

JACQUELINE T. ADDISON
Legislative District 45
Baltimore City

Environment and
Transportation Committee

Subcommittees

Natural Resources, Agriculture,
and Open Space

Motor Vehicles and Transportation

Local Government and
Bi-County Agencies



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 317
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3551 · 301-858-3551
800-492-7122 Ext. 3551
Jackie.Addison@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Environment and Transportation

Date: March 7, 2024

Sponsor: Delegate Jackie Addison

Position: Favorable Vote

Title: HB332 Baltimore City - Out-of-State Vehicles - Improper Registration

Good Afternoon Chairman Korman, Vice Chair Boyce, and members of the Environment and Transportation Committee.

For the record, my name is Delegate Jackie T. Addison, and I am here to testify on House Bill 332 Baltimore City - Out-of-State Vehicles - Improper Registration. This bill aims to authorize Baltimore City to remove, tow, or impound vehicles that have not been properly registered with the MVA with 60-days of residency. House Bill 332 would apply to new residents moving into Baltimore City. Specifically, those who fail to register the vehicle with the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) and display valid registration plates in the State of Maryland. Thus, aiding in the regulation of ghost tags in Baltimore City.

According to Frankford Towing, located in the 45th District, 20% of all cars in impound have VA tags. A representative informed me that 5 years ago when they would look up the vin #'s on the MVA website, it would say that there was no record of the vehicles. Now it shows seemingly random Maryland addresses. In the past year there has been an uptick in both VA and Texas tags that cannot be properly accounted for.

Upon speaking with representatives at TED'S Towing Service, another company located in my legislative district, it was estimated that 150 of their impounded/towed vehicles had VA tags. All of the vehicles were requested to be towed by police.

The presence of Virginia tags in Baltimore City has contributed to jurisdictional conflict with law enforcement and the MVA. Several pop-up shops have started appearing around the city advertising the sale of Virginia Tags. They require no emissions testing, only liability insurance, and offer no way for the MVA to track those who get into car accidents without insurance or commit crimes. By helping to keep track of these instances, the bill would assist in abating the frequency of such occurrences and put the revenue back into the State of Maryland.

Thank you, Chairman Korman and members of the Committee. I respectfully request a favorable report on HB332.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jackie T. Addison". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Delegate Jackie T. Addison