

SENATE BILL 773

R4, R5

4lr1134

By: **Senator Ferguson**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2014

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

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

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

BY adding to

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

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

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

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

Article – Transportation

11–103.3.

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

11–135.

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

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

(ii) Is not operated on rails.

(2) “Motor vehicle” includes [a]:

(I) A low speed vehicle; AND

(II) AN AUTOMATED MOTOR VEHICLE.

(b) “Motor vehicle” does not include:

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

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

13–101.1.

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

13–402.

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

13-939.3.

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

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

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

21-1130.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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