

SB0750-JPR-FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Natasha Mehu

Position: FAV



BRANDON M. SCOTT
MAYOR

*Office of Government Relations
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Annapolis, Maryland 21401*

SB 750

March 10, 2022

TO: Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
FROM: Natasha Mehu, Director, Office of Government Relations
RE: Senate Bill 750 - Baltimore City – Vehicle Laws – Towing

POSITION: SUPPORT

Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Committee please be advised that the Baltimore City Administration (BCA) **supports** Senate Bill (SB) 750.

SB 750 looks to further specify the City's authority to tow vehicles blocking driveways, alleys, transit lanes, and parking facilities by amending Article II – General Powers of the Baltimore City Charter.

The increased clarity surrounding towing authority resulting from SB 750 will provide Baltimore City the opportunity to strengthen local towing laws and regulations. Any change to local law involving towing would still be subject to existing state towing laws. Upon the adoption of SB 750, the towing authority specified within the Baltimore City Charter will support local efforts to address the negative impacts associated with vehicles blocking access to and from public right-of-way. Ensuring open access to City roads, alleys, transit lanes, parking facilities, and private driveways connected to public right-of-way is a critical component to having a reliable and efficient transportation network.

Baltimore City Department of Transportation is fully in support of SB 750 and has committed to working with BCA following the bill's adoption to develop stronger local towing laws designed to keep the City's transportation network open and free of obstruction.

For these reasons, the BCA respectfully requests a **favorable** report on SB 750.

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Uploaded by: CHARLES PARRISH

Position: FWA

Good afternoon, I am Charles Parrish Legislative Chairman for Trespass Towing Sub-Committee for the Towing & Recovery Professionals of Maryland Association (T.R.P.M.) and are writing to you today to show our support of SB0750

Favorable with amendments, respectfully asking if possible the following be added to the Bill so that a private property owner can use a Baltimore City Licensed Trespass Tower as long as requirements are met under State Law 21-10a-01-06 (which along with other requirements include a sign 24"x 30" at the entrance/exit detailing that it is unauthorized to block driveway, if you do so this would result in vehicle being towed), reason being the problem now is response time and lack of immediate correction to the situation, which has and could take from hours to days by the Baltimore City Agency to unblock the driveway to allow the resident and or owners to exit or enter.

Supporting language to allow Baltimore City Trespass Tower to perform this task at the request of the Private property owner and or agent would be ***Maryland Transportation section 21-1003(a)(i) A person may not stand or park a vehicle front of a private driveway without the consent of the owner or occupant of the premises.***

Also, ***Baltimore City Code 22-3 RULES AND REGULATIONS (c) EFFECT The rules and regulations shall have the same force and effect as law*** and currently under the ***Rules and Regulations in place now by the Baltimore City Tow board under definitions Section 1.02 Definitions (dd) "Trespass Towing" occurs when a tow company contracts with a private property owner to tow away unauthorized automobiles.***

Thank you for all your help and taking the time to read this and any consideration in helping to achieve the goal you are attempting to achieve for the property owner/management company is greatly appreciated

Please do not hesitate to contact me if any questions and or concerns.

Sincerely,

Charles Parrish

Sales/Operations/Compliance Manager/Resident Agent

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Members of the following Associations:

I.R.E.M/ M.M.H.A./ South Baltimore Network

Towing Recovery professionals of MD(Legislative Sub-committee Co-Chairman)

All Licensed Municipal Towers of Baltimore County(Secretary Executive Board)