

# HOUSE BILL 111

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By: **Delegates Anderson, Braveboy, Cane, Carter, Conaway, Glenn, Haynes, Holmes, McDermott, McIntosh, Mitchell, Nathan-Pulliam, Oaks, Pena-Melnyk, B. Robinson, Rosenberg, Washington, and Zucker**

Introduced and read first time: January 19, 2012

Assigned to: Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law – Failure to Return Rental Vehicle – Repeal**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing a certain crime of abandonment of a rented motor  
4 vehicle or refusal or willful neglect to return a rented motor vehicle at the end of  
5 the leasing or rental period; making a certain conforming change; providing for  
6 the application of this Act; and generally relating to repealing a certain crime of  
7 failure to return a rental vehicle.

8 BY repealing

9 Article – Criminal Law

10 Section 7–205

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2002 Volume and 2011 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

14 Article – Transportation

15 Section 14–105

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Criminal Law**

21 [7–205.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (a) A person who leases or rents a motor vehicle under an agreement to  
2 return the motor vehicle at the end of the leasing or rental period may not abandon  
3 the motor vehicle or refuse or willfully neglect to return it.

4 (b) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on  
5 conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 1 year or a fine not exceeding \$500  
6 or both.]

## 7 Article – Transportation

8 14–105.

9 (a) If a police officer receives reliable information that a vehicle has been  
10 stolen, the police officer shall immediately report the theft to the Administration and  
11 the Department of State Police, unless the police officer has received reliable  
12 information of the recovery of the vehicle.

13 (b) [An alleged violation under § 7–205 of the Criminal Law Article shall be  
14 a reportable theft of a vehicle for purposes of subsection (a) of this section.

15 (c) If a police officer receives reliable information that a vehicle which he  
16 previously reported stolen has been recovered, he shall immediately report the  
17 recovery to the Administration and the Department of State Police.

18 [(d)] (C) If a vehicle titled or registered in this State has been stolen, the  
19 owner or secured party may notify the Administration of the theft.

20 [(e)] (D) Every person who has given notice under subsection [(d)] (C) of  
21 this section shall notify the Administration of a recovery of the vehicle.

22 [(f)] (E) The Administration shall maintain and appropriately index  
23 cumulative public records of stolen vehicles reported to it under this section.

24 [(g)] (F) The Administration may suspend the registration of a vehicle  
25 whose theft is reported to it under this section.

26 [(h)] (G) Until the Administration learns of the recovery of the vehicle or  
27 that the report of its theft was erroneous, it may not issue a certificate of title for the  
28 vehicle.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be  
30 construed to apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have  
31 any effect on or application to any offense committed before the effective date of this  
32 Act.

1           SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2    October 1, 2012.