

SENATE BILL 254

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M3

1999 Regular Session
9r1271

By: **Senators Frosh, Kelley, Pinsky, Teitelbaum, Sfikas, and ~~Van Hollen~~ Van Hollen, and Green**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 1999
Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Senate action: Adopted with floor amendments
Read second time: March 22, 1999

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment - Air Quality - VMT Reduction**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring certain plans and programs to provide for air quality
4 improvement by attaining a certain performance objective of ~~reducing statewide~~
5 limiting vehicle miles traveled (VMT) ~~per capita; requiring a certain schedule~~
6 ~~for reducing VMT to a certain level~~; providing for the review of certain ~~projects~~
7 plans and programs for certain purposes; allowing the adoption of certain
8 regulations; and generally relating to air quality and transportation planning.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - Environment
11 Section 2-303.2
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - Environment**

17 2-303.2.

18 (A) In any program implementing the reduction of vehicle miles traveled as a
19 part of the State's compliance with the federal Clean Air Act the Department shall
20 include provisions to allow, both within Maryland and among Maryland and adjoining
21 states:

1 (1) The averaging of reductions in vehicle miles traveled between
2 different worksites of the same employer;

3 (2) The averaging of reductions in vehicle miles traveled between
4 worksites of different employers;

5 (3) The sale between worksites and employers of credits for reduced
6 vehicle miles traveled; and

7 (4) The greatest degree of flexibility in implementation, giving full
8 consideration to the geographic differences among affected areas, in order to promote
9 the economic and environmental interests of the areas affected.

10 (B) (1) ~~STATE, LOCAL, AND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANS, PLANS AND~~
11 ~~CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS, AND PROJECT ALTERNATIVE SELECTIONS~~
12 ~~SHALL PROVIDE FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF AIR QUALITY AND REDUCTION OF~~
13 ~~TRAFFIC CONGESTION BY ATTAINING A PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE OF REDUCING~~
14 ~~THE STATEWIDE AVERAGE OF VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED (VMT) PER CAPITA 10% BY~~
15 ~~JANUARY 1, 2020, BASED ON THE STATEWIDE PER CAPITA VMT LEVEL IN THE YEAR~~
16 ~~2000 OF LIMITING THE STATEWIDE AVERAGE OF VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED (VMT)~~
17 ~~PER CAPITA TO THE STATEWIDE PER CAPITA VMT LEVEL REACHED IN THE YEAR 2000.~~

18 (2) TO ATTAIN THE PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)
19 OF THIS SUBSECTION, ALL TRANSPORTATION PLANS, PLANS AND CAPITAL
20 IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS, AND PROJECT ALTERNATIVE SELECTIONS SHALL BE
21 IMPLEMENTED OR AMENDED TO REDUCE THE STATEWIDE VMT PER CAPITA AS
22 FOLLOWS:

23 (I) ~~2% BY THE END OF 2002; AND~~

24 (II) ~~AN ADDITIONAL 1% BY THE END OF EACH OF THE YEARS 2004,~~
25 ~~2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, AND 2019~~ LIMIT THE STATEWIDE AVERAGE OF VMT
26 PER CAPITA TO THE STATEWIDE PER CAPITA VMT LEVEL REACHED IN THE YEAR 2000.

27 (3) EACH TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
28 PROJECT AND CAPITAL HIGHWAY PROJECT FOR WHICH CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON
29 OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 1999 PROGRAM SHALL BE REVIEWED AND EVALUATED FOR
30 CONSISTENCY WITH THE PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS
31 SUBSECTION.

32 (4) THE DEPARTMENT, IN COOPERATION WITH THE MARYLAND
33 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO ENSURE
34 ATTAINMENT OF THE VMT REDUCTION PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE UNDER THIS
35 SUBSECTION, INCLUDING:

36 (I) PROGRESS REPORTING;

37 (II) TREND MONITORING; AND

1 (III) MODELING OF TREND PROJECTIONS AND THE EFFECTIVENESS
2 OF SPECIFIC TRANSPORTATION MEASURES TO REDUCE VMT PER CAPITA.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 1999.