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SENATE

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1995



ENROLLED

Committee Substitute For
SENATE BILL NO. 274

(By Senators SCHOONOVER & LOVE)



PASSED MARCH 11, 1995

In Effect July 1, 1995 ~~Passage~~

ENROLLED
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR

Senate Bill No. 274

(SENATORS SCHOONOVER AND LOVE, *original sponsors*)

[Passed March 11, 1995; to take effect July 1, 1995.]

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 license plates; authorizing issuance of unlimited license plates to drug and violent crime task forces for vehicles involved in undercover work; authorizing issuance of twenty Class A license plates for vehicles used by the criminal investigation division of the department of tax and revenue; and criminal penalties.

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 to state, county, municipal

and other governmental vehicles; use for undercover activities.

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,
4 except vehicles used by the governor, treasurer, vehicles
5 operated by the department of public safety, not to
6 exceed six vehicles operated by conservation officers of
7 the division of natural resources, not to exceed ten
8 vehicles operated by the arson investigators of the office
9 of state fire marshal and not to exceed sixteen vehicles
10 operated by inspectors of the office of the alcohol
11 beverage control commissioner, shall not be operated or
12 driven by any person unless it shall have displayed and
13 attached to the front thereof, in the same manner as
14 regular motor vehicle registration plates are attached, a
15 plate of the same size as the regular registration plate,
16 with white lettering on a green background bearing the
17 words "West Virginia" in one line and the words "State
18 Car" in another line, and the lettering for the words
19 "State Car" shall be of sufficient size to be plainly
20 readable from a distance of one hundred feet during
21 daylight.

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

27 On registration plates issued to vehicles owned by
28 counties, the color shall be white on red with the word
29 "County" on top of the plate and the words "West
30 Virginia" on the bottom. On any registration plates
31 issued to a city or municipality, the color shall be white
32 on blue with the word "City" on top, and the words
33 "West Virginia" on the bottom. The colors may not be
34 reversed and shall be of reflectorized material. The
35 registration plates issued to counties, municipalities and

36 other governmental agencies authorized to receive
37 colored plates hereunder shall be affixed to both the
38 front and rear of such vehicles.

39 The commissioner is authorized to designate the colors
40 and design of any other registration plates that are
41 issued without charge to any other agency in accordance
42 with the motor vehicle laws.

43 Upon application and payment of fees, the commis-
44 sioner is authorized to issue a maximum of five Class A
45 license plates per applicant to be used by county sheriffs
46 and municipalities on law-enforcement vehicles while
47 engaged in undercover investigations.

48 The commissioner is authorized to issue an unlimited
49 number of license plates per applicant to authorized
50 drug and violent crime task forces in the state of West
51 Virginia when the chairperson of the control group of a
52 drug and violent crime task force signs a written affida-
53 vit stating that the vehicle or vehicles for which the
54 plates are being requested will be used only for official
55 undercover work conducted by such drug and violent
56 crime task force.

57 The commissioner is authorized to issue twenty Class
58 A license plates to the criminal investigation division of
59 the department of tax and revenue for use by its investi-
60 gators.

61 No other registration plate shall be issued for, or
62 attached to, any such state-owned vehicle.

63 The commissioner of motor vehicles shall have a
64 sufficient number of both front and rear plates produced
65 to attach to all state-owned cars. The numbered regis-
66 tration plates for such vehicles shall start with the
67 number "five hundred" and the commissioner shall issue
68 consecutive numbers for all state-owned cars.

69 It shall be the duty of each office, department, bureau,
70 commission or institution furnished any such vehicle to

71 have such plates affixed thereto prior to the operation of
72 such vehicle by any official or employee.

73 Any person who violates the provisions of this section
74 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction
75 thereof, shall be fined not less than fifty dollars nor more
76 than one hundred dollars.

77 Magistrates shall have concurrent jurisdiction with
78 circuit and criminal courts for the enforcement of this
79 section.

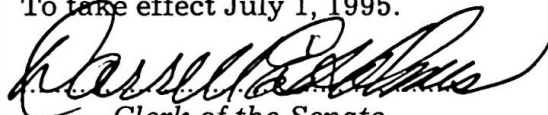
That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

.....
Chairman Senate Committee


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Chairman House Committee

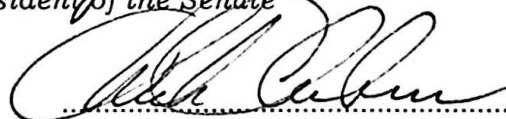
Originated in the Senate.

To take effect July 1, 1995.

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Clerk of the Senate

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Clerk of the House of Delegates

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President of the Senate

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Speaker House of Delegates

The within this the.....
day of, 1995.

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Governor

PRESENTED TO THE

GOVERNOR

Date

3/24/95

Time

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