

SENATE BILL 51

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R4

2001 Regular Session  
11r0139

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Chairman, Judicial Proceedings Committee (Departmental -  
Transportation)**

Requested: November 14, 2000  
Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2001  
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
Senate action: Adopted  
Read second time: January 23, 2001

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Trucks, Truck Tractors, and Buses - Identification**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring that a certain identification number be displayed on  
4 trucks, truck tractors, and buses in a certain manner; repealing certain  
5 identifying information requirements; repealing certain exemptions from the  
6 identification number requirement; exempting certain vehicles owned and  
7 operated by the State or certain political subdivisions from certain identification  
8 number requirements; providing for a delayed effective date; and generally  
9 relating to the identification of trucks, truck tractors, and buses.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article - Transportation  
12 Section 22-404.3  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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

17 **Article - Transportation**

18 22-404.3.

19 (a) Every truck, truck tractor, and bus operated on highways in this State,  
20 except as provided in subsection [(e)] (B) of this section, shall be identified with the  
21 name[, OR trade name[, or company logo,] and the city and state] of its owner,

1 operator, or lessee]. However, instead of the city and state, one of the following may  
2 be used:

3 (1) The company unit number;

4 (2) The Interstate Commerce Commission number; or] AND SHALL

5 DISPLAY:

6 (1) A UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NUMBER; OR

7 [(3)] (2) The number issued by a State agency.

8 (b) [The display of identification required by this section shall be on both  
9 doors or sides of each power unit and be in letters in sharp color contrast to the  
10 background and shall be of such size, shape, and color as to be readily legible, during  
11 daylight hours, from a distance of 50 feet while the vehicle is not in motion.

12 (c) The display of identification may be accomplished through the use of a  
13 removable device so prepared as to otherwise meet the identification and legibility  
14 requirements of this section.

15 (d) This section does not prohibit the display of any additional identification  
16 required by other laws of this State or any other state, or by any agency or  
17 department of the federal government.

18 (e)] This section does not apply to THE FOLLOWING IF OPERATED INTRASTATE  
19 ONLY:

20 (1) [Vehicles owned or operated by a gas, electric, telegraph, telephone,  
21 or water company, as defined in the Public Utility Companies Article;

22 (2)] Vehicles registered as:

23 (i) Farm trucks under § 13-921 of this article;

24 (ii) Farm truck tractors under § 13-924 of this article; or

25 (iii) Farm area motor vehicles under § 13-935 of this article;

26 [(3) School vehicles registered under § 13-932 of this article;

27 (4)] (2) Trucks registered at 10,000 pounds capacity or less;

28 [(5)] (3) Emergency vehicles; ~~OR~~

29 [(6)] (4) Vehicles used primarily to transport money or commercial  
30 paper}; or

31 (5) VEHICLES OWNED OR OPERATED BY THE STATE OR ANY POLITICAL  
32 SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE.

1           (7)     ~~Vehicles operating within 30 days from the date of purchase].~~

2           (C)     THE DISPLAY OF IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION SHALL  
3 COMPLY WITH THE REGULATIONS PROMULGATED BY THE FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER  
4 SAFETY ADMINISTRATION RELATING TO VEHICLES OPERATING INTERSTATE, AS  
5 CODIFIED IN 49 CFR, PART 390.21.

6           (D)     THIS SECTION DOES NOT PROHIBIT THE DISPLAY OF ANY ADDITIONAL  
7 IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED BY OTHER LAWS OF THIS STATE OR ANY OTHER STATE,  
8 OR BY ANY AGENCY OR DEPARTMENT OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

9           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
10 July 1, 2002.