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By: **Senators Hooper, Dyson, Greenip, Harris, and Munson**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2005

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Motor Vehicle Registration - Annual Renewal Option**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration under certain  
4 circumstances to allow a vehicle owner to register the vehicle annually;  
5 authorizing the Administration under certain circumstances to establish a  
6 surcharge for a vehicle owner who registers the vehicle annually; requiring a  
7 vehicle owner who registers a vehicle annually to pay the registration fee  
8 surcharge under certain circumstances; establishing that the Administration  
9 may only set the registration fee surcharge in an amount to cover certain costs;  
10 and generally relating to motor vehicle registration.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article - Transportation  
13 Section 13-413 and 13-901  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

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

18 **Article - Transportation**

19 13-413.

20 (a) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle AND SUBJECT  
21 TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, the Administration may adopt a system of  
22 multiyear registration.

23 (2) IF THE ADMINISTRATION ADOPTS A SYSTEM OF MULTIYEAR  
24 REGISTRATION, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ALLOW A VEHICLE OWNER THE  
25 OPTION TO REGISTER THE VEHICLE ANNUALLY.

26 (b) Vehicle registration plates or validation tabs shall be issued and displayed  
27 in accordance with a schedule established by the Administrator.

1 (c) (1) The fee for a multiyear registration is the same as the annual  
2 registration fee established under this title multiplied by the number of years for  
3 which the registration is issued.

4 (2) (I) IF THE ADMINISTRATION ADOPTS A SYSTEM OF MULTIYEAR  
5 REGISTRATION, THE ADMINISTRATION MAY ESTABLISH A REGISTRATION FEE  
6 SURCHARGE FOR A VEHICLE OWNER WHO OPTS TO REGISTER THE VEHICLE  
7 ANNUALLY.

8 (II) THE ADMINISTRATION MAY ONLY SET THE REGISTRATION FEE  
9 SURCHARGE IN AN AMOUNT TO COVER THE ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF  
10 ANNUAL REGISTRATION.

11 (d) The Administration shall refund the registration fees upon surrender of  
12 the registration card and registration plates if the return is made before the  
13 beginning of any 12-month registration year for which the application for refund is  
14 made.

15 (e) The Administration may adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of  
16 this section.

17 13-901.

18 (A) The fees specified in this subtitle for the registration of a classified vehicle  
19 or for any interchangeable registration shall be paid to the Administration:

20 (1) Before issuance of the registration and any registration plates and  
21 registration cards; and

22 (2) Except as otherwise expressly provided, during each registration  
23 year before the issuance or renewal of the registration.

24 (B) IF APPLICABLE, A VEHICLE OWNER SHALL PAY THE REGISTRATION FEE  
25 SURCHARGE ESTABLISHED UNDER § 13-413(C)(2) OF THIS TITLE IN ADDITION TO THE  
26 ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
28 October 1, 2005.