

HOUSE BILL 74

R2, R1

11r0716

By: **Delegates McConkey, Dwyer, George, Holmes, and Vitale**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2011

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Transportation Authority – Chesapeake Bay Bridge – Electronic Toll**
3 **Collection**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Transportation Authority to take all
5 necessary actions to ensure that by a certain date all tolls collected in
6 connection with the William Preston Lane, Jr. Memorial Chesapeake Bay
7 Bridge and parallel Chesapeake Bay Bridge are collected by means of electronic
8 toll collection; and generally relating to electronic toll collection on the
9 Chesapeake Bay Bridge.

10 Preamble

11 WHEREAS, According to the Maryland Transportation Authority,
12 approximately 65,000 vehicles cross the Chesapeake Bay Bridge on an average
13 weekday and as many as 95,000 vehicles cross the bridge on a summer weekend day;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, The 2004 Bay Bridge Transportation Needs Report estimated that,
16 by 2025, traffic will increase on the bridge by at least 41% over 2001 levels on both
17 weekdays and summer Saturdays; and

18 WHEREAS, The problem of traffic congestion on the Chesapeake Bay Bridge is
19 a pressing issue that must be addressed; and

20 WHEREAS, Electronic toll collection systems can increase traffic flow by
21 reducing toll transaction and waiting times; and

22 WHEREAS, Electronic toll collection systems reduce vehicular emissions and
23 enhance fuel savings by eliminating acceleration and idling of vehicles; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 WHEREAS, Electronic toll collection systems produce cost savings by reducing
2 the number of personnel required for toll collection; now, therefore,

3 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
4 MARYLAND, That the Maryland Transportation Authority shall take all actions
5 necessary to ensure that, by January 1, 2020, all tolls collected in connection with the
6 William Preston Lane, Jr. Memorial Chesapeake Bay Bridge and parallel Chesapeake
7 Bay Bridge are collected by means of electronic toll collection.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
9 October 1, 2011.