

SENATE BILL 501

R7

9lr1214
CF 9lr1076

By: **Washington County Senators**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2019

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Washington County – Abandoned Vehicles – Regulation by Local Authority**

3 FOR the purpose of clarifying that a local authority in Washington County may exercise
4 regulatory power over abandoned vehicles on a highway under the local authority's
5 jurisdiction; and generally relating to the regulatory power of a local authority in
6 Washington County over a highway under the local authority's jurisdiction.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

8 Article – Transportation

9 Section 25–102(a)(1) and 25–201(a) and (b)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

13 Article – Transportation

14 Section 25–102(a)(18) and (19)

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

17 BY adding to

18 Article – Transportation

19 Section 25–102(a)(20)

20 Annotated Code of Maryland

21 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

22 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

23 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

24 **Article – Transportation**

25 25–102.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (a) The provisions of the Maryland Vehicle Law do not prevent a local authority,
2 in the reasonable exercise of its police power, from exercising the following powers as to
3 highways under its jurisdiction:

4 (1) Subject to the provisions of § 21–1003.1 of this article, regulating or
5 prohibiting the stopping, standing, or parking of vehicles;

6 (18) Authorizing an emergency vehicle not subject to registration to operate
7 on a highway while performing an emergency service as defined in § 19–103 of this article;
8 [and]

9 (19) Authorizing a person to cross a highway on an all–terrain vehicle at a
10 right angle to access a farm or to move from one part of a farm to another part of the same
11 farm; **AND**

12 **(20) IN WASHINGTON COUNTY, SUBJECT TO SUBTITLE 2 OF THIS**
13 **TITLE, REGULATING ABANDONED VEHICLES AS DEFINED IN § 25–201 OF THIS TITLE.**

14 25–201.

15 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

16 (b) “Abandoned vehicle” means any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer:

17 (1) That is inoperable and left unattended on public property for more than
18 48 hours;

19 (2) That has remained illegally on public property for more than 48 hours;

20 (3) That has remained on private property for more than 48 hours without
21 the consent of the owner or person in control of the property;

22 (4) That has remained in a garage for more than 10 days after the garage
23 keeper has given the owner of the vehicle notice by certified mail, return receipt requested,
24 bearing a postmark from the United States Postal Service, to remove the vehicle;

25 (5) That has remained in a garage for more than 10 days after the period
26 when, by contract, the vehicle was to remain in the garage;

27 (6) That was left for more than 10 days in a garage by:

28 (i) Someone other than its registered owner; or

29 (ii) A person authorized to have possession of the vehicle under a
30 contract of use, service, storage, or repair;

- 1 (7) That has remained on public property for more than 48 hours and:
 - 2 (i) Is not displaying currently valid registration plates; or
 - 3 (ii) Is displaying registration plates of another vehicle;
- 4 (8) That has been left unattended on any portion of a “controlled access
5 highway” as defined in § 8–101(f) of this article for more than 24 hours;
- 6 (9) That has been left unattended on any portion of a primary or secondary
7 highway or controlled access highway, as defined in § 8–101 of this article, and is in
8 violation of any of the provisions of § 22–408 of this article; or
- 9 (10) That is not reclaimed as provided under § 27–111 of this article.

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
11 October 1, 2019.