# SENATE BILL 547

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### **By: Senator Sfikas**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 1996 Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments Senate action: Adopted Read second time: March 6, 1996

CHAPTER

1 AN ACT concerning

### 2 Vehicle Laws - Recovery of Evidences of Registration on Lapse of Required Security -3 **Contracts With Independent Agents**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Motor Vehicle Administration to enter into contracts

with private parties to procure the services of independent agents to assist in the 5

6 recovery of the evidences of registration upon the suspension of thevehicle's

7 registration due to the lapse of the required security; and requiring the Motor

8 Vehicle Administration to report by a certain date on the status of using certain

independent agents to assist in the recovery of the evidences of registration. 9

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

- 11 Article - Transportation
- 12 Section 17-106(a), (b), and (c)
- 13 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 14 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

- Article Transportation 16
- Section 17-106(d) 17
- 18 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 19 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

#### SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 20

21 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

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# 1 Article - Transportation

2 17-106.

3 (a) If the required security for any vehicle terminates or otherwiselapses at any 4 time, the registration of that vehicle:

5 (1) Is suspended automatically as of the date of termination orlapse; and

6 (2) Remains suspended until:

7 (i) The required security is replaced and the vehicle owner submits
8 evidence of replaced security on a form as prescribed by the Administration and certified
9 by an insurer or agent; and

10 (ii) Any uninsured motorist penalty fee assessed is paid to the 11 Administration.

12 (b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, eachinsurer or 13 other provider of required security immediately shall notify the Administration of those 14 terminations or other lapses that are final.

15 (2) Each insurer or other provider of required security for a vehicle 16 registered as a Class B (for hire) vehicle under Title 13 of this article shall notify the 17 Administration within 45 days of a termination or other lapse that is final and occurs 18 anytime after the required security is issued or provided.

19 (c) On receipt of a notice under subsection (b) of this section, theAdministration 20 shall make a reasonable effort to notify the owner of the vehicle that his registration has 21 been suspended.

(d) (1) Within 48 hours after an owner is notified by the Administration of the
 suspension of registration, the owner shall surrender all evidences of that registration to
 the Administration.

(2) If the owner fails to surrender the evidences of registration within the48-hour period, the Administration:

- 27 (i) Shall attempt to recover from the owner the evidences of28 registration; and
- 29 (ii) May suspend his license to drive until he returns to the Motor30 Vehicle Administration the evidences of registration.

(3) THE ADMINISTRATION MAY ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH
 PRIVATE PARTIES TO PROCURE THE SERVICES OF INDEPENDENT AGENTS TO ASSIST
 IN THE RECOVERY OF THE EVIDENCES OF REGISTRATION AS AUTHORIZED IN
 PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

- 35 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Motor Vehicle
- 36 Administration shall report to the Senate Finance Committee by July 1, 1997 on the
- 37 status of the use of independent agents to assist in the recovery of evidences of
- 38 registration.

1SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect2October 1, 1996.