



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB1209

Introduced 1/31/2023, by Rep. Dave Vella

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 5/3-506	
625 ILCS 5/3-699.22 new	
625 ILCS 5/3-802	from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 3-802
625 ILCS 5/3-806.3	from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 3-806.3

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Establishes the creation of a United States Space Force special license plate. Provides that the design, color, and format of the plates shall be wholly within the discretion of the Secretary of State. Provides that the surviving spouse of a military service member who has been issued a United States Space Force license plate may retain the plate so long as the spouse is a resident of Illinois and transfers the registration to his or her name within 180 days of the death of the service member. Provides that an individual may reclass his or her registration or plate upon acquiring a Space Force license plate without a replacement plate fee or registration sticker cost. Provides that a vehicle owner who has been approved for benefits under the Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities Property Tax Relief Act or who is the spouse of such a person shall pay a \$10 registration fee for vehicles displaying a Space Force license plate.

LRB103 05939 HEP 50960 b

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by
5 changing Sections 3-506, 3-802, and 3-806.3 and by adding
6 Section 3-699.22 as follows:

7 (625 ILCS 5/3-506)

8 Sec. 3-506. Transfer of plates to spouses of military
9 service members. Upon the death of a military service member
10 who has been issued a special plate under Section 3-609.1,
11 3-620, 3-621, 3-622, 3-623, 3-624, 3-625, 3-626, 3-628, 3-638,
12 3-642, 3-645, 3-647, 3-650, 3-651, 3-666, 3-667, 3-668, 3-669,
13 3-676, 3-677, 3-680, 3-681, 3-683, 3-686, 3-688, 3-693, 3-698,
14 3-699.12, 3-699.15, 3-699.16, 3-699.17, 3-699.19, ~~or~~ 3-699.20,
15 or 3-699.22 of this Code, the surviving spouse of that service
16 member may retain the plate so long as that spouse is a
17 resident of Illinois and transfers the registration to his or
18 her name within 180 days of the death of the service member.

19 For the purposes of this Section, "service member" means
20 any individual who is serving or has served in any branch of
21 the United States Armed Forces, including the National Guard
22 or other reserve components of the Armed Forces, and has been
23 issued a special plate listed in this Section.

1 (Source: P.A. 101-51, eff. 7-12-19; 102-154, eff. 1-1-22.)

2 (625 ILCS 5/3-699.22 new)

3 Sec. 3-699.22. United States Space Force plates.

4 (a) In addition to any other special license plate, the
5 Secretary, upon receipt of all applicable fees and
6 applications made in the form prescribed by the Secretary of
7 State, may issue United States Space Force license plates to
8 residents of this State who are serving or have served in the
9 United States Space Force. The special United States Space
10 Force plate issued under this Section shall be affixed only to
11 passenger vehicles of the first division and motor vehicles of
12 the second division weighing not more than 8,000 pounds.

13 (b) The design, color, and format of the plates shall be
14 wholly within the discretion of the Secretary of State. The
15 Secretary may, in his or her discretion, allow the plates to be
16 issued as vanity plates or personalized in accordance with
17 Section 3-405.1 of this Code. The plates are not required to
18 designate "Land of Lincoln", as prescribed in subsection (b)
19 of Section 3-412 of this Code. The Secretary shall approve and
20 prescribe stickers or decals as provided under Section 3-412.

21 (625 ILCS 5/3-802) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 3-802)

22 Sec. 3-802. Reclassifications and upgrades.

23 (a) Definitions. For the purposes of this Section, the
24 following words shall have the meanings ascribed to them as

1 follows:

2 "Reclassification" means changing the registration of
3 a vehicle from one plate category to another.

4 "Upgrade" means increasing the registered weight of a
5 vehicle within the same plate category.

6 (b) When reclassing the registration of a vehicle from one
7 plate category to another, the owner shall receive credit for
8 the unused portion of the present plate and be charged the
9 current portion fees for the new plate. In addition, the
10 appropriate replacement plate and replacement sticker fees
11 shall be assessed.

12 (b-5) Beginning with the 2019 registration year, any
13 individual who has a registration issued under either Section
14 3-405 or 3-405.1 that qualifies for a special license plate
15 under Section 3-609, 3-609.1, 3-620, 3-621, 3-622, 3-623,
16 3-624, 3-625, 3-626, 3-628, 3-638, 3-642, 3-645, 3-647, 3-650,
17 3-651, 3-664, 3-666, 3-667, 3-668, 3-669, 3-676, 3-677, 3-680,
18 3-681, 3-683, 3-686, 3-688, 3-693, 3-698, 3-699.12, 3-699.15,
19 3-699.16, 3-699.17, 3-699.19, ~~or~~ 3-699.20, or 3-699.22 may
20 reclass his or her registration upon acquiring a special
21 license plate listed in this subsection (b-5) without a
22 replacement plate or digital plate fee or registration sticker
23 or digital registration sticker cost.

24 (b-10) Beginning with the 2019 registration year, any
25 individual who has a special license plate issued under
26 Section 3-609, 3-609.1, 3-620, 3-621, 3-622, 3-623, 3-624,

1 3-625, 3-626, 3-628, 3-638, 3-642, 3-645, 3-647, 3-650, 3-651,
2 3-664, 3-666, 3-667, 3-668, 3-669, 3-676, 3-677, 3-680, 3-681,
3 3-683, 3-686, 3-688, 3-693, 3-698, 3-699.12, ~~or~~ 3-699.17, or
4 3-699.22 may reclass his or her special license plate upon
5 acquiring a new registration under Section 3-405 or 3-405.1
6 without a replacement plate or digital plate fee or
7 registration sticker or digital registration sticker cost.

8 (c) When upgrading the weight of a registration within the
9 same plate category, the owner shall pay the difference in
10 current period fees between the 2 plates. In addition, the
11 appropriate replacement plate and replacement sticker fees
12 shall be assessed. In the event new plates are not required,
13 the corrected registration card fee shall be assessed.

14 (d) In the event the owner of the vehicle desires to change
15 the registered weight and change the plate category, the owner
16 shall receive credit for the unused portion of the
17 registration fee of the current plate and pay the current
18 portion of the registration fee for the new plate, and in
19 addition, pay the appropriate replacement plate and
20 replacement sticker fees.

21 (e) Reclassing from one plate category to another plate
22 category can be done only once within any registration period.

23 (f) No refunds shall be made in any of the circumstances
24 found in subsection (b), subsection (c), or subsection (d);
25 however, when reclassing from a flat weight plate to an
26 apportioned plate, a refund may be issued if the credit

1 amounts to an overpayment.

2 (g) In the event the registration of a vehicle registered
3 under the mileage tax option is revoked, the owner shall be
4 required to pay the annual registration fee in the new plate
5 category and shall not receive any credit for the mileage
6 plate fees.

7 (h) Certain special interest plates may be displayed on
8 first division vehicles, second division vehicles weighing
9 8,000 pounds or less, and recreational vehicles. Those plates
10 can be transferred within those vehicle groups.

11 (i) Plates displayed on second division vehicles weighing
12 8,000 pounds or less and passenger vehicle plates may be
13 reclassified from one division to the other.

14 (j) Other than in subsection (i), reclassing from one
15 division to the other division is prohibited. In addition, a
16 reclass from a motor vehicle to a trailer or a trailer to a
17 motor vehicle is prohibited.

18 (Source: P.A. 101-51, eff. 7-12-19; 101-395, eff. 8-16-19;
19 102-154, eff. 1-1-22; 102-558, eff. 8-20-21.)

20 (625 ILCS 5/3-806.3) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 3-806.3)

21 Sec. 3-806.3. Senior citizens. Commencing with the 2009
22 registration year, the registration fee paid by any vehicle
23 owner who has been approved for benefits under the Senior
24 Citizens and Persons with Disabilities Property Tax Relief Act
25 or who is the spouse of such a person shall be \$10 instead of

1 the fee otherwise provided in this Code for passenger cars
2 displaying standard multi-year registration plates or digital
3 registration plates issued under Section 3-414.1, motor
4 vehicles displaying special registration plates or digital
5 registration plates issued under Section 3-609, 3-616, 3-621,
6 3-622, 3-623, 3-624, 3-625, 3-626, 3-628, 3-638, 3-642, 3-645,
7 3-647, 3-650, 3-651, 3-663, ~~or~~ 3-699.17, or 3-699.22, motor
8 vehicles registered at 8,000 pounds or less under Section
9 3-815(a), and recreational vehicles registered at 8,000 pounds
10 or less under Section 3-815(b). Widows and widowers of
11 claimants shall also be entitled to this reduced registration
12 fee for the registration year in which the claimant was
13 eligible.

14 Commencing with the 2009 registration year, the
15 registration fee paid by any vehicle owner who has claimed and
16 received a grant under the Senior Citizens and Persons with
17 Disabilities Property Tax Relief Act or who is the spouse of
18 such a person shall be \$10 instead of the fee otherwise
19 provided in this Code for passenger cars displaying standard
20 multi-year registration plates or digital registration plates
21 issued under Section 3-414.1, motor vehicles displaying
22 special registration plates or digital registration plates
23 issued under Section 3-607, 3-609, 3-616, 3-621, 3-622, 3-623,
24 3-624, 3-625, 3-626, 3-628, 3-638, 3-642, 3-645, 3-647, 3-650,
25 3-651, 3-663, 3-664, ~~or~~ 3-699.17, or 3-699.22, motor vehicles
26 registered at 8,000 pounds or less under Section 3-815(a), and

1 recreational vehicles registered at 8,000 pounds or less under
2 Section 3-815(b). Widows and widowers of claimants shall also
3 be entitled to this reduced registration fee for the
4 registration year in which the claimant was eligible.

5 Commencing with the 2017 registration year, the reduced
6 fee under this Section shall apply to any special registration
7 plate or digital registration plate authorized in Article VI
8 of Chapter 3 of this Code for which the applicant would
9 otherwise be eligible.

10 Surcharges for vehicle registrations under Section 3-806
11 of this Code shall not be collected from any vehicle owner who
12 has been approved for benefits under the Senior Citizens and
13 Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Act or a person who is the
14 spouse of such a person.

15 No more than one reduced registration fee under this
16 Section shall be allowed during any 12-month period based on
17 the primary eligibility of any individual, whether such
18 reduced registration fee is allowed to the individual or to
19 the spouse, widow or widower of such individual. This Section
20 does not apply to the fee paid in addition to the registration
21 fee for motor vehicles displaying vanity, personalized, or
22 special license plates.

23 (Source: P.A. 101-51, eff. 7-12-19; 101-395, eff. 8-16-19;
24 102-558, eff. 8-20-21; 102-807, eff. 1-1-23.)