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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE SECHETARY OF STATE EIGHTIETH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION, 2011

ENROLLED

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

Senate Bill No. 263

(SENATORS BEACH AND KLEMPA, ORIGINAL SPONSORS)

[Passed March 9, 2011; in effect ninety days from passage.]

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(SENATORS BEACH AND KLEMPA, original sponsors)

[Passed March 9, 2011; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §17A-6-10d, relating to special plates for the testing of vehicles operated by non-profit corporations engaged in research and development of motor vehicles, special fuels or equipment for motor vehicles; requiring written records be kept; prohibiting bonding; requiring vehicles to be insured; and exempting the vehicles from safety inspections, but requiring the vehicles to be safe.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated §17A-6-10d, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 6. LICENSING OF DEALERS AND WRECKERS OR DISMANTLERS; SPECIAL PLATES; TEMPORARY PLATES OR MARKERS.

§17A-6-10d. Special plates for nonprofit corporations engaged in research and development.

- 1 (a) Notwithstanding any of the other provisions of this
 2 article, a nonprofit corporation engaged in research and
 3 development using motor vehicles pursuant to article twelve,
 4 chapter eighteen-b of this code and affiliated with institu5 tions of higher education may operate or move a vehicle,
 6 either owned or in the possession of the nonprofit corpora7 tion upon the highways of this state for purposes of trans8 porting or testing that vehicle without first registering or
 9 titling the vehicle and displaying, in a manner prescribed by
 10 the commissioner, a special plate issued to the nonprofit
 11 corporation as provided in this section.
- 12 (b) Any nonprofit corporation as prescribed in subsection
 13 (a) of this section may make application to the commissioner
 14 upon a form prescribed by him or her for a certificate
 15 containing a general distinguishing number and for a special
 16 plate or plates. The applicant shall verify that it is a Section
 17 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended,
 18 nonprofit corporation and submit sufficient information, as
 19 may be required by the commissioner, that it is engaged in
 20 research and development of vehicles, special fuels or
 21 equipment for motor vehicles.
- (c) The commissioner, upon approving an application, may issue without charge to the applicant, a certificate containing the nonprofit corporation's name and address and its general distinguishing number. The commissioner may also issue without charge, a special plate or plates, as determined by the commissioner as necessary, that must be displayed on the vehicle. Each plate shall also contain a number or symbol distinguishing it from other plates bearing the same general distinguishing number.
- 31 (d) The nonprofit corporation that is issued a special plate 32 pursuant to this section must keep written records as 33 required by the commissioner concerning the operation of 34 the vehicle. The records shall be open to inspection by any 35 law-enforcement officer or division employee.

- (e) This section does not apply to the use of any other 36 37 vehicles owned, leased or operated by the nonprofit corpora-
- 38 tion.
- 39 (f) A nonprofit corporation that has been issued a special
- 40 plate is not required to comply with the bond or dealer
- recovery fund otherwise required under this article for that
- 42 vehicle.
- 43 (g) A nonprofit corporation that has been issued a special
- 44 plate shall furnish information, satisfactory to the commis-
- sioner, that the vehicle is covered by an appropriate insur-
- 46 ance policy or proof of financial responsibility in amounts
- not less than the requirements of section two, article four,
- chapter seventeen-d of this code.
- 49 (h) Vehicles operated by a nonprofit corporation pursuant
- 50 to this section are exempt from the annual motor vehicle
- 51 inspection and the displaying of the certificate of inspection
- otherwise required by article sixteen, chapter seventeen-c of
- 53 this code. However, a vehicle that has been issued a special
- 54 plate pursuant to this section must be safe and may not, in
- 55 any manner, endanger the driver, other vehicle occupants,
- other motorists, pedestrians or the general public.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that
the foregoing bill is correctly anrolled.
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Chairman Senate Committee
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/ Chairman House Committee
Originated in the Senate.
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Clerk of the Senate
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Acting President of the Senate
Charles of the House of Delegates
Speaker of the House of Delegates
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The within is disapproved this the 17th Day of Maul ,2011.
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Governor
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PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR

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