
By: **Delegates Dypski, Hammen, and Krysiak**
Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2000
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Transportation Authority - Toll Facilities - Toll Free Day**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Transportation Authority to implement a
4 toll free day each year on the day before the Thanksgiving Day holiday;
5 prohibiting the Authority from collecting tolls at any transportation facilities
6 project on the toll free day; requiring the Authority to take certain actions
7 including undertaking a public information campaign to inform motorists of the
8 toll free day established under this Act; and generally relating to establishment
9 of a toll free day by the Maryland Transportation Authority.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article - Transportation
12 Section 4-101(a), (b), and (i) and 4-312(a)(2)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

15 BY adding to
16 Article - Transportation
17 Section 4-312.2
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

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

22 **Article - Transportation**

23 4-101.

24 (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

25 (b) "Authority" means the Maryland Transportation Authority.

26 (i) "Transportation facilities project" includes:

1 (1) The Susquehanna River Bridge, the Harry W. Nice Memorial
2 Potomac River Bridge, the William Preston Lane, Jr. Memorial Chesapeake Bay
3 Bridge and parallel Chesapeake Bay Bridge, the Baltimore Harbor Tunnel, the
4 Francis Scott Key Bridge, and the John F. Kennedy Memorial Highway, together with
5 their appurtenant causeways, approaches, interchanges, entrance plazas, toll
6 stations, and service facilities;

7 (2) Any other project for transportation facilities that the Authority
8 authorizes to be acquired or constructed; and

9 (3) Any additions, improvements, or enlargements to any of these
10 projects, whenever authorized.

11 4-312.

12 (a) (2) As to all or any part of any transportation facilities project, the
13 Authority may:

14 (i) Fix, revise, charge, and collect rentals, rates, fees, tolls, and
15 other charges and revenues for its use or for its services; and

16 (ii) Contract with any person who desires its use for any purpose
17 and fix the terms, conditions, rentals, rates, fees, tolls, or other charges or revenues
18 for this use.

19 4-312.2.

20 (A) (1) THE AUTHORITY SHALL IMPLEMENT A TOLL FREE DAY EACH YEAR
21 ON THE DAY BEFORE THE THANKSGIVING DAY HOLIDAY.

22 (2) THE AUTHORITY MAY NOT COLLECT TOLLS AT ANY
23 TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES PROJECT UNDER ITS JURISDICTION ON THE TOLL
24 FREE DAY.

25 (B) THE AUTHORITY SHALL:

26 (1) TAKE THOSE STEPS NECESSARY, INCLUDING TO THE EXTENT
27 REQUIRED OBTAINING A MODIFICATION OF ANY TRUST AGREEMENT, TO PERMIT
28 FREE ACCESS TO AND FROM TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES PROJECTS IN THE STATE
29 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION; AND

30 (2) UNDERTAKE A PUBLIC INFORMATION CAMPAIGN TO INFORM
31 MOTORISTS OF THE TOLL FREE DAY ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION.

32 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
33 October 1, 2000.