

SENATE BILL 249

M3, R2

9lr2172
CF 9lr0790

By: **Senator Lam**

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2019

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Regional Initiative to Limit or Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in**
3 **Transportation Sector – Authorization**
4 **(Regional Transportation and Climate Protection Act of 2019)**

5 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Governor to include the State as a full participant in a
6 certain initiative, agreement, or compact that limits or reduces greenhouse gas
7 emissions from the transportation sector; authorizing the Governor to impose a
8 certain statewide greenhouse gas emission fee on the sale or distribution of motor
9 fuel under certain circumstances; requiring the Department of the Environment and
10 the Department of Transportation to report to certain committees of the General
11 Assembly on or before a certain date, and with a certain frequency thereafter, on the
12 status of a certain initiative, agreement, or compact that limits or reduces
13 greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector; requiring the General
14 Assembly to enact a law approving the withdrawal of the State from a certain
15 initiative, agreement, or compact that limits or reduces greenhouse gas emissions
16 from the transportation sector; and generally relating to limiting or reducing
17 greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector.

18 BY adding to

19 Article – Environment

20 Section 2–1204.2

21 Annotated Code of Maryland

22 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

25 **Article – Environment**

26 **2–1204.2.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(A) THE GOVERNOR MAY INCLUDE THE STATE AS A FULL PARTICIPANT IN**
2 **ANY REGIONAL GOVERNMENTAL INITIATIVE, AGREEMENT, OR COMPACT THAT**
3 **LIMITS OR REDUCES GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FROM THE TRANSPORTATION**
4 **SECTOR.**

5 **(B) IF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA OR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**
6 **IMPOSES A STATEWIDE OR CITYWIDE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION FEE ON THE SALE**
7 **OR DISTRIBUTION OF MOTOR FUEL, THE GOVERNOR MAY IMPOSE A SIMILAR FEE OF**
8 **UP TO THE SAME AMOUNT AS THE FEE IMPOSED BY THE COMMONWEALTH OF**
9 **VIRGINIA OR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.**

10 **(C) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2019, AND EVERY 6 MONTHS FOR 3 YEARS**
11 **THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**
12 **SHALL REPORT TO THE SENATE BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE, THE SENATE**
13 **EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, THE SENATE**
14 **FINANCE COMMITTEE, THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, AND THE**
15 **HOUSE ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL**
16 **ASSEMBLY ON THE STATUS OF A REGIONAL GOVERNMENTAL INITIATIVE,**
17 **AGREEMENT, OR COMPACT THAT LIMITS OR REDUCES GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS**
18 **FROM THE TRANSPORTATION SECTOR, INCLUDING:**

19 **(1) WHETHER A REGIONAL GOVERNMENTAL INITIATIVE,**
20 **AGREEMENT, OR COMPACT THAT LIMITS GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FROM THE**
21 **TRANSPORTATION SECTOR EXISTS;**

22 **(2) WHETHER THE GOVERNOR HAS INCLUDED THE STATE AS A FULL**
23 **PARTICIPANT IN SUCH AN INITIATIVE, AGREEMENT, OR COMPACT; AND**

24 **(3) ANY OTHER INFORMATION THE DEPARTMENT OR THE**
25 **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CONSIDERS RELEVANT.**

26 **(D) THE STATE MAY WITHDRAW FROM A REGIONAL GOVERNMENTAL**
27 **INITIATIVE, AGREEMENT, OR COMPACT ENTERED INTO UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE**
28 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY ENACTS A LAW TO APPROVE THE WITHDRAWAL.**

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
30 1, 2019.