HOUSE BILL 1004

R2

9lr2677

By: **Delegates Conaway and Rosenberg** Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2009 Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Transportation - Parking Facilities - Towing Prohibited Unless Parking 3 Payment Options Available

FOR the purpose of prohibiting the owner or other person in charge of a parking facility from using towing to enforce certain parking restrictions unless the facility allows customers the option to pay for parking using currency or credit, debit, or other charge cards; defining a term; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to a prohibition on towing at a parking facility.

- 9 BY adding to
- 10 Article Transportation
- 11 Section 26–307
- 12 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 13 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

- 16 Article Transportation
- 17 **26–307.**
- 18 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "PARKING FACILITY" MEANS:
- 19(1) A GARAGE, STRUCTURE, OR PART OF A STRUCTURE FOR THE20PARKING, STORAGE, HOUSING, OR KEEPING OF THREE OR MORE MOTOR
- 21 $\,$ $\,$ Vehicles in exchange for a fee or other consideration; or

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) A PARKING LOT OR OUTDOOR AREA OR SPACE FOR THE 2 PARKING, HOUSING, OR KEEPING OF THREE OR MORE MOTOR VEHICLES IN 3 EXCHANGE FOR A FEE OR OTHER CONSIDERATION.

4 (B) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS 5 SUBSECTION, THIS SECTION APPLIES TO ANY PARKING FACILITY THAT 6 PROVIDES PARKING ON AN HOURLY OR DAILY BASIS.

7 (2) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO PUBLICLY OWNED OR 8 CONTROLLED METERED PARKING SPACES.

9 (C) THE OWNER OR OTHER PERSON IN CHARGE OF A PARKING FACILITY 10 MAY NOT USE TOWING SERVICES TO ENFORCE PARKING RESTRICTIONS FOR THE 11 PARKING FACILITY UNLESS THE FACILITY ALLOWS THE CUSTOMER TO PAY FOR 12 HOURLY OR DAILY PARKING:

13(1)WITH A CREDIT CARD, DEBIT CARD, OR OTHER CHARGE CARD;14OR

15 (2) IN CASH, USING ANY COMBINATION OF UNITED STATES COINS
 16 OR PAPER CURRENCY UP TO AND INCLUDING A \$20 BILL.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effectOctober 1, 2009.