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Health and Government Operations Committee

Subcommittees
Insurance and Pharmaceuticals
Government Operations
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# The Maryland House of Delegates Annapolis, Maryland 21401

# Sponsor Testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 613 Vehicle Laws - Fines and Fees Possession, Display, or Renewal of Registration February 20, 2020

House Bill 613 would reduce the fine for failure to produce a vehicle registration card at a traffic stop from \$50 to \$10. It would also allow the fine to be waived.

Some states do not have a law requiring motorists to show a registration card to an officer at a traffic stop. Of those states that do require it, many have fines lower than Maryland.

Maryland's law was passed in 1970, before the advent of networked computers in police cars that can pull up registration information in seconds using the plate number.

Rather than repeal the law outright, HB613 was drafted in consultation with Maryland State Police to reduce the fine amount and add a waiver provision.

Reducing the fine would reduce general fund revenue. To make the bill revenueneutral, the bill also authorizes MVA to charge a modest late fee for registrations renewed after they expire and after a 1-week grace period. 26 states have such a fee, but Maryland currently does not.

I ask for your favorable report.

#### HB613 SUPPPORT- Suvey of States Charging Fees for Late Motor Vehicle Registration Renewals 2018

| State                | Additional fees for late registration renewal? | Amount, Statute/Regulation, Notes   |
|----------------------|--|---|
| Alabama              | Yes  | \$15, Ala.Code § 32-6-65  |
| Alaska               | No   |   |
| Arizona              | y y  | \$8 for the first month and \$4 each additional month, up to \$100, A.R.S. § 28-2162  |
| Arkansas             | No   |   |
| California           | Yes  | From 40% to 160% of the Vehicle License and Weight Fee, increasing for each year that payment is late. Fee schedule here.           |
| Colorado             | Yes  | After one-month grace period, \$25 for each month the renewal is late, up to \$100, C.R.S.A. § 42-3-112, C.R.S.A. § 42-3-114        |
| Connecticut          | Yes  | \$10 if renewal is more than 5 days late, C.G.S.A. § 14-49  |
| Delaware             | Yes  | \$20, 21 Del.C. § 2151  |
| District of Columbia | No   |   |
| Florida              | Yes  | \$5 to \$250 depending on the type and size of the vehicle, if registration not renewed with 11 days of expiration, F.S.A. § 320.07 |
| Georgia              | Yes  | 25% of license plate fee, and 10% of Ad Valorem tax, Fee schedule here  |
| Hawaii               | Yes  | Late fees vary by county: Honolulu's is \$16 per year, Fee schedule here  |
| ldaho                | No (however, additional county fees may apply) |   |
| Illinois             | No   |   |
| Indiana              | Yes  | \$15, IC 9-18.1-11-5  |
| lowa                 | Yes  | 5% of the fee due, per month, or \$5 per mo, whichever is greater, Fee schedule here  |
| Kansas               | No   |   |
| Kentucky             | No   |   |

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| Louisiana        | Yes | Unclear, may be based on a percentage of the renewal fee, <u>Link here</u>   |
|------------------|-----|--|
| Maine            | No  |  |
| Maryland         | No  |  |
| Massachusetts    | No  |  |
| Michigan         | Yes | \$10, and if registration is expired longer than 6 months, a 24–month renewal fee is charged, Fee schedule here  |
| Minnesota        | No  |  |
| Mississippi      | Yes | Penalty begins on the 16 <sup>th</sup> day of the month following expiration at a rate of 5% of the renewal fee for the next 15 days. For each additional 30 days an additional 5 percent is charged, up to 25%. Link here |
| Missouri         | Yes | \$5, M.S. 301.050  |
| Montana          | No  |  |
| Nebraska         | No  |  |
| Nevada           | Yes | \$6 per month, and a Government Services Tax penalty of 10% or \$6, whichever is greater, Link here  |
| New<br>Hampshire | No  |  |
| New Jersey       | No  |  |
| New Mexico       | Yes | \$10 within 30 days of expiration, and 75% or the renewal fee if 31 days or later, Link here   |
| New York         | No  |  |
| North Carolina   | Yes | Less than one mo late: \$15, 2nd mo is \$20, and more than 2 months is \$25, N.C.G.S.A. § 20-88.03   |
| North Dakota     | No  |  |
| Ohio             | Yes | \$10, not found in additional documentation but <u>linked news article</u> mentions the late fee   |

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| Oklahoma       | Yes  | Beginning one month after expiration, \$1 per day is charged, up to \$100, Link here   |
|----------------|--|--|
| Oregon         | No, however failure to renew is a Class D traffic violation                      | O.R.S. § 803.455   |
| Pennsylvania   | No   |  |
| Rhode Island   | No, however renewals of<br>registration over 90 days<br>late require trip to DMV | Link here  |
| South Carolina | Yes  | \$10 up to 14 days late, \$25 for 15–30 days, \$50 for 31–90 days, and \$75 for over 90 days, Fee schedule here  |
| South Dakota   | No   |  |
| Tennessee      | No   | Counties may charge additional fees  |
| Texas          | Yes  | After 5–day grace period vehicles subject to citation. It appears fees are set at the county level: Bell County charges a 20% fee  |
| Utah           | No   |  |
| Vermont        | No   | 52. The state of t |
| Virginia       | Yes  | \$10, Link here  |
| Washington     | No   |  |
| West Virginia  | No   |  |
| Wisconsin      | Yes  | \$10, <u>Link here</u>   |
| Wyoming        | No   |  |