

CORY V. MCCRAY
Legislative District 45
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Budget and Taxation Committee

Capital Budget Subcommittee
Health and Human Services Subcommittee



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 59

Maryland Transportation Authority - Options for the Payment of Tolls and Civil Penalties

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and members of the committee:

I write to urge you to **support** Senate Bill 59. Providing options for the payment of tolls and civil penalties is of great importance to and in the best interest of constituents impacted by the suspension and subsequent backlog in processing tolls.

The purpose of Senate Bill 59 is to direct the Maryland Transportation Authority to provide account-holding users of E-Z Pass and other toll collecting facilities with extended options to satisfy payment of overdue tolls, video tolls, and penalties incurred throughout the COVID-19 pandemic/billed from x date to y date.

Following the resumption of toll processing, E-Z Pass accountholders were billed severally for past toll transactions, late fees, and other penalties. Accountholders were not granted a reasonable time frame to submit payments, received multiple charges, and were subjected to wait times ranging from 75 to 90 minute when contacting the E-Z Pass customer service line.

Avenues for recourse should be made available, including but not limited to the waiving of late fees and other related charges, provision of install payment plans, and the recall of toll debts, to rectify recent issues resulting from backlogged payments and penalties.

If enacted, Senate Bill 59 would take effect on July 1, 2022, and the Maryland Transportation Authority would be required to establish policies consistent with the law.

In efforts to reassign responsibility to the agency and alleviate the sudden financial burdens placed on its customers, I respectfully request a favorable report.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cory V. McCray".

Cory V. McCray

State Senator, 45th District