "West Virginia" in one line
15 and the words "State Car" in another line, and the
16 lettering for the words "State Car" shall be of sufficient
17 size to be plainly readable from a distance of one hundred
18 feet during daylight.

19 Such vehicle shall also have attached to the rear a
20 plate bearing a number and such other words and figures
21 as the commissioner of motor vehicles shall prescribe.
22 The rear plate shall also be green with the number in
23 white.

24 On registration plates issued to vehicles owned by
25 counties, the color shall be white on red with the word
26 "County" on top of the plate and the words "West
27 Virginia" on the bottom. On any registration plates
28 issued to a city or municipality, the color shall be white
29 on blue with the word "City" on top, and the words
30 "West Virginia" on the bottom. The colors may not be
31 reversed and shall be of reflectorized material. The com-
32 missioner is hereby authorized to designate the colors
33 and design of any other registration plates that are is-
34 sued without charge to any other agency in accordance
35 with the motor vehicle laws. The registration plates
36 issued to counties, municipalities and other governmental
37 agencies authorized to receive colored plates hereunder
38 shall be affixed to both the front and rear of such vehicles.

39 No other registration plate shall be issued for, or at-
40 tached to, any such state-owned vehicle.

41 The commissioner of motor vehicles shall have a
42 sufficient number of both front and rear plates produced
43 to attach to all state-owned cars. The numbered regis-
44 tration plates for such vehicles shall start with the number
45 "five hundred" and the commissioner shall issue con-
46 secutive numbers for all state-owned cars.

47 It shall be the duty of each office, department, bureau,
48 commission or institution furnished any such vehicle
49 to have such plates affixed thereto prior to the operation
50 of such vehicle by any official or employee.

51 Any person violating the provisions of this section
52 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction

53 thereof, shall be fined not less than fifty dollars nor more
54 than one hundred dollars.

55 Magistrates shall have concurrent jurisdiction with cir-
56 cuit and criminal courts for the enforcement of this
57 section.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

James L. Davis
Chairman Senate Committee

James C. Chestnut Jr.
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

To take effect ninety days from passage.

J. C. Hillough
Clerk of the Senate

V. A. Blankenship
Clerk of the House of Delegates

W. T. Batherly
President of the Senate

Donald L. Kopp
Speaker House of Delegates

The within is approved this the 28
day of March, 1977.

John D. Rhyne
Governor



APPROVED AND SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Date March 28, 1977
Time 9:45 AM

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SECY. OF STATE