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By: **Senators Frosh, Kelley, Pinsky, Teitelbaum, Sfikas, and Van Hollen**  
Introduced and read first time: February 3, 1999  
Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment - Air Quality - VMT Reduction**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring certain plans and programs to provide for air quality  
4 improvement by attaining a certain performance objective of reducing statewide  
5 vehicle miles traveled (VMT) per capita; requiring a certain schedule for  
6 reducing VMT; providing for the review of certain projects for certain purposes;  
7 allowing the adoption of certain regulations; and generally relating to air  
8 quality and transportation planning.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article - Environment  
11 Section 2-303.2  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - Environment**

17 2-303.2.

18 (A) In any program implementing the reduction of vehicle miles traveled as a  
19 part of the State's compliance with the federal Clean Air Act the Department shall  
20 include provisions to allow, both within Maryland and among Maryland and adjoining  
21 states:

22 (1) The averaging of reductions in vehicle miles traveled between  
23 different worksites of the same employer;

24 (2) The averaging of reductions in vehicle miles traveled between  
25 worksites of different employers;

26 (3) The sale between worksites and employers of credits for reduced  
27 vehicle miles traveled; and

1           (4)     The greatest degree of flexibility in implementation, giving full  
2 consideration to the geographic differences among affected areas, in order to promote  
3 the economic and environmental interests of the areas affected.

4     (B)     (1)     STATE, LOCAL, AND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANS, CAPITAL  
5 IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS, AND PROJECT ALTERNATIVE SELECTIONS SHALL  
6 PROVIDE FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF AIR QUALITY AND REDUCTION OF TRAFFIC  
7 CONGESTION BY ATTAINING A PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE OF REDUCING THE  
8 STATEWIDE AVERAGE OF VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED (VMT) PER CAPITA 10% BY  
9 JANUARY 1, 2020, BASED ON THE STATEWIDE PER CAPITA VMT LEVEL IN THE YEAR  
10 2000.

11           (2)     TO ATTAIN THE PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)  
12 OF THIS SUBSECTION, TRANSPORTATION PLANS, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT  
13 PROGRAMS, AND PROJECT ALTERNATIVE SELECTIONS SHALL BE IMPLEMENTED OR  
14 AMENDED TO REDUCE THE STATEWIDE VMT PER CAPITA AS FOLLOWS:

15                   (I)     2% BY THE END OF 2002; AND

16                   (II)    AN ADDITIONAL 1% BY THE END OF EACH OF THE YEARS 2004,  
17 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, AND 2019.

18           (3)     EACH CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND CAPITAL HIGHWAY  
19 PROJECT FOR WHICH CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 1999 SHALL  
20 BE REVIEWED AND EVALUATED FOR CONSISTENCY WITH THE PERFORMANCE  
21 OBJECTIVE UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

22           (4)     THE DEPARTMENT, IN COOPERATION WITH THE MARYLAND  
23 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO ENSURE  
24 ATTAINMENT OF THE VMT REDUCTION UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, INCLUDING:

25                   (I)     PROGRESS REPORTING;

26                   (II)    TREND MONITORING; AND

27                   (III)   MODELING OF TREND PROJECTIONS AND THE EFFECTIVENESS  
28 OF SPECIFIC TRANSPORTATION MEASURES TO REDUCE VMT PER CAPITA.

29     SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
30 October 1, 1999.