

# HOUSE BILL 719

D3

5lr0743

---

By: **Delegates Sydnor, Barron, Haynes, and Vallario**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2015

Assigned to: Judiciary

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **District Court Jurisdiction – Uninsured Motorist Claim**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the exclusive original civil jurisdiction of the District Court to  
4 include an action for first-party motor vehicle insurance benefits for uninsured  
5 motorist coverage under certain circumstances; providing for the application of this  
6 Act; and generally relating to the exclusive original civil jurisdiction of the District  
7 Court.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
10 Section 4-401(17) and (18)  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

13 BY adding to  
14 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
15 Section 4-401(19)  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

21 4-401.

22 Except as provided in § 4-402 of this subtitle, and subject to the venue provisions of  
23 Title 6 of this article, the District Court has exclusive original civil jurisdiction in:

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1                   (17) An action for damages for a dishonored check or other instrument under  
2 Title 15, Subtitle 8 of the Commercial Law Article, regardless of the amount in controversy;  
3 [and]

4                   (18) A civil action for an injunction or for a civil penalty for a violation of §  
5 8-605(f) of the Transportation Article; AND

6                   **(19) A CIVIL ACTION FOR FIRST-PARTY MOTOR VEHICLE BENEFITS**  
7 **FOR UNINSURED MOTORIST COVERAGE UNDER TITLE 19, SUBTITLE 5 OF THE**  
8 **INSURANCE ARTICLE IN WHICH:**

9                   **(I) THE DAMAGES CLAIMED DO NOT EXCEED \$50,000,**  
10 **EXCLUSIVE OF PREJUDGMENT OR POSTJUDGMENT INTEREST, COSTS, AND**  
11 **ATTORNEY'S FEES, IF ATTORNEY'S FEES ARE RECOVERABLE BY LAW OR CONTRACT;**  
12 **AND**

13                   **(II) THE AMOUNT OF THE UNINSURED MOTORIST'S LIABILITY**  
14 **INSURANCE COVERAGE DOES NOT EXCEED \$30,000.**

15                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be construed to  
16 apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have any effect on or  
17 application to any case filed before the effective date of this Act.

18                   SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
19 October 1, 2015.