

# HOUSE BILL 847

R4

8lr2406

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By: **Delegate Schuler**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2008

Assigned to: Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Falsifying Documents and Registration Plates – Arrest and**  
3 **Penalties**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing a police officer to arrest an individual without a  
5 warrant for a violation of certain provisions of law related to falsifying certain  
6 vehicle–related documents and registration plates; making a violation of certain  
7 provisions of law related to falsifying certain vehicle–related documents and  
8 registration plates a felony; altering a certain penalty; and generally relating to  
9 penalties for falsifying certain vehicle–related documents and registration  
10 plates.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
12 Article – Transportation  
13 Section 14–110  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
17 Article – Transportation  
18 Section 26–202(a)(3)(vii) and (viii) and 27–101(c)  
19 Annotated Code of Maryland  
20 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

21 BY adding to  
22 Article – Transportation  
23 Section 26–202(a)(3)(ix) and 27–114  
24 Annotated Code of Maryland  
25 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

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

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **Article – Transportation**

2 14–110.

3 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

4 (2) “Falsify” includes alter, counterfeit, duplicate, or forge.

5 (3) “Registration plate” means every plate or marker required by law  
6 to be attached to a vehicle, but does not include the temporary number plate referred  
7 to in § 13–415(e)(1) of this article.

8 (b) A person may not, with fraudulent intent, falsify or attempt to falsify any  
9 certificate of title, registration card, registration plate, validation tab, permit, or any  
10 other official document issued by the Administration.

11 (c) A person may not, with fraudulent intent, manufacture, construct, or  
12 possess any paraphernalia for use in any falsification prohibited by this section.

13 (d) A person may not, with fraudulent intent, possess, give away, sell, or  
14 attempt to sell any item falsified in violation of this section.

15 (e) A person may not, with fraudulent intent, falsify any assignment on a  
16 certificate of title.

17 (f) A person may not hold any document or registration plate described in  
18 this section, knowing that it has been falsified in violation of this section.

19 (g) A person may not use any document or registration plate described in  
20 this section, knowing that it has been falsified in violation of this section.

21 26–202.

22 (a) A police officer may arrest without a warrant a person for a violation of  
23 the Maryland Vehicle Law, including any rule or regulation adopted under it, or for a  
24 violation of any traffic law or ordinance of any local authority of this State, if:

25 (3) The officer has probable cause to believe that the person has  
26 committed the violation, and the violation is any of the following offenses:

27 (vii) Fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer; [or]

28 (viii) Driving or attempting to drive a vehicle in violation of §  
29 16–101 of this article; **OR**

30 **(IX) A VIOLATION OF § 14–110 OF THIS ARTICLE;**

1 27–101.

2 (c) Any person who is convicted of a violation of any of the provisions of the  
3 following sections of this article is subject to a fine of not more than \$500 or  
4 imprisonment for not more than 2 months or both:

5 (1) § 12–301(c), (d), (e), or (f) (“Special identification cards: Fraud and  
6 misrepresentation prohibited”);

7 (2) § 14–102 (“Taking or driving vehicle without consent of owner”);

8 (3) § 14–104 (“Damaging or tampering with vehicle”);

9 (4) § 14–107 (“Removed, falsified, or unauthorized identification  
10 number or registration card or plate”);

11 (5) [§ 14–110 (“Altered or forged documents and plates”);

12 (6)] § 15–312 (“Dealers: Prohibited acts – Vehicle sales transactions”);

13 [(7)](6) § 15–313 (“Dealers: Prohibited acts – Advertising practices”);

14 [(8)](7) § 15–314 (“Dealers: Prohibited acts – Violation of licensing  
15 laws”);

16 [(9)](8) § 15–411 (“Vehicle salesmen: Prohibited acts”);

17 [(10)](9) § 15–502(c) (“Storage of certain vehicles by unlicensed  
18 persons prohibited”);

19 [(11)](10) § 16–113(j) (“Violation of alcohol restriction ordered by a  
20 court”);

21 [(12)](11) § 16–301 (“Unlawful application for or use of license”);

22 [(13)](12) § 16–303(h) (“Licenses suspended under certain provisions of  
23 Code”);

24 [(14)](13) § 16–303(i) (“Licenses suspended under certain provisions of  
25 the traffic laws or regulations of another state”);

26 [(15)](14) § 18–106 (“Unauthorized use of rented motor vehicle”);

27 [(16)](15) § 20–103 (“Driver to remain at scene – Accidents resulting  
28 only in damage to attended vehicle or property”);

1            [(17)](16) § 20–104 (“Duty to give information and render aid”);

2            [(18)](17) § 20–105 (“Duty on striking unattended vehicle or other  
3 property”);

4            [(19)](18) § 20–108 (“False reports prohibited”);

5            [(20)](19) § 21–206 (“Interference with traffic control devices or  
6 railroad signs and signals”);

7            [(21)](20) As to a pedestrian in a marked crosswalk, § 21–502(a)  
8 (“Pedestrians’ right-of-way in crosswalks: In general”), if the violation contributes to  
9 an accident;

10           [(22)](21) As to another vehicle stopped at a marked crosswalk, §  
11 21–502(c) (“Passing of vehicle stopped for pedestrian prohibited”), if the violation  
12 contributes to an accident;

13           [(23)](22) Except as provided in subsections (f) and (q) of this section, §  
14 21–902(b) (“Driving while impaired by alcohol”);

15           [(24)](23) Except as provided in subsections (f) and (q) of this section, §  
16 21–902(c) (“Driving while impaired by drugs or drugs and alcohol”);

17           [(25)](24) § 21–902.1 (“Driving within 12 hours after arrest”); or

18           [(26)](25) § 27–107(d), (e), (f), or (g) (“Prohibited acts – Ignition  
19 interlock systems”).

20    **27–114.**

21            **A PERSON WHO VIOLATES § 14–110 OF THIS ARTICLE IS GUILTY OF A**  
22 **FELONY AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE**  
23 **THAN 2 MONTHS OR A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$1,000 OR BOTH.**

24            SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
25 October 1, 2008.