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By: **Delegates Vallario, Cane, V. Clagett, Hutchins, Owings, and Proctor**  
Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2003  
Assigned to: Economic Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Vehicles Abandoned in Garages**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing certain garage keepers to sell a vehicle abandoned in  
4 a garage under certain conditions; providing for the application of the proceeds  
5 of the sale to the garage keeper's towing charges; and generally relating to  
6 vehicles abandoned in garages.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article - Transportation  
9 Section 25-208  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2002 Replacement Volume)

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

14 **Article - Transportation**

15 25-208.

16 (a) In this section, "abandoned" means abandoned in a garage, as described in  
17 § 25-201(b)(4), (5), or (6) of this subtitle.

18 (b) (1) A garage keeper shall report any vehicle abandoned in the garage to  
19 the appropriate police department.

20 (2) Any garage keeper who fails to report the vehicle within 10 days after  
21 it becomes abandoned no longer has any claim for servicing, storage, or repair of the  
22 vehicle.

23 (c) The police department may take the abandoned vehicle into custody and  
24 sell it in accordance with the procedures set forth in this subtitle, unless:

25 (1) The vehicle is reclaimed by the owner or secured party; and

26 (2) The garage keeper is paid.

1 (d) IF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT TAKE THE ABANDONED VEHICLE  
2 INTO CUSTODY WITHIN 30 DAYS OF NOTICE PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
3 SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE GARAGE KEEPER MAY SELL THE VEHICLE IN  
4 ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURES SET FORTH IN THIS SUBTITLE.

5 (E) As to the proceeds of the sale:

6 (1) They shall be applied, first, to the garage keeper's charges for  
7 TOWING, servicing, storage, or repair; and

8 (2) Any surplus proceeds shall be distributed in accordance with §  
9 25-207(d) of this subtitle.

10 [(e)] (F) This section does not impair any:

11 (1) Lien of a garage keeper under the laws of this State; or

12 (2) The right of any secured party to foreclose.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
14 October 1, 2003.