Unofficial Copy SB 565/02 - JPR 2003 Regular Session 3lr1672 CF 3lr1671

By: Senator Forehand

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2003

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2

Vehicle Laws - Speed Monitoring Systems - Radar Cameras

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing certain law enforcement agencies to mail a citation to the owner of a motor vehicle that is recorded on a highway in certain areas by a 4 5 speed monitoring system to be in violation of certain laws regarding the 6

operation of a motor vehicle in excess of certain speed limits; establishing a process through which a local jurisdiction may request approval of the State

7

8 Highway Administration to place a speed monitoring system in a certain

9 location; requiring the State Highway Administration to approve or deny the

10 request within a certain time; establishing the content of a citation; authorizing

the sending of a warning in lieu of a citation; authorizing reissuance of a citation 11

to a driver of a vehicle under certain circumstances; requiring a citation to be 12

13 mailed within a certain time period; requiring the District Court to prescribe a

14 certain citation form and a civil penalty to be indicated on the citation for

15 certain purposes; requiring the Chief Judge of the District Court to adopt

certain procedures; providing that the owner of the vehicle is responsible for

16 17 paying the civil penalty indicated on the citation under certain circumstances;

18 providing that persons receiving citations may elect to stand trial in the District

19 Court; establishing defenses that may be considered; authorizing vehicle owners

20 to submit a certain letter to the District Court in order to establish a certain

21 defense; imposing certain additional penalties and authorizing certain other 22

actions when an owner fails to pay the civil penalty, contest liability, or appear

23 for trial; prohibiting imposition of liability under this Act from being considered

a moving violation for certain purposes, or being recorded on the driving record 24

25 of the owner or driver, or being considered by an insurer for certain purposes;

providing for the admissibility and use of certain evidence; modifying the 26

27 jurisdiction of the District Court for certain purposes; providing for the handling

of certain court costs and penalties; defining certain terms; prohibiting the

28 29 custodian of recorded images produced by a speed monitoring system from

30 allowing inspection of the recorded images, subject to certain exceptions;

31 correcting an obsolete reference; providing that the fees of certain contractors

32 may not be contingent on the number of citations issued or paid under this Act;

33 restricting the use of certain revenues generated by this Act; providing for the

34 application of this Act; providing that existing obligations or contracts may not

35 be impaired by this Act; and generally relating to imposition of liability on the

- 1 owner of a motor vehicle recorded by a speed monitoring system violating
- 2 certain laws regarding the operation of a motor vehicle in excess of certain speed
- 3 limits.
- 4 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 5 Article Courts and Judicial Proceedings
- 6 Section 4-401(13), 7-301(a), 7-302(e), and 10-311
- 7 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 8 (2002 Replacement Volume)
- 9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 10 Article Insurance
- 11 Section 11-215(e) and 11-318(e)
- 12 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 13 (1997 Volume and 2002 Supplement)
- 14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 15 Article State Government
- 16 Section 10-616(o)
- 17 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 18 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)
- 19 BY adding to
- 20 Article Transportation
- 21 Section 21-809
- 22 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 23 (2002 Replacement Volume)
- 24 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 25 Article Transportation
- 26 Section 26-305(a) and 26-401
- 27 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 28 (2002 Replacement Volume)
- 29 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
- 30 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 31 Article Courts and Judicial Proceedings
- 32 4-401.
- 33 Except as provided in § 4-402 of this subtitle, and subject to the venue
- 34 provisions of Title 6 of this article, the District Court has exclusive original civil
- 35 jurisdiction in:

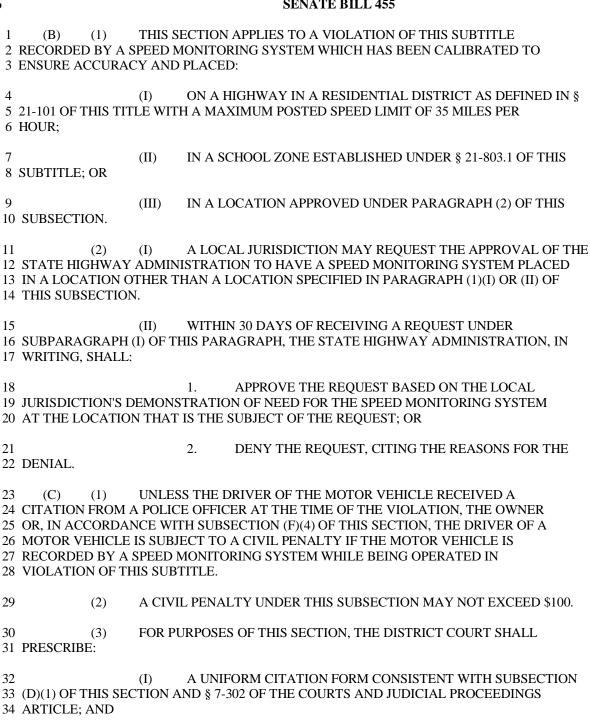
- 1 (13) A proceeding for a civil infraction under § 21-202.1 OR § 21-809 of the 2 Transportation Article;
- 3 7-301.
- 4 (a) The court costs in a traffic case, including parking and impounding cases
- $5\,$ and cases under $\S~21\text{--}202.1~OR~\S~21\text{--}809$ of the Transportation Article in which costs
- 6 are imposed, are \$20. Such costs shall also be applicable to those cases in which the
- 7 defendant elects to waive his right to trial and pay the fine or penalty deposit
- 8 established by the Chief Judge of the District Court by administrative regulation. In
- 9 an uncontested case under § 21-202.1 OR § 21-809 of the Transportation Article or
- 10 uncontested parking or impounding case in which the fines are paid directly to a
- 11 political subdivision or municipality, costs are \$2.00, which costs shall be paid to and
- 12 retained by the political subdivision or municipality. In an uncontested case in which
- 13 the fine is paid directly to an agency of State government authorized by law to
- 14 regulate parking of motor vehicles, the costs are \$2.00. The fine and the costs shall be
- 15 paid to the agency, which shall receive and account for these funds as in all other
- 16 cases involving sums due the State through a State agency.

17 7-302.

- 18 (e) (1) A citation issued pursuant to § 21-202.1 OR § 21-809 of the
- 19 Transportation Article shall provide that the person receiving the citation may elect to
- 20 stand trial by notifying the issuing agency of the person's intention to stand trial at
- 21 least 5 days prior to the date of payment as set forth in the citation. On receipt of the
- 22 notice to stand trial, the agency shall forward to the District Court having venue a
- 23 copy of the citation and a copy of the notice from the person who received the citation
- 24 indicating the person's intention to stand trial. On receipt thereof, the District Court
- 25 shall schedule the case for trial and notify the defendant of the trial date under
- 26 procedures adopted by the Chief Judge of the District Court.
- 27 (2) A citation issued as the result of a traffic control signal monitoring
- 28 system OR SPEED MONITORING SYSTEM controlled by a political subdivision shall
- 29 provide that, in an uncontested case, the penalty shall be paid directly to that political
- 30 subdivision. A citation issued as the result of a traffic control signal monitoring
- 31 system OR SPEED MONITORING SYSTEM controlled by a State agency shall provide
- 32 that the penalty shall be paid directly to the District Court.
- 33 (3) Civil penalties resulting from citations issued using traffic control
- 34 signal monitoring systems OR SPEED MONITORING SYSTEMS that are collected by the
- 35 District Court shall be collected in accordance with subsection (a) of this section and
- 36 distributed in accordance with § 12-118 of the Transportation Article.
- 37 10-311.
- 38 (A) A recorded image of a motor vehicle produced by a traffic control signal
- 39 monitoring system in accordance with § 21-202.1 of the Transportation Article is
- 40 admissible in a proceeding concerning a civil citation issued under that section for a
- 41 violation of § 21-202(h) of the Transportation Article without authentication.

1 (B) A RECORDED IMAGE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE PRODUCED BY A SPEED 2 MONITORING SYSTEM IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 21-809 OF THE TRANSPORTATION 3 ARTICLE IS ADMISSIBLE IN A PROCEEDING CONCERNING A CIVIL CITATION ISSUED 4 UNDER THAT SECTION FOR A VIOLATION OF TITLE 21, SUBTITLE 8 OF THE 5 TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE WITHOUT AUTHENTICATION. 6 In any other judicial proceeding, a recorded image produced by a traffic control signal monitoring system OR SPEED MONITORING SYSTEM is admissible as 8 otherwise provided by law. 9 **Article - Insurance** 10 11-215. 11 For purposes of reclassifying an insured in a classification that entails a 12 higher premium, an insurer under an automobile insurance policy may not consider a 13 probation before judgment disposition of a motor vehicle law offense, a civil penalty 14 imposed pursuant to § 21-202.1 OR § 21-809 of the Transportation Article, or a first 15 offense of driving with an alcohol concentration of [0.10] 0.08 or more under § 16 16-205.1 of the Transportation Article on record with the Motor Vehicle 17 Administration, as provided in § 16-117(b) of the Transportation Article. 18 11-318. 19 (e) For purposes of reclassifying an insured in a classification that entails a 20 higher premium, an insurer under an automobile insurance policy may not consider a 21 probation before judgment disposition of a motor vehicle law offense, a civil penalty 22 imposed pursuant to § 21-202.1 OR § 21-809 of the Transportation Article, or a first 23 offense of driving with an alcohol concentration of [0.10] 0.08 or more under § 24 16-205.1 of the Transportation Article on record with the Motor Vehicle 25 Administration, as provided in § 16-117(b) of the Transportation Article. 26 **Article - State Government** 27 10-616. 28 (1) In this subsection, "recorded images" has the meaning stated in § 29 21-202.1 OR § 21-809 of the Transportation Article. 30 Except as provided in paragraph (3) of this subsection, a custodian of 31 recorded images produced by a traffic control signal monitoring system operated 32 under § 21-202.1 of the Transportation Article OR A SPEED MONITORING SYSTEM 33 OPERATED UNDER § 21-809 OF THE TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE shall deny inspection 34 of the recorded images. 35 A custodian shall allow inspection of recorded images: (3) 36 (i) as required in § 21-202.1 OR § 21-809 of the Transportation 37 Article;

	by any person issued a citation under § 21-202.1 OR § 21-809 of attorney of record for the person; or
2 the Transportation Article, or an	attorney of record for the person; or
4 investigation or proceeding relati	by an employee or agent of a law enforcement agency in an ing to the imposition of or indemnification from civil DR § 21-809 of the Transportation Article.
6	Article - Transportation
7 21-809.	
8 (A) (1) IN THIS S 9 INDICATED.	SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
11 A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION	Y" MEANS A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY OF THE STATE OR THAT IS AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE CITATIONS FOR A LAND VEHICLE LAW OR OF LOCAL TRAFFIC LAWS OR
	OWNER" MEANS THE REGISTERED OWNER OF A MOTOR A MOTOR VEHICLE UNDER A LEASE OF 6 MONTHS OR
	OWNER" DOES NOT INCLUDE A MOTOR VEHICLE RENTAL OR HOLDER OF A SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATE ISSUED E 9, PART III OF THIS ARTICLE.
20 (4) "RECORI 21 VEHICLE RECORDED BY A	DED IMAGE" MEANS AN IMAGE OF A PORTION OF A MOTOR SPEED MONITORING SYSTEM:
22 (I) C	ON:
23 1	. A PHOTOGRAPH;
24 2	A MICROPHOTOGRAPH;
25 3	3. AN ELECTRONIC IMAGE;
26 4	. VIDEOTAPE; OR
27 5	ANY OTHER MEDIUM; AND
28 (II) C 29 THE MOTOR VEHICLE.	CLEARLY IDENTIFYING THE REGISTRATION PLATE NUMBER OF
31 MOTOR VEHICLE SENSORS	MONITORING SYSTEM" MEANS A DEVICE WITH ONE OR MORE PRODUCING RECORDED IMAGES OF MOTOR VEHICLES LEAST 10 MILES PER HOUR ABOVE THE POSTED SPEED



36 CITATION, TO BE PAID BY PERSONS WHO CHOOSE TO PREPAY THE CIVIL PENALTY

(II)

37 WITHOUT APPEARING IN DISTRICT COURT.

A CIVIL PENALTY, WHICH SHALL BE INDICATED ON THE

		, AN AG	CT TO THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPHS (2) THROUGH (4) OF ENCY SHALL MAIL TO THE OWNER LIABLE UNDER SECTION A CITATION WHICH SHALL INCLUDE:
4 5	VEHICLE;	(I)	THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE REGISTERED OWNER OF THE
6 7	INVOLVED IN THE	(II) VIOLAT	THE REGISTRATION NUMBER OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE ITON;
8		(III)	THE VIOLATION CHARGED;
9		(IV)	THE LOCATION WHERE THE VIOLATION OCCURRED;
10		(V)	THE DATE AND TIME OF THE VIOLATION;
11		(VI)	A COPY OF THE RECORDED IMAGE;
12 13		(VII) VIL PEN	THE AMOUNT OF THE CIVIL PENALTY IMPOSED AND THE DATE NALTY SHOULD BE PAID;
	AGENCY THAT, BA	ASED O	A SIGNED STATEMENT BY A DULY AUTHORIZED AGENT OF THE N INSPECTION OF RECORDED IMAGES, THE MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE;
17 18	VIOLATION OF TH	(IX) IS SUBT	A STATEMENT THAT RECORDED IMAGES ARE EVIDENCE OF A TITLE; AND
19 20	UNDER THIS SECT	(X) TON:	INFORMATION ADVISING THE PERSON ALLEGED TO BE LIABLE
21 22	ALLEGED IN THE	CITATIO	1. OF THE MANNER AND TIME IN WHICH LIABILITY AS ON MAY BE CONTESTED IN THE DISTRICT COURT; AND
	CONTEST LIABILI		2. THAT FAILURE TO PAY THE CIVIL PENALTY OR TO TIMELY MANNER IS AN ADMISSION OF LIABILITY AND MAY SUSPENSION OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION.
26 27	` '		GENCY MAY MAIL A WARNING NOTICE IN LIEU OF A CITATION INDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION.
30 31	CITATION ISSUED AFTER THE ALLEC	UNDER GED VIC	T AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (F)(4) OF THIS SECTION, A THIS SECTION SHALL BE MAILED NO LATER THAN 2 WEEKS DLATION IF THE VEHICLE IS REGISTERED IN THIS STATE, ALLEGED VIOLATION IF THE VEHICLE IS REGISTERED IN
33 34	` /		ENCY MAY NOT MAIL A CITATION TO A PERSON WHO IS NOT AN ION (A)(3)(II) OF THIS SECTION.

- A PERSON WHO RECEIVES A CITATION UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF (5)2 THIS SUBSECTION MAY: PAY THE CIVIL PENALTY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH 4 INSTRUCTIONS ON THE CITATION, DIRECTLY TO THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OR TO 5 THE DISTRICT COURT; OR ELECT TO STAND TRIAL FOR THE ALLEGED VIOLATION. 6 (II)7 (E) A CERTIFICATE ALLEGING THAT THE VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE 8 OCCURRED, SWORN TO OR AFFIRMED BY A DULY AUTHORIZED AGENT OF THE 9 AGENCY, BASED ON INSPECTION OF RECORDED IMAGES PRODUCED BY A SPEED 10 MONITORING SYSTEM. SHALL BE EVIDENCE OF THE FACTS CONTAINED THEREIN 11 AND SHALL BE ADMISSIBLE IN ANY PROCEEDING ALLEGING A VIOLATION UNDER 12 THIS SECTION. 13 (2) ADJUDICATION OF LIABILITY SHALL BE BASED ON A 14 PREPONDERANCE OF EVIDENCE. 15 THE DISTRICT COURT MAY CONSIDER IN DEFENSE OF A VIOLATION: (F) (1) 16 SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THAT THE (I)17 MOTOR VEHICLE OR REGISTRATION PLATES OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE WERE STOLEN 18 BEFORE THE VIOLATION OCCURRED AND WERE NOT UNDER THE CONTROL OR 19 POSSESSION OF THE OWNER AT THE TIME OF THE VIOLATION: SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, EVIDENCE 21 THAT THE PERSON NAMED IN THE CITATION WAS NOT OPERATING THE VEHICLE AT 22 THE TIME OF THE VIOLATION; AND 23 (III)ANY OTHER ISSUES AND EVIDENCE THAT THE DISTRICT COURT 24 DEEMS PERTINENT. IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE MOTOR VEHICLE OR THE 25 (2) 26 REGISTRATION PLATES WERE STOLEN BEFORE THE VIOLATION OCCURRED AND 27 WERE NOT UNDER THE CONTROL OR POSSESSION OF THE OWNER AT THE TIME OF 28 THE VIOLATION, THE OWNER SHALL SUBMIT PROOF THAT A POLICE REPORT ABOUT 29 THE STOLEN MOTOR VEHICLE OR REGISTRATION PLATES WAS FILED IN A TIMELY 30 MANNER. 31 TO SATISFY THE EVIDENTIARY BURDEN UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(II) OF (3) 32 THIS SUBSECTION, THE PERSON NAMED IN THE CITATION SHALL PROVIDE TO THE 33 DISTRICT COURT A LETTER, SWORN TO OR AFFIRMED BY THE PERSON AND MAILED
- 34 BY CERTIFIED MAIL. RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED. THAT:
- 35 STATES THAT THE PERSON NAMED IN THE CITATION WAS NOT
- 36 OPERATING THE VEHICLE AT THE TIME OF THE VIOLATION:

- 1 (II) PROVIDES THE NAME, ADDRESS, AND, IF POSSIBLE, THE 2 DRIVER'S LICENSE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER OF THE PERSON WHO WAS OPERATING
- 3 THE VEHICLE AT THE TIME OF THE VIOLATION; AND
- 4 (III) INCLUDES ANY OTHER CORROBORATING EVIDENCE.
- 5 (4) (I) IF THE DISTRICT COURT FINDS THAT THE PERSON NAMED IN
- 6 THE CITATION WAS NOT OPERATING THE VEHICLE AT THE TIME OF THE VIOLATION
- 7 OR RECEIVES EVIDENCE UNDER PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION IDENTIFYING
- $8\,$ THE PERSON DRIVING THE VEHICLE AT THE TIME OF THE VIOLATION, THE CLERK OF
- 9 THE COURT SHALL PROVIDE TO THE AGENCY ISSUING THE CITATION A COPY OF ANY
- 10 EVIDENCE SUBSTANTIATING WHO WAS OPERATING THE VEHICLE AT THE TIME OF
- 11 THE VIOLATION.
- 12 (II) UPON THE RECEIPT OF SUBSTANTIATING EVIDENCE FROM THE
- 13 DISTRICT COURT UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, AN AGENCY MAY
- 14 ISSUE A CITATION AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION TO THE
- 15 PERSON WHO THE EVIDENCE INDICATES WAS OPERATING THE VEHICLE AT THE
- 16 TIME OF THE VIOLATION.
- 17 (III) A CITATION ISSUED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS
- 18 PARAGRAPH SHALL BE MAILED NO LATER THAN 2 WEEKS AFTER RECEIPT OF THE
- 19 EVIDENCE FROM THE DISTRICT COURT.
- 20 (G) IF THE CIVIL PENALTY IS NOT PAID AND THE VIOLATION IS NOT
- 21 CONTESTED, THE ADMINISTRATION MAY REFUSE TO REGISTER OR REREGISTER OR
- 22 MAY SUSPEND THE REGISTRATION OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE.
- 23 (H) A VIOLATION FOR WHICH A CIVIL PENALTY IS IMPOSED UNDER THIS
- 24 SECTION:
- 25 (1) IS NOT A MOVING VIOLATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSESSING
- 26 POINTS UNDER § 16-402 OF THIS ARTICLE AND MAY NOT BE RECORDED BY THE
- 27 ADMINISTRATION ON THE DRIVING RECORD OF THE OWNER OR DRIVER OF THE
- 28 VEHICLE;
- 29 (2) MAY BE TREATED AS A PARKING VIOLATION FOR PURPOSES OF §
- 30 26-305 OF THIS ARTICLE; AND
- 31 (3) MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED IN THE PROVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLE
- 32 INSURANCE COVERAGE.
- 33 (I) IN CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, THE CHIEF JUDGE OF
- 34 THE DISTRICT COURT SHALL ADOPT PROCEDURES FOR THE ISSUANCE OF
- 35 CITATIONS, THE TRIAL OF CIVIL VIOLATIONS, AND THE COLLECTION OF CIVIL
- 36 PENALTIES UNDER THIS SECTION.
- 37 (J) IF A CONTRACTOR OPERATES A SPEED MONITORING SYSTEM ON BEHALF
- 38 OF A LOCAL JURISDICTION OR AGENCY, THE CONTRACTOR'S FEE MAY NOT BE
- 39 CONTINGENT ON THE NUMBER OF CITATIONS ISSUED OR PAID.

1 26-305

1	20-303.				
4 5 6	(a) The Administration may not register or transfer the registration of any vehicle involved in a parking violation under this subtitle, a violation under any federal parking regulation that applies to property in this State under the jurisdiction of the U.S. government, or a violation of § 21-202(h) of this article as determined under § 21-202.1 of this article OR TITLE 21, SUBTITLE 8 OF THIS ARTICLE AS DETERMINED UNDER § 21-809 OF THIS ARTICLE, if:				
	(1) It is notified by a political subdivision or authorized State agency that a person cited for a violation under this subtitle or § 21-202.1 OR § 21-809 of this article has failed to either:				
11 12	(i) Pay the fine for the violation by the date specified in the citation; or				
13	(ii) File a notice of his intention to stand trial for the violation;				
	4 (2) It is notified by the District Court that a person who has elected to stand trial for the violation under this subtitle or under § 21-202.1 OR § 21-809 of this article has failed to appear for trial; or				
17 18	(3) It is notified by a U.S. District Court that a person cited for a violation under a federal parking regulation:				
19 20	(i) Has failed to pay the fine for the violation by the date specified in the federal citation; or				
21 22	(ii) Either has failed to file a notice of his intention to stand trial for the violation, or, if electing to stand trial, has failed to appear for trial.				
23	26-401.				
26	If a person is taken before a District Court commissioner or is given a traffic citation or a civil citation under § 21-202.1 OR § 21-809 of this article containing a notice to appear in court, the commissioner or court shall be one that sits within the county in which the offense allegedly was committed.				
28	SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:				
	(1) Beginning in fiscal year 2004 and each fiscal year thereafter, each local jurisdiction shall use the revenues generated from the enforcement of speed limit laws as authorized under this Act solely to increase local expenditures for related				

- 32 public safety purposes, including pedestrian safety programs; and
- Related public safety expenditures required under this Section shall be used to supplement and may not supplant existing local expenditures for the same
- 35 purpose.

- 1 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be
- 2 construed to apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have
- 3 any effect on or application to any contract awarded before the effective date of this
- 4 Act.
- 5 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That an obligation or contract
- 6 right existing on the effective date of this Act may not be impaired in any way by this
- 7 Act.
- 8 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
- 9 October 1, 2003.