

SENATE BILL 253

Unofficial Copy
R4

1998 Regular Session
(8lr1202)

ENROLLED BILL
-- Judicial Proceedings/Commerce and Government Matters --

Introduced by **Senator Baker**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this
____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, ____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws -- Classified Motor Vehicles - Staggered Registration System**

3 FOR the purpose of expanding the authority of the Motor Vehicle Administration to
4 adopt a system of staggered vehicle registration by authorizing the
5 Administration to implement staggered registration for all motor vehicle
6 classes; applying to all vehicle classes provisions relating to the staggered
7 registration of certain vehicle classes; authorizing the Administration to adopt
8 regulations to implement and operate staggered registration for all vehicle
9 classes; making a technical change scope of certain provisions that authorize the
10 Motor Vehicle Administration to adopt a system of staggered vehicle registration
11 for certain classes of motor vehicles to make these provisions applicable to all
12 classes of vehicles; making certain stylistic changes; and generally relating to the
13 ~~staggered~~ registration of motor vehicles.

14 BY adding to
15 Article - Transportation
16 Section 13-909

1 Annotated Code of Maryland
2 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

3 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
4 Article - Transportation
5 Section 13-912
6 Annotated Code of Maryland
7 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

8 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
9 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

10 **Article - Transportation**

11 13-909.

12 (A) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY *OTHER* PROVISION OF THIS SUBTITLE ~~TO THE~~
13 ~~CONTRARY~~, THE ADMINISTRATION MAY ADOPT A SYSTEM OF STAGGERED
14 REGISTRATION FOR ANY MOTOR VEHICLE CLASS.

15 (B) (1) DURING THE REGISTRATION PERIOD IN WHICH THE SYSTEM IS
16 INITIATED ~~FOR ANY CLASS~~, VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS MAY BE ISSUED FOR PERIODS
17 VARYING FROM 7 MONTHS TO 18 MONTHS WITH FEES PRORATED ACCORDING TO THE
18 NUMBER OF MONTHS FOR WHICH THE REGISTRATION IS ISSUED.

19 (2) VEHICLE REGISTRATION PLATES OR VALIDATION TABS SHALL BE
20 ISSUED AND DISPLAYED IN ACCORDANCE WITH A SCHEDULE ESTABLISHED BY THE
21 ~~ADMINISTRATOR~~ ADMINISTRATION.

22 (3) ~~(H)~~ ANY NEW REGISTRATION OR RENEWAL ISSUED DURING THE
23 YEAR MAY BE ISSUED INITIALLY FOR OTHER THAN A 12-MONTH PERIOD TO
24 FACILITATE AN EQUAL VOLUME OF MONTHLY ISSUANCES-

25 ~~(H)~~ AND THE REGISTRATION FEE SHALL BE PRORATED FOR THE
26 PERIOD ISSUED.

27 (4) FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAINTAINING RELATIVELY UNIFORM WORK
28 LOADS, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL EVALUATE MONTHLY VOLUMES OF
29 REGISTRATION RENEWALS ~~SHALL BE EVALUATED~~ FROM TIME TO TIME AND ANY
30 PORTION OF A MONTHLY ISSUANCE MAY BE RESCHEDULED BY APPLYING A
31 DIFFERENT EXPIRATION DATE AND PRORATING THE FEE ACCORDINGLY.

32 (5) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL REFUND OF A REGISTRATION FEES
33 FEE ON SURRENDER OF ~~THE A~~ REGISTRATION CARD AND UNUSED REGISTRATION
34 PLATES BY THE OWNER AS PROVIDED IN UNDER § 13-938 OF THIS SUBTITLE ~~SHALL~~
35 ~~BE MADE TO THE OWNER~~ ONLY IF THE RETURN IS MADE PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION
36 DATE OF THE REGISTRATION PERIOD FOR WHICH THE APPLICATION FOR REFUND IS
37 MADE.

1 (6) ~~WHENEVER~~ WHEN THE ADMINISTRATION ASSESSES A PRORATED
2 ~~FEE IS ASSESSED, THE AMOUNT, IT~~ SHALL BE CALCULATED BY MULTIPLYING
3 ONE-TWELFTH OF THE APPLICABLE FEE BY THE NUMBER OF MONTHS FOR WHICH
4 THE ISSUANCE OR RENEWAL IS MADE AND ~~THE RESULTANT FIGURE SHALL BE~~
5 ~~ADJUSTED~~ ADJUSTING THIS AMOUNT TO THE NEAREST DOLLAR AMOUNT.

6 (C) THE ADMINISTRATION MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT AND
7 OPERATE A STAGGERED REGISTRATION SYSTEM AS PROVIDED UNDER THIS
8 SECTION.

9 13-912.

10 (a) When registered with the Administration, every passenger car and station
11 wagon, except as otherwise provided in this part, is a Class A (passenger) vehicle.

12 (b) For each Class A (passenger) vehicle, the annual registration fee is:

13 (1) For a vehicle with a manufacturer's shipping weight of 3,700 pounds
14 or less -- \$27.00; and

15 (2) For a vehicle with a manufacturer's shipping weight of more than
16 3,700 pounds -- \$40.50.

17 [(c) Notwithstanding any provision of this subtitle to the contrary, the
18 Administration may adopt a system of staggered registration for the following motor
19 vehicle classes: A, B, C, D, E (up to 7,000 pounds maximum gross vehicle weight), J,
20 L, 1A (dealer), 1B (motorcycle dealer), 1C (trailer dealer), 2 (recycler), 3 (finance
21 company), 4 (mobile equipment), 5 (transporter), and M.

22 (d) (1) During the registration period in which the system is initiated,
23 vehicle registrations may be issued for periods varying from 7 months to 18 months
24 with fees prorated according to the number of months for which the registration is
25 issued.

26 (2) Vehicle registration plates or validation tabs shall be issued and
27 displayed in accordance with a schedule established by the Administrator.

28 (3) Any new registration or renewal issued during the year may be
29 issued initially for other than a 12-month period to facilitate an equal volume of
30 monthly issuances. The registration fee will be prorated for the period issued.

31 (4) For the purpose of maintaining relatively uniform work loads,
32 monthly volumes of registration renewals shall be evaluated from time to time and
33 any portion of a monthly issuance may be rescheduled by applying a different
34 expiration date and prorating the fee accordingly.

35 (5) The refund of registration fees on surrender of the registration card
36 and unused registration plates provided in § 13-938 of this article shall be made to
37 the owner only if the return is made prior to the expiration date of the registration
38 period for which application for refund is made.

1 (6) Whenever a prorated fee is assessed, the amount shall be calculated
2 by multiplying one-twelfth of the applicable fee by the number of months for which
3 the issuance or renewal is made and the resultant figure shall be adjusted to the
4 nearest dollar amount.

5 (e) The Administration may adopt rules and regulations to implement and
6 operate a staggered registration system.]

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
8 October 1, 1998.