
By: **Delegate K. Kelly**
Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2001
Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Civil Proceedings - Evidence - Unknown, Uninsured, or Underinsured**
3 **Drivers**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing that in an action brought by an insured and tried
5 before a jury for uninsured motorist benefits where the identity of the owner or
6 operator of the vehicle alleged to have caused injuries or damages to the plaintiff
7 is unknown, the unknown owner or operator of the vehicle may only be referred
8 to in a certain manner, and certain evidence relating to the defendant uninsured
9 motorist insurance carrier is not admissible; establishing that in an action
10 brought by an insured and tried before a jury against an owner or operator of an
11 uninsured or underinsured motor vehicle who is alleged to have caused injuries
12 or damages to the plaintiff, certain evidence relating to the defendant uninsured
13 motorist insurance carrier is not admissible.

14 BY adding to
15 Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings
16 Section 10-920
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (1998 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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

21 **Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

22 10-920.

23 (A) IN AN ACTION BROUGHT BY AN INSURED AND TRIED BEFORE A JURY FOR
24 UNINSURED MOTORIST BENEFITS WHERE THE IDENTITY OF THE OWNER OR
25 OPERATOR OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE ALLEGED TO HAVE CAUSED INJURIES OR
26 DAMAGES TO THE PLAINTIFF IS UNKNOWN, ALL REFERENCE TO THE UNKNOWN
27 OWNER OR OPERATOR SHALL BE IN THE NAME OF "JOHN DOE" OR "JANE DOE," AND
28 THERE SHALL BE NO REFERENCE TO, OR IDENTIFICATION OF, THE DEFENDANT
29 UNINSURED MOTORIST INSURANCE CARRIER.

1 (B) IN AN ACTION BROUGHT BY AN INSURED AND TRIED BEFORE A JURY
2 AGAINST AN OWNER OR OPERATOR OF AN UNINSURED OR UNDERINSURED MOTOR
3 VEHICLE WHO IS ALLEGED TO HAVE CAUSED INJURIES OR DAMAGES TO THE
4 PLAINTIFF, THERE SHALL BE NO REFERENCE TO, OR IDENTIFICATION OF, THE
5 UNINSURED OR UNDERINSURED MOTORIST INSURANCE CARRIER.

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