

# HOUSE BILL 31

R4

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(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Delegate Queen**

Requested: July 8, 2019

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2020

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Special Registration Plates and Fund – Hunger Relief Initiatives**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to develop and make  
4 available for certain vehicles a special registration plate supporting hunger relief  
5 initiatives; authorizing certain persons to apply to the Administration for the special  
6 registration plate for certain classes of vehicles; requiring the owner of a vehicle  
7 assigned a special registration plate under this Act to pay certain fees; requiring that  
8 certain fees be used only for certain purposes; requiring the Administration to  
9 consult with the Department of Human Services on certain matters; establishing the  
10 Hunger Relief Initiatives Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; specifying the purpose  
11 of the Fund; requiring the Department to administer the Fund; requiring the State  
12 Treasurer to hold the Fund and the Comptroller to account for the Fund; specifying  
13 the contents of the Fund; specifying the purpose for which the Fund may be used;  
14 providing for the investment of money in the Fund; requiring interest earnings of  
15 the Fund to be credited to the Fund; exempting the Fund from a certain provision of  
16 law requiring interest earnings on State money to accrue to the General Fund of the  
17 State; requiring the Administration to adopt certain regulations; defining a certain  
18 term; and generally relating to a special registration plate supporting hunger relief  
19 initiatives and the Hunger Relief Initiatives Fund.

20 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
21 Article – State Finance and Procurement  
22 Section 6–226(a)(2)(i)  
23 Annotated Code of Maryland  
24 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

25 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
26 Article – State Finance and Procurement  
27 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)121. and 122.  
28 Annotated Code of Maryland

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

2 BY adding to

3 Article – State Finance and Procurement

4 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)123.

5 Annotated Code of Maryland

6 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

7 BY adding to

8 Article – Transportation

9 Section 13–619.4

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
13 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

15 6–226.

16 (a) (2) (i) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and unless  
17 inconsistent with a federal law, grant agreement, or other federal requirement or with the  
18 terms of a gift or settlement agreement, net interest on all State money allocated by the  
19 State Treasurer under this section to special funds or accounts, and otherwise entitled to  
20 receive interest earnings, as accounted for by the Comptroller, shall accrue to the General  
21 Fund of the State.

22 (ii) The provisions of subparagraph (i) of this paragraph do not apply  
23 to the following funds:

24 121. the Markell Hendricks Youth Crime Prevention and  
25 Diversion Parole Fund; [and]

26 122. the Federal Government Shutdown Employee Assistance  
27 Loan Fund; AND

28 **123. THE HUNGER RELIEF INITIATIVES FUND.**

29 **Article – Transportation**

30 **13–619.4.**

31 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “FUND” MEANS THE HUNGER RELIEF INITIATIVES  
32 FUND.

1           **(B) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL DEVELOP AND MAKE AVAILABLE FOR**  
2 **QUALIFYING VEHICLES A SPECIALLY DESIGNED REGISTRATION PLATE SUPPORTING**  
3 **HUNGER RELIEF INITIATIVES.**

4           **(C) THE OWNER OF A VEHICLE, OR A LESSEE OF THE VEHICLE UNDER A**  
5 **LEASE NOT INTENDED AS SECURITY, OR A DIRECTOR, AN OFFICER, AN EMPLOYEE,**  
6 **OR A PARTNER OF A BUSINESS ENTITY THAT OWNS THE VEHICLE CONSIDERED**  
7 **ELIGIBLE BY THE ADMINISTRATION MAY APPLY TO THE ADMINISTRATION FOR AN**  
8 **ORIGINAL OR SUBSTITUTE REGISTRATION PLATE UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE**  
9 **VEHICLE IS INCLUDED IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES:**

10           **(1) A CLASS A (PASSENGER) VEHICLE;**

11           **(2) A CLASS D (MOTORCYCLE) VEHICLE;**

12           **(3) A CLASS E (TRUCK) VEHICLE WITH A MANUFACTURER'S RATED**  
13 **CAPACITY OF 1 TON OR LESS;**

14           **(4) A CLASS G (TRAILER) VEHICLE; OR**

15           **(5) A CLASS M (MULTIPURPOSE) VEHICLE.**

16           **(D) (1) IN ADDITION TO THE ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE OTHERWISE**  
17 **REQUIRED UNDER THIS TITLE, AN OWNER OF A VEHICLE ASSIGNED A REGISTRATION**  
18 **PLATE UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL PAY:**

19                   **(I) WHEN INITIALLY ISSUED THE REGISTRATION PLATE, A**  
20 **ONE-TIME FEE SET BY THE ADMINISTRATION TO RECOVER THE ADMINISTRATION'S**  
21 **COSTS UNDER THIS SECTION; AND**

22                   **(II) WHEN INITIALLY ISSUED THE REGISTRATION PLATE AND**  
23 **EACH TIME THE REGISTRATION PLATE IS RENEWED, A FEE SET BY THE**  
24 **ADMINISTRATION TO BE CREDITED TO THE FUND FOR DISTRIBUTION UNDER**  
25 **SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION.**

26           **(2) NO PART OF THE FEE COLLECTED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY BE**  
27 **CREDITED TO THE GASOLINE AND MOTOR VEHICLE REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR**  
28 **DISTRIBUTION UNDER § 8-403 OR § 8-404 OF THIS ARTICLE.**

29           **(E) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL CONSULT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF**  
30 **HUMAN SERVICES ON:**

31           **(1) THE DESIGN OF A REGISTRATION PLATE TO BE ISSUED UNDER**

1 THIS SECTION;

2 (2) SETTING THE FEE TO BE CHARGED UNDER SUBSECTION (D)(1)(II)  
3 OF THIS SECTION AT A LEVEL INTENDED TO ENCOURAGE THE PURCHASE OF THE  
4 REGISTRATION PLATE ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION WHILE PROVIDING A  
5 CONTINUOUS REVENUE SOURCE TO BENEFIT THE FUND; AND

6 (3) ESTABLISHING A SCHEDULE UNDER WHICH THE  
7 ADMINISTRATION WILL TRANSFER TO THE FUND REVENUE COLLECTED ON BEHALF  
8 OF THE FUND UNDER THIS SECTION.

9 (F) (1) THERE IS A HUNGER RELIEF INITIATIVES FUND.

10 (2) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO SUPPORT HUNGER RELIEF  
11 INITIATIVES.

12 (3) THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES SHALL ADMINISTER THE  
13 FUND.

14 (4) (I) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT  
15 SUBJECT TO § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

16 (II) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND  
17 SEPARATELY, AND THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.

18 (5) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:

19 (I) FEES COLLECTED UNDER SUBSECTION (D)(1)(II) OF THIS  
20 SECTION;

21 (II) MONEY APPROPRIATED IN THE STATE BUDGET TO THE  
22 FUND;

23 (III) ANY INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND; AND

24 (IV) ANY OTHER MONEY FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE ACCEPTED  
25 FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND.

26 (6) THE FUND MAY BE USED ONLY FOR SUPPORTING HUNGER RELIEF  
27 INITIATIVES, INCLUDING:

28 (I) FOOD BANKS;

1                   **(II) THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**  
2 **UNDER § 5-501.1 OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ARTICLE; AND**

3                   **(III) ANY ORGANIZATION THAT PROMOTES HUNGER RELIEF.**

4                   **(7) (I) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL INVEST THE MONEY OF THE**  
5 **FUND IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE MONEY MAY BE INVESTED.**

6                   **(II) ANY INVESTMENT EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE**  
7 **CREDITED TO THE FUND.**

8                   **(G) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT**  
9 **THIS SECTION.**

10                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
11 October 1, 2020.