

# SENATE BILL 773

R4, R5

4lr1134

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By: **Senator Ferguson**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2014

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Automated Motor Vehicles – Titling, Registration, and Rules of the Road**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting an individual from operating an automated motor  
4 vehicle in automated mode on a highway; establishing an exception to the  
5 prohibition by authorizing certain individuals to operate an automated motor  
6 vehicle in automated mode on a highway for research or testing purposes under  
7 certain circumstances; requiring an automated motor vehicle that is operated on  
8 a highway for research and testing purposes to have a certain individual  
9 present in the vehicle and to be properly titled and registered; providing for the  
10 registration classification and a special registration plate for an automated  
11 motor vehicle; defining “automated motor vehicle” as the term applies to the  
12 Maryland Vehicle Law; and generally relating to automated motor vehicles.

13 BY adding to

14 Article – Transportation  
15 Section 11–103.3, 13–939.3, and 21–1130  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

19 Article – Transportation  
20 Section 11–135  
21 Annotated Code of Maryland  
22 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

23 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

24 Article – Transportation  
25 Section 13–101.1 and 13–402(a)(1)  
26 Annotated Code of Maryland  
27 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

3 **Article – Transportation**

4 **11-103.3.**

5 **“AUTOMATED MOTOR VEHICLE” MEANS A MOTOR VEHICLE ON WHICH**  
6 **AUTOMATED TECHNOLOGY HAS BEEN INSTALLED THAT ENABLES THE MOTOR**  
7 **VEHICLE TO BE OPERATED WITHOUT ANY CONTROL OR MONITORING BY AN**  
8 **INDIVIDUAL.**

9 11-135.

10 (a) (1) “Motor vehicle” means, except as provided in subsection (b) of this  
11 section, a vehicle that:

12 (i) Is self-propelled or propelled by electric power obtained  
13 from overhead electrical wires; and

14 (ii) Is not operated on rails.

15 (2) “Motor vehicle” includes [a]:

16 (I) A low speed vehicle; AND

17 (II) AN AUTOMATED MOTOR VEHICLE.

18 (b) “Motor vehicle” does not include:

19 (1) A moped, as defined in § 11-134.1 of this subtitle; or

20 (2) A motor scooter, as defined in § 11-134.5 of this subtitle.

21 13-101.1.

22 Except as provided in § 13-102 of this subtitle, the owner of each vehicle that is  
23 in this State and for which the Administration has not issued a certificate of title shall  
24 apply to the Administration for a certificate of title of the vehicle.

25 13-402.

26 (a) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section or elsewhere in the  
27 Maryland Vehicle Law, each motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer driven  
28 on a highway shall be registered under this subtitle.

1 **13-939.3.**

2 (A) WHEN REGISTERED WITH THE ADMINISTRATION, EVERY  
3 AUTOMATED VEHICLE IS A CLASS S (AUTOMATED) VEHICLE.

4 (B) FOR EACH CLASS S (AUTOMATED) VEHICLE, THE ANNUAL  
5 REGISTRATION FEE IS \$50.50.

6 (C) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ISSUE A SPECIAL AUTOMATED MOTOR  
7 VEHICLE REGISTRATION PLATE OF THE SIZE AND DESIGN THAT THE  
8 ADMINISTRATION DETERMINES.

9 **21-1130.**

10 (A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, AN  
11 INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT OPERATE AN AUTOMATED MOTOR VEHICLE IN  
12 AUTOMATED MODE ON A HIGHWAY.

13 (B) AN INDIVIDUAL MAY OPERATE AN AUTOMATED MOTOR VEHICLE IN  
14 AUTOMATED MODE ON A HIGHWAY FOR RESEARCH OR TESTING PURPOSES ON  
15 BEHALF OF THE MANUFACTURER OF THE AUTOMATED MOTOR VEHICLE IF:

16 (1) THE AUTOMATED MOTOR VEHICLE IS PROPERLY TITLED AND  
17 REGISTERED;

18 (2) THE INDIVIDUAL IS AN EMPLOYEE, A CONTRACTOR, OR ANY  
19 OTHER INDIVIDUAL DESIGNATED OR AUTHORIZED BY THE MANUFACTURER TO  
20 OPERATE THE AUTOMATED MOTOR VEHICLE;

21 (3) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS THE ABILITY TO MONITOR THE  
22 PERFORMANCE OF THE AUTOMATED MOTOR VEHICLE AND, IF NECESSARY,  
23 IMMEDIATELY TAKE CONTROL OF THE AUTOMATED MOTOR VEHICLE'S  
24 MOVEMENTS IS PRESENT IN THE AUTOMATED MOTOR VEHICLE WHILE IT IS  
25 OPERATED ON A HIGHWAY; AND

26 (4) BOTH THE INDIVIDUAL OPERATING THE AUTOMATED MOTOR  
27 VEHICLE UNDER ITEM (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION AND THE INDIVIDUAL PRESENT  
28 IN THE AUTOMATED MOTOR VEHICLE UNDER ITEM (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION ARE  
29 PROPERLY LICENSED TO OPERATE A MOTOR VEHICLE ON A HIGHWAY IN THE  
30 STATE.

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
32 October 1, 2014.