

HOUSE BILL 1148

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SB 154/00 - B&T

2001 Regular Session
11r0032
CF 11r2363

By: **Chairman, Commerce and Government Matters Committee and
Chairman, Appropriations Committee (Departmental - Maryland
Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems) and Delegates Kopp
and Rawlings**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2001
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters and Appropriations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted with floor amendments
Read second time: March 19, 2001

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Motor Vehicle Registration - Surcharge - Maryland Emergency Medical**
3 **System Operations Fund**

4 FOR the purpose of increasing the motor vehicle registration surcharge for certain
5 motor vehicles; stating certain findings of the General Assembly; establishing a
6 Panel to conduct a study of the potential funding needs of the network of trauma
7 centers that participate in the State's Emergency Medical Services System but
8 do not receive funding under the Emergency Medical System Operations Fund
9 (EMSOF); establishing the membership of the Panel; providing for the staff of
10 the Panel; requiring Panel members to receive certain briefings; requiring the
11 Panel to submit ~~a certain report~~ certain reports to the Governor and certain
12 committees of the General Assembly on or before ~~a certain date~~ certain dates;
13 clarifying the intent of the General Assembly in establishing the Panel; and
14 generally relating to the surcharge for motor vehicle registration and funding
15 for participants in the State's Emergency Medical Services System.

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
17 Article - Transportation
18 Section 13-954
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

21 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
22 Article - Transportation

1 Section 13-955
2 Annotated Code of Maryland
3 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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

6 **Article - Transportation**

7 13-954.

8 (a) In this section, "motor vehicle" means a:

- 9 (1) Class A (passenger) vehicle;
- 10 (2) Class B (for hire) vehicle;
- 11 (3) Class C (funeral and ambulance) vehicle;
- 12 (4) Class D (motorcycle) vehicle;
- 13 (5) Class E (truck) vehicle;
- 14 (6) Class F (tractor) vehicle;
- 15 (7) Class H (school) vehicle;
- 16 (8) Class J (vanpool) vehicle;
- 17 (9) Class M (multipurpose) vehicle;
- 18 (10) Class P (passenger bus) vehicle;
- 19 (11) Class Q (limousine) vehicle; or
- 20 (12) Vehicle within any other class designated by the Administrator.

21 (b) In addition to the registration fee otherwise required by this title, the
22 owner of any motor vehicle registered under this title shall pay a surcharge of [\$8]
23 \$11 per year for each motor vehicle registered.

24 13-955.

25 (a) In this section, "Fund" means the Maryland Emergency Medical System
26 Operations Fund.

27 (b) (1) There is a Maryland Emergency Medical System Operations Fund.

28 (2) The Fund is a continuing, nonlapsing fund which is not subject to §
29 7-302 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

1 (3) Interest and earnings on the Fund shall be separately accounted for
2 and credited to the Fund, and are not subject to § 6-226(a) of the State Finance and
3 Procurement Article.

4 (c) The Fund consists of:

5 (1) Registration surcharges collected under § 13-954 of this subtitle; and

6 (2) All funds, including charges for accident scene transports and
7 interhospital transfers of patients, generated by an entity specified in subsection (e)
8 of this section that is a unit of State government.

9 (d) Expenditures from the Fund shall be made pursuant to an appropriation
10 approved by the General Assembly in the annual State budget or by the budget
11 amendment procedure provided under § 7-209 of the State Finance and Procurement
12 Article, provided that any budget amendment shall be submitted to and approved by
13 the Legislative Policy Committee prior to the expenditure or obligation of funds.

14 (e) The money in the Fund shall be used solely for:

15 (1) Medically oriented functions of the Department of State Police,
16 Special Operations Bureau, Aviation Division;

17 (2) The Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems;

18 (3) The R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center at the University of
19 Maryland Medical System;

20 (4) The Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute;

21 (5) The provision of grants under the State Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance
22 Fund in accordance with the provisions of Article 38A, §§ 45A through 45D of the
23 Code; and

24 (6) The Low Interest Revolving Loan Account under the Volunteer
25 Company Assistance Fund in accordance with the provisions of Article 38A, §§ 46E
26 through 46H of the Code.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

28 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

29 1. the State of Maryland has been a national pioneer in the
30 development of emergency medical services, and has developed one of the premier
31 emergency medical services systems in the world through the cooperation of
32 prehospital care providers, including police department personnel and volunteer and
33 career firefighters and emergency medical service providers, hospital administrators,
34 physicians, nurses, government officials, and other emergency personnel;

35 2. a necessary component of Maryland's Emergency Medical Services
36 System is the network of regional trauma centers that participate in the system but

1 do not receive funding under the Emergency Medical System Operations Fund
2 (EMSOF); and

3 3. while other components of the State's Emergency Medical Services
4 System have been studied by the General Assembly in the past, the General Assembly
5 has not studied the potential funding needs of the network of trauma centers
6 participating in the State's Emergency Medical Services System that do not receive
7 funding under EMSOF.

8 (b) It is the intent of the General Assembly to establish a Panel to study the
9 potential funding needs of the network of trauma centers participating in the State's
10 Emergency Medical Services System that do not receive funding under EMSOF.

11 (c) There is a Panel to study the potential funding needs of the network of
12 trauma centers participating in the State's Emergency Medical Services System that
13 do not receive funding under EMSOF.

14 (d) The Panel shall consist of the following 15 members:

15 1. three members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the
16 Senate as follows:

17 (i) one member from the Budget and Taxation Committee;

18 (ii) one member from the Finance Committee; and

19 (iii) one member from the Judicial Proceedings Committee;

20 2. three members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker
21 of the House as follows:

22 (i) one member from the Appropriations Committee;

23 (ii) one member from the Commerce and Government Matters
24 Committee; and

25 (iii) one member from the Environmental Matters Committee;

26 3. the Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management, or the
27 Secretary's designee;

28 4. the Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, or
29 the Secretary's designee;

30 5. the Executive Director of the Maryland Institute of Emergency
31 Medical Services System, or the Executive Director's designee;

32 6. the Chairperson of the Emergency Medical Services Board, or the
33 Chairperson's designee; and

1 7. five members of the general public who do not have an interest in the
2 State's Emergency Medical Services System, appointed as follows:

3 (i) one by the Governor;

4 (ii) two by the President of the Senate; and

5 (iii) two by the Speaker of the House of Delegates.

6 (e) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House jointly shall
7 appoint co-chairs from among the Senate and the House members appointed to the
8 Panel.

9 (f) The Panel shall be staffed by the Department of Legislative Services, in
10 consultation with the Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission and the
11 Maryland Health Care Commission.

12 (g) In conducting its study of the potential funding needs of the network of
13 trauma centers participating in the State's Emergency Medical Services System that
14 do not receive funding under EMSOF, the Panel shall:

15 (i) examine the costs associated with the operation of adult and
16 pediatric trauma centers, each of the level I through level III trauma centers, and any
17 other trauma centers that participate in the State's Emergency Medical Services
18 System;

19 (ii) evaluate the amount, extent, source, and contributing factors of
20 any financial gain or loss attributable to each of the State's designated trauma
21 centers that are not already recovered under the hospital rate setting system under
22 the Health Services Cost Review Commission; and

23 (iii) consider potential funding sources or other approaches to
24 address any funding needs identified by the study.

25 (h) To enable Panel members to understand the frame of reference of the
26 State's Emergency Medical Services System and its related entities, the Panel shall
27 be briefed on any studies of the components of the Emergency Medical Services
28 System conducted in the past 4 years.

29 (i) 1. The Panel shall submit ~~a report~~ reports, in accordance with
30 paragraph 2 of this subsection, on its findings and recommendations to the Governor
31 and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the Senate
32 Budget and Taxation Committee, Finance Committee, and Judicial Proceedings
33 Committee, and the House Appropriations Committee, Commerce and Government
34 Matters Committee, and Environmental Matters Committee, ~~on.~~

35 2. The Panel shall submit an interim report on or before January 1,
36 2002 and a final report on or before December 1, 2002.

1 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That in establishing the Panel
2 to study the potential funding needs of the network of trauma centers under Section
3 2 of this Act, the General Assembly does not intend to provide funding to these
4 trauma centers from the increase in the motor vehicle registration surcharge enacted
5 under Section 1 of this Act.

6 SECTION ~~2.~~ 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
7 effect July 1, 2001.