

## **House Bill 212 – Vehicle Laws - Out-of-State Vehicles - Improper Registration**

### **POSITION: Support**

February 12, 2026

House Environment and Transportation Committee

The R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center at the University of Maryland Medical Center (“Shock Trauma Center”) and University of Maryland Medical System (“UMMS”) support House Bill 212 – Vehicle Laws - Out-of-State Vehicles –Improper Registration (“HB 212”). As introduced, HB 212 would establish a clear compliance process for the Motor Vehicle Administration (“MVA”) to ensure that Maryland residents have properly registered their vehicle with MVA as required by law, including immobilization of the vehicle and assessment of civil fines in cases of long-term noncompliance.

Maryland’s Trauma and EMS System serves as a national and international model for coordinated, high-quality emergency medical care, and it does because the General Assembly continues to invest State funds to support this work and mission. The State’s longstanding investment in the trauma system ensures that Marylanders receive lifesaving care that, in many parts of the country, simply does not exist. Because of this commitment, lives are saved in Maryland every day that would otherwise be lost elsewhere.

As established in State law, the Shock Trauma Center is the foundational element of the Maryland Emergency Medical Services System and serves as the State’s Primary Adult Resource Center (PARC) for the treatment of trauma. The statute specifically designates Shock Trauma to serve as:

- Maryland’s primary adult trauma center,
- The statewide referral center for head, spinal, and multiple-trauma injuries,
- The regional trauma center for Region III and the southwest quadrant of Baltimore City, and
- The statewide referral center for patients requiring hyperbaric medical treatment.

The Shock Trauma Center remains the State’s only freestanding trauma hospital, providing care to more than 6,000 patients annually and sustaining an exceptional 97% survival rate. Shock Trauma serves as a vital statewide clinical resource and uniquely maintains 24/7 readiness across its trauma resuscitation unit (TRU), operating rooms, and recovery areas.

As the State’s safety net for the most critically ill and injured, Shock Trauma receives at least 30% of its patient volume as transfers from other trauma centers, reflecting its indispensable role in complex trauma care and its responsibility for the most severe cases.

The State’s continued investment in Maryland’s Trauma and EMS System—and in Shock Trauma’s statewide mission—ensures that expert trauma care remains accessible to every Marylander, regardless of location. This funding supports readiness, saves lives, strengthens

regional hospitals, and upholds Maryland's leadership as the gold standard for trauma care nationwide.

For these reasons, the University of Maryland Medical System strongly supports HB 212, and respectfully requests a *favorable* report on the bill.

Respectfully submitted by:

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