

# HOUSE BILL 750

R4, R5

4lr1700  
CF SB 10

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By: **Delegates Ziegler, Allen, Guzzone, and Wu**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2024

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 7, 2024

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – ~~Damaged, Obscured, or Modified~~ Registration Plates**

3 FOR the purpose of ~~requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to offer during the~~  
4 ~~registration renewal process to replace certain vehicle registration plates that are~~  
5 ~~more than a certain age; altering the prohibition against prohibiting a person from~~  
6 ~~obscuring or modifying a vehicle registration plate by prohibiting such activity in a~~  
7 ~~manner that may prevent identification; altering the penalty and points assessment~~  
8 ~~for obscuring or modifying a vehicle registration plate; and generally relating to~~  
9 ~~damaged, obscured, or modified vehicle registration plates.~~

10 ~~BY renumbering~~

11 ~~Article – Transportation~~

12 ~~Section 16–402(a)(17) through (43)~~

13 ~~to be Section 16–402(a)(18) through (44), respectively~~

14 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~

15 ~~(2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)~~

16 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

17 Article – Transportation

18 Section 21–1112.1

19 Annotated Code of Maryland

20 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

21 BY adding to

22 Article – Transportation

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



Section ~~13-418 and 16-402(a)(17)~~ 21-1112.2  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article - Transportation  
Section 21-1112.1  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)~~

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
~~That Section(s) 16-402(a)(17) through (43) of Article - Transportation of the Annotated  
Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 16-402(a)(18) through (44), respectively.~~

~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED,~~ That the Laws of Maryland read  
as follows:

**Article - Transportation**

~~13-418.~~

~~(A) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO ANY SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATE  
ISSUED UNDER SUBTITLE 6 OF THIS TITLE.~~

~~(B) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL:~~

~~(1) DURING THE REGISTRATION RENEWAL PROCESS, OFFER TO  
REPLACE ANY VEHICLE REGISTRATION PLATES THAT ARE MORE THAN 15 YEARS  
OLD;~~

~~(2) MAIL OR DELIVER THE NEW REGISTRATION PLATES TO THE  
OWNER; AND~~

~~(3) ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.~~

~~16-402.~~

~~(a) After the conviction of an individual for a violation of Title 2, Subtitle 5, §  
2-200, § 3-211, or § 10-110 of the Criminal Law Article, or of the vehicle laws or regulations  
of this State or of any local authority, points shall be assessed against the individual as of  
the date of violation and as follows:~~

~~(17) A VIOLATION OF § 21-1112.1 OF THIS ARTICLE..... 3 POINTS~~

21-1112.1.

1 (a) A person may not obscure or modify any vehicle registration plate ~~with intent~~  
2 to avoid identification] ~~IN A MANNER THAT MAY PREVENT IDENTIFICATION.~~

3 (b) ~~[A violation of this section is a moving violation for the purpose of the~~  
4 assessment of points under § 16-402 of this article.] ~~A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS~~  
5 ~~SECTION SHALL BE:~~

6 21-1112.2.

7 (A) A PERSON MAY NOT OBSCURE OR MODIFY ANY VEHICLE REGISTRATION  
8 PLATE IN A MANNER THAT MAY PREVENT IDENTIFICATION.

9 (B) A POLICE OFFICER MAY ENFORCE THIS SECTION ONLY AS A SECONDARY  
10 ACTION WHEN THE POLICE OFFICER DETAINS A DRIVER OF A MOTOR VEHICLE FOR  
11 A SUSPECTED VIOLATION OF ANOTHER PROVISION OF THE CODE.

12 (C) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION SHALL BE:

13 (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN ITEM (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, ISSUED A  
14 WARNING NOTICE; AND

15 (2) FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE COMMITTED AT LEAST  
16 60 DAYS AFTER ISSUANCE OF A WARNING NOTICE, ASSESSED POINTS UNDER §  
17 16-402 OF THIS ARTICLE.

18 SECTION ~~2~~ 2 AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
19 October 1, 2024.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.