

# SENATE BILL 59

R2, R5

(PRE-FILED)

2lr1150  
CF HB 582

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By: ~~Senator McCray~~ Senators McCray, Corderman, Eckardt, Edwards, Elfreth, Griffith, Guzzone, Hershey, Jackson, King, Rosapepe, Salling, Young, and Zucker

Requested: November 1, 2021

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2022

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted with floor amendments

Read second time: February 27, 2022

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Transportation Authority – Public-Private Partnerships and Options**  
3 **for the Payment of Tolls and Civil Penalties**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Transportation Authority to issue an invitation  
5 for competitive sealed bids for a public-private partnership related to tolling services  
6 or a toll facility; requiring the Authority, at least a certain number of days before  
7 issuing an invitation for competitive sealed bids related to tolling services or a toll  
8 facility, to publish notice of an invitation for competitive sealed bids, and to submit  
9 a copy of the invitation to the Legislative Policy Committee; requiring the Authority  
10 to provide, ~~to the greatest extent feasible~~ when feasible and practicable, certain users  
11 of transportation facilities projects a range of options to pay for certain toll  
12 transactions and penalties; requiring the Authority to offer a certain installment  
13 plan agreement to certain persons for the payment of certain tolls and penalties;  
14 requiring the Authority to offer certain account holders a certain option to be billed  
15 for certain toll charges in certain installment amounts under certain circumstances;  
16 authorizing the Authority to refer certain ~~unpaid tolls and penalties~~ delinquent  
17 accounts to the Central Collection Unit for collection; requiring the Authority to  
18 recall certain unpaid video tolls and penalties from the Central Collection Unit under  
19 certain circumstances; requiring the Authority to waive certain penalties under  
20 certain circumstances; requiring the Authority to notify certain individuals eligible  
21 for a certain reimbursement; and generally relating to the Maryland Transportation  
22 Authority and the payment of tolls and civil penalties.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
2 Article – State Finance and Procurement  
3 Section 3–302  
4 Annotated Code of Maryland  
5 (2021 Replacement Volume)

6 BY adding to  
7 Article – State Finance and Procurement  
8 Section 10A–202.1  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2021 Replacement Volume)

11 BY adding to  
12 Article – Transportation  
13 Section 4–408  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
17 Article – Transportation  
18 Section 21–1414  
19 Annotated Code of Maryland  
20 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

23 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

24 3–302.

25 (a) (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this section,  
26 paragraph (2)(ii) of this subsection, or in other law, the Central Collection Unit is  
27 responsible for the collection of each delinquent account or other debt that is owed to the  
28 State or any of its officials or units.

29 (2) (i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, an  
30 official or unit of the State government shall refer to the Central Collection Unit each debt  
31 for which the Central Collection Unit has collection responsibility under this subsection  
32 and may not settle the debt.

33 (ii) A public institution of higher education may not refer a  
34 delinquent student account or debt to the Central Collection Unit unless, in accordance  
35 with § 15–119 of the Education Article:

1                   1.     the delinquent account or debt has not been settled by the  
2 end of the late registration period of the semester after the student account became  
3 delinquent; or

4                   2.     the student has not entered into or made timely payments  
5 to satisfy an installment payment plan.

6                   (3)    For the purposes of this subtitle, a community college or board of  
7 trustees for a community college established or operating under Title 16 of the Education  
8 Article is a unit of the State.

9                   (b)    Unless, with the approval of the Secretary, a unit of the State government  
10 assigns the claim to the Central Collection Unit, the Central Collection Unit is not  
11 responsible for and may not collect:

12                   (1)    any taxes;

13                   (2)    any child support payment that is owed under § 5–308 of the Human  
14 Services Article;

15                   (3)    any unemployment insurance contribution or overpayment;

16                   (4)    any fine;

17                   (5)    any court costs;

18                   (6)    any forfeiture on bond;

19                   (7)    any money that is owed as a result of a default on a loan that the  
20 Department of Commerce or the Department of Housing and Community Development has  
21 made or insured;

22                   (8)    any money that is owed under Title 9, Subtitles 2, 3, and 4 and Title 20  
23 of the Insurance Article; [or]

24                   (9)    any money that is owed for unpaid video tolls and associated civil  
25 penalties under § 21–1414 of the Transportation Article under a delinquent account  
26 associated with a person residing outside the State; **OR**

27                   **(10) ANY MONEY THAT IS OWED UNDER A DELINQUENT ACCOUNT FOR**  
28 **UNPAID ~~VIDEO~~ TOLLS OR VIDEO TOLLS AND ASSOCIATED CIVIL PENALTIES AND IS**  
29 **RECALLED BY THE MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY UNDER § 21–1414(H)**  
30 **OF THE TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE.**

31                   (c)    The Central Collection Unit shall be responsible for the collection of each  
32 delinquent account or other debt that is owed to a community college established or

1 operating under Title 16 of the Education Article if the board of trustees for the community  
2 college:

3 (1) adopts a resolution appointing the Central Collection Unit as the  
4 collector of delinquent accounts or other debt; and

5 (2) submits the resolution to the Central Collection Unit.

6 **10A-202.1.**

7 (A) (1) **FOR A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP RELATED TO TOLLING**  
8 **SERVICES OR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, OR OPERATION OF A TOLL**  
9 **FACILITY, THE MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY SHALL ISSUE AN**  
10 **INVITATION FOR COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDS.**

11 (2) **EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION, THE**  
12 **MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY SHALL ISSUE AN INVITATION FOR**  
13 **COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 13-103 OF THIS ARTICLE.**

14 (B) **AT LEAST 60 DAYS BEFORE ISSUING AN INVITATION FOR COMPETITIVE**  
15 **SEALED BIDS RELATED TO TOLLING SERVICES OR THE CONSTRUCTION,**  
16 **MAINTENANCE, OR OPERATION OF A TOLL FACILITY, THE MARYLAND**  
17 **TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY SHALL:**

18 (1) **PUBLISH NOTICE OF AN INVITATION FOR COMPETITIVE SEALED**  
19 **BIDS:**

20 (I) **ON A BID BOARD OR eMARYLAND MARKETPLACE; OR**

21 (II) **IN A NEWSPAPER, PERIODICAL, OR TRADE JOURNAL; AND**

22 (2) **SUBMIT A COPY OF THE INVITATION FOR COMPETITIVE SEALED**  
23 **BIDS TO THE LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN**  
24 **ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.**

25 **Article – Transportation**

26 **4-408.**

27 (A) (1) **IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**  
28 **INDICATED.**

29 (2) **“E-ZPASS ACCOUNT” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 21-1416 OF**  
30 **THIS ARTICLE.**

1           (3) “TOLL COLLECTION FACILITY” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN §  
2 21-1414 OF THIS ARTICLE.

3           (B) ~~TO THE GREATEST EXTENT FEASIBLE~~ WHEN FEASIBLE AND  
4 PRACTICABLE, THE AUTHORITY SHALL PROVIDE TO ~~E-ZPASS ACCOUNT HOLDERS~~  
5 ~~AND OTHER~~ USERS OF TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES PROJECTS A RANGE OF  
6 OPTIONS TO PAY FOR ~~TOLL TRANSACTIONS AT TOLL COLLECTION FACILITIES~~ TOLLS  
7 AND ANY ASSOCIATED CIVIL PENALTIES FOR TOLL VIOLATIONS, INCLUDING  
8 PAYMENT BY:

9           (1) CASH;

10          (2) CHECK;

11          (3) MONEY ORDER; AND

12          (4) AN ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER THROUGH THE USE OF:

13               (I) A CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD;

14               (II) AN AUTOMATED CLEARING HOUSE (ACH) TRANSFER; OR

15               (III) AN ONLINE PAYMENT SYSTEM, ~~INCLUDING A MONEY~~  
16 ~~TRANSFER THROUGH A DIGITAL WALLET PAYMENT PLATFORM OR OTHER MOBILE~~  
17 ~~PAYMENT SERVICE.~~

18 21-1414.

19          (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

20               (2) “Authority” means the Maryland Transportation Authority.

21               (3) “Electronic toll collection” means a system in a toll collection facility  
22 that is capable of collecting information from a motor vehicle for use in charging tolls.

23               (4) “Notice of toll due” or “notice” means an administrative notice of a video  
24 toll transaction.

25               (5) “Person alleged to be liable” means:

26                       (i) The registered owner of a motor vehicle involved in a video toll  
27 transaction; or

1 (ii) A person to whom a registered owner of a motor vehicle has  
2 transferred liability for a video toll transaction in accordance with this section and the  
3 regulations of the Authority.

4 (6) "Recorded image" means an image of a motor vehicle passing through a  
5 toll collection facility recorded by a video monitoring system:

6 (i) On:

7 1. One or more photographs, micrographs, or electronic  
8 images;

9 2. Videotape; or

10 3. Any other medium; and

11 (ii) Showing either the front or rear of the motor vehicle on at least  
12 one image or portion of tape and clearly identifying the license plate number and state of  
13 the motor vehicle.

14 (7) "Registered owner" means, with respect to a motor vehicle, the person  
15 or persons designated as the registered owner in the records of the government agency that  
16 is responsible for motor vehicle registration.

17 (8) "Toll collection facility" means any point on an Authority highway  
18 where a toll is incurred and is required to be paid.

19 (9) "Toll violation" means the failure to pay a video toll within the time  
20 prescribed by the Authority in a notice of toll due.

21 (10) "Video monitoring system" means a device installed to work in  
22 conjunction with a toll collection facility that produces a recorded image when a video toll  
23 transaction occurs.

24 (11) "Video toll" means the amount assessed by the Authority when a video  
25 toll transaction occurs.

26 (12) "Video toll transaction" means any transaction in which a motor vehicle  
27 does not or did not pay a toll at the time of passage through a toll collection facility with a  
28 video monitoring system.

29 (b) (1) Except as provided in subsection (g) of this section, the registered owner  
30 of a motor vehicle shall be liable to the Authority for payment of a video toll as provided for  
31 in the regulations of the Authority.

32 (2) The Authority shall send the registered owner of a motor vehicle that  
33 has incurred a video toll a notice of toll due.

1           (3) Except as provided in subsection (g) of this section, the person alleged  
2 to be liable who receives a notice of toll due shall have at least 30 days to pay the video toll.

3           (c) (1) Failure of the person alleged to be liable to pay the video toll under a  
4 notice of toll due by the date stated on the notice shall constitute a toll violation subject to  
5 a civil citation and a civil penalty, which shall be assessed 15 days after the toll violation  
6 occurs, as provided for in the regulations of the Authority.

7           (2) A registered owner of a motor vehicle shall not be liable for a civil  
8 penalty imposed under this section if the operator of the motor vehicle has been convicted  
9 of failure or refusal to pay a toll under § 21-1413 of this subtitle for the same violation.

10          (d) (1) The Authority or its duly authorized agent shall send a citation via  
11 first-class mail, no later than 60 days after the toll violation, to the person alleged to be  
12 liable under this section.

13          (2) Personal service of the citation on the person alleged to be liable shall  
14 not be required, and a record of mailing kept in the ordinary course of business shall be  
15 admissible evidence of the mailing of the notice of toll due and citation.

16          (3) A citation shall contain:

17                   (i) The name and address of the person alleged to be liable under  
18 this section;

19                   (ii) The license plate number and state of registration of the motor  
20 vehicle involved in the video toll transaction;

21                   (iii) The location where the video toll transaction took place;

22                   (iv) The date and time of the video toll transaction;

23                   (v) The amount of the video toll and the date it was due as stated on  
24 the notice of toll due;

25                   (vi) A copy of the recorded image;

26                   (vii) A statement that the video toll was not paid before the civil  
27 penalty was assessed;

28                   (viii) The amount of the civil penalty; and

29                   (ix) The date by which the video toll and civil penalty must be paid.

30          (4) A citation shall also include:

1 (i) Information advising the person alleged to be liable under this  
2 section of the manner and the time in which liability alleged in the citation may be  
3 contested;

4 (ii) The statutory defenses described in subsection (g) of this section  
5 that were originally included in the notice of toll due; and

6 (iii) A warning that failure to pay the video toll and civil penalty, to  
7 contest liability in the manner and time prescribed, or to appear at a trial requested is an  
8 admission of liability and a waiver of available defenses, and may result in the refusal or  
9 suspension of the motor vehicle registration and referral for collection.

10 (5) A person alleged to be liable receiving the citation for a toll violation  
11 under this section may:

12 (i) Pay the video toll and the civil penalty directly to the Authority;  
13 or

14 (ii) Elect to stand trial for the alleged violation.

15 (6) (i) If the person alleged to be liable under this section fails to elect  
16 to stand trial or to pay the prescribed video toll and civil penalty within 30 days after  
17 mailing of the citation, or is adjudicated to be liable after trial, or fails to appear at trial  
18 after having elected to stand trial, the Authority or its duly authorized agent may:

19 1. Collect the video toll and the civil penalty by any means of  
20 collection as provided by law; and

21 2. Notify the Administration of the failure to pay the video  
22 toll and civil penalty in accordance with subsection (i) of this section.

23 (ii) No additional hearing or proceeding is required before the  
24 Administration takes action with respect to the motor vehicle of the registered owner under  
25 subsection (i) of this section.

26 (e) (1) A certificate alleging that a toll violation occurred and that the video  
27 toll payment was not received before the civil penalty was assessed, sworn to or affirmed  
28 by a duly authorized agent of the Authority, based upon inspection of a recorded image and  
29 electronic toll collection records produced by an electronic toll collection video monitoring  
30 system shall be evidence of the facts contained therein and shall be admissible in any  
31 proceeding alleging a violation under this section without the presence or testimony of the  
32 duly authorized agent who performed the requirements under this section.

33 (2) The citation, including the certificate, shall constitute prima facie  
34 evidence of liability for the toll violation and civil penalty.

35 (f) Adjudication of liability under this section:

1 (1) Shall be based upon a preponderance of evidence;

2 (2) May not be deemed a conviction of a registered owner of a motor vehicle  
3 under the Motor Vehicle Code;

4 (3) May not be made part of the registered owner's motor vehicle operating  
5 record; and

6 (4) May not be considered in the provision of motor vehicle insurance  
7 coverage.

8 (g) (1) If, at the time of a video toll transaction, a motor vehicle is operated by  
9 a person other than the registered owner without the express or implied consent of the  
10 registered owner, and if the registered owner by the date stated on the notice of toll due  
11 provides the Authority or its duly authorized agent with a notarized admission by the  
12 person accepting liability which shall include that person's name, address, and driver's  
13 license identification number, then the person accepting liability shall be liable under this  
14 section and shall be sent a notice of toll due.

15 (2) If the registered owner is a lessor of motor vehicles, and at the time of  
16 the video toll transaction the motor vehicle involved was in the possession of a lessee, and  
17 the lessor by the date stated on the notice of toll due provides the Authority or its duly  
18 authorized agent with a copy of the lease agreement or other documentation acceptable to  
19 the Authority identifying the lessee, including the person's name, address, and driver's  
20 license identification number or federal employer identification number, then the lessee  
21 shall be liable under this section and shall be sent a notice of toll due.

22 (3) If the motor vehicle involved in a video toll transaction is operated using  
23 a dealer or transporter registration plate, and at the time of the video toll transaction the  
24 motor vehicle was under the custody and control of a person other than the owner of the  
25 dealer or transporter registration plate, and if the owner of the dealer or transporter  
26 registration plate by the date stated on the notice of toll due provides to the Authority or  
27 its duly authorized agent a copy of the contractual agreement or other documentation  
28 acceptable to the Authority identifying the person, including the person's name, address,  
29 and driver's license identification number, who had custody and control over the motor  
30 vehicle at the time of the video toll transaction, then that person and not the owner of the  
31 dealer or transporter registration plate shall be liable under this section and shall be sent  
32 a notice of toll due.

33 (4) If a motor vehicle or registration plate number is reported to a law  
34 enforcement agency as stolen at the time of the video toll transaction, and the registered  
35 owner by the date stated on the notice of toll due provides to the Authority or its duly  
36 authorized agent a copy of the police report substantiating that the motor vehicle was stolen  
37 at the time of the video toll transaction, then the registered owner of the motor vehicle is  
38 not liable under this section.

1 (h) (1) THE AUTHORITY MAY ~~REFER:~~

2 (I) REFER A DELINQUENT ACCOUNT FOR UNPAID VIDEO TOLLS  
 3 ~~AND ASSOCIATED CIVIL PENALTIES~~ TO THE CENTRAL COLLECTION UNIT FOR  
 4 COLLECTION; AND

5 (II) RECALL A DELINQUENT ACCOUNT FROM THE CENTRAL  
 6 COLLECTION UNIT.

7 (2) THE AUTHORITY SHALL RECALL A DELINQUENT ACCOUNT FROM  
 8 THE CENTRAL COLLECTION UNIT IF:

9 (I) THE DELINQUENT ACCOUNT EXCEEDS \$300 IN UNPAID  
 10 VIDEO TOLLS AND ASSOCIATED CIVIL PENALTIES; AND

11 (II) THE PERSON ASSOCIATED WITH THE DELINQUENT  
 12 ACCOUNT AGREES TO PAY THE UNPAID VIDEO TOLLS AND ASSOCIATED CIVIL  
 13 PENALTIES DIRECTLY TO THE AUTHORITY UNDER AN INSTALLMENT PLAN  
 14 AGREEMENT OFFERED BY THE AUTHORITY UNDER SUBSECTION (J) OF THIS  
 15 SECTION.

16 (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, until the Authority refers  
 17 the debt to the Central Collection Unit **OR AFTER THE AUTHORITY HAS RECALLED A**  
 18 **DELINQUENT ACCOUNT FROM THE CENTRAL COLLECTION UNIT**, the Authority  
 19 [may]:

20 (I) MAY waive any portion of the video toll due or civil penalty  
 21 assessed under this section; AND

22 ~~(II) SHALL WAIVE ANY CIVIL PENALTY ASSESSED UNDER THIS~~  
 23 ~~SECTION IF:~~

24 ~~1. THE NOTICE OF TOLL DUE FOR THE VIDEO TOLL IN~~  
 25 ~~QUESTION WAS SENT TO THE PERSON ALLEGED TO BE LIABLE MORE THAN 60 DAYS~~  
 26 ~~AFTER THE VIDEO TOLL TRANSACTION; AND~~

27 ~~2. THE AUTHORITY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DELAY IN~~  
 28 ~~THE TIMELY PROCESSING OF THE VIDEO TOLL TRANSACTION DUE TO~~  
 29 ~~COVID-19 RELATED OR OTHER FACTORS.~~

30 (II) SHALL WAIVE THE CIVIL PENALTY ASSOCIATED WITH A  
 31 VIDEO TOLL ON PAYMENT OF THE VIDEO TOLL IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
 32 AUTHORITY'S CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE PLAN AS APPROVED BY THE AUTHORITY ON  
 33 FEBRUARY 24, 2022.

1 (i) (1) The Administration shall refuse or suspend the registration of a motor  
2 vehicle that incurs a toll violation under this section if:

3 (i) The Maryland Transportation Authority notifies the  
4 Administration that a registered owner of the motor vehicle has been served with a citation  
5 in accordance with this section and has failed to:

6 1. Pay the video toll and the civil penalty for the toll violation  
7 by the date specified in the citation; and

8 2. Contest liability for the toll violation by the date identified  
9 and in the manner specified in the citation; or

10 (ii) The Maryland Transportation Authority or the District Court  
11 notifies the Administration that a person who elected to contest liability for a toll violation  
12 under this section has failed to:

13 1. Appear for trial or has been determined to be guilty of the  
14 toll violation; and

15 2. Pay the video toll and civil penalty.

16 (2) In conjunction with the Maryland Transportation Authority, the  
17 Administration may adopt regulations and develop procedures to carry out the refusal or  
18 suspension of a registration under this subsection.

19 (3) The procedures in this subsection are in addition to any other penalty  
20 provided by law for a toll violation under this section.

21 (4) This subsection may be applied to enforce a reciprocal agreement  
22 entered into by the State and another jurisdiction in accordance with § 21-1415 of this  
23 subtitle.

24 **(J) (1) (i) 1. THE AUTHORITY SHALL OFFER AN INSTALLMENT**  
25 **PLAN AGREEMENT TO A PERSON ALLEGED TO BE LIABLE UNDER THIS SECTION FOR**  
26 **PAYMENT OF UNPAID VIDEO TOLLS AND ANY ASSOCIATED CIVIL PENALTIES THAT**  
27 **TOTAL AT LEAST \$300.**

28 **2. THE AUTHORITY MAY NOT OFFER MORE THAN ONE**  
29 **INSTALLMENT PLAN AGREEMENT TO A PERSON ALLEGED TO BE LIABLE UNDER THIS**  
30 **SECTION FOR PAYMENT OF THE SAME UNPAID VIDEO TOLLS AND ASSOCIATED CIVIL**  
31 **PENALTIES.**

32 **(II) AN INSTALLMENT PLAN AGREEMENT UNDER THIS**  
33 **PARAGRAPH SHALL REQUIRE THE PERSON ALLEGED TO BE LIABLE TO MAKE**

1 MONTHLY INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS ~~OF 10% PER MONTH ON~~ UNTIL THE TOTAL  
 2 AMOUNT OF THE UNPAID VIDEO TOLLS AND ANY ASSOCIATED CIVIL PENALTIES  
 3 OWED BY THE PERSON ARE PAID.

4 (III) THE AUTHORITY MAY CHARGE AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE  
 5 FOR AN INSTALLMENT PLAN AGREEMENT ON THE TOTAL AMOUNT OWED, NOT TO  
 6 EXCEED THE FEE AUTHORIZED BY THE CENTRAL COLLECTION UNIT FOR AN  
 7 INSTALLMENT PLAN AGREEMENT.

8 ~~(H) (IV)~~ IF A PERSON FAILS TO ~~PAY VIDEO TOLLS AND CIVIL~~  
 9 ~~PENALTIES OWED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AN~~ COMPLY WITH THE TERMS AND  
 10 CONDITIONS OF THE INSTALLMENT PLAN AGREEMENT, THE AUTHORITY MAY  
 11 CANCEL THE AGREEMENT AND REFER THE UNPAID ~~TOLLS AND PENALTIES~~ AMOUNT  
 12 DUE TO THE CENTRAL COLLECTION UNIT FOR COLLECTION.

13 (V) IF A PERSON DEFAULTS ON AN INSTALLMENT PLAN  
 14 AGREEMENT, THE AUTHORITY MAY NOTIFY THE ADMINISTRATION THAT A  
 15 REGISTERED OWNER OF A MOTOR VEHICLE HAS FAILED TO PAY THE AMOUNT DUE  
 16 UNDER AN INSTALLMENT PLAN AGREEMENT AND THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL  
 17 REFUSE OR SUSPEND THE REGISTRATION OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE.

18 ~~(2) (1) 1.~~ ~~IN THIS PARAGRAPH THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE~~  
 19 ~~THE MEANINGS INDICATED.~~

20 ~~2. "BACKLOG TOLL CHARGE" MEANS A TOLL FOR~~  
 21 ~~PASSAGE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE THROUGH A TOLL COLLECTION FACILITY THAT IS~~  
 22 ~~PROCESSED AND BILLED TO AN E-ZPASS ACCOUNT OR A PAY-BY-PLATE ACCOUNT~~  
 23 ~~HOLDER MORE THAN 60 DAYS AFTER THE TOLL TRANSACTION OCCURRED DUE TO~~  
 24 ~~COVID-19 RELATED OR OTHER FACTORS FOR WHICH THE AUTHORITY IS~~  
 25 ~~RESPONSIBLE.~~

26 ~~3. "E-ZPASS ACCOUNT" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN §~~  
 27 ~~21-1416 OF THIS SUBTITLE.~~

28 ~~4. "PAY-BY-PLATE ACCOUNT" MEANS AN~~  
 29 ~~ARRANGEMENT IN WHICH A TOLL INCURRED FOR PASSAGE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE~~  
 30 ~~THROUGH A TOLL COLLECTION FACILITY BY ELECTRONIC TOLL COLLECTION~~  
 31 ~~THROUGH THE USE OF A VIDEO MONITORING SYSTEM IS BILLED TO A CREDIT CARD~~  
 32 ~~OF A PERSON LINKED TO THE REGISTERED LICENSE PLATE OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE~~  
 33 ~~UNDER AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE AUTHORITY AND THE PERSON.~~

34 ~~(H) IF THE AUTHORITY BILLS AN E-ZPASS ACCOUNT HOLDER~~  
 35 ~~OR A PAY-BY-PLATE ACCOUNT HOLDER A SUM TOTAL OF BACKLOG TOLL CHARGES~~  
 36 ~~OF \$300 OR MORE, THE AUTHORITY SHALL OFFER THE ACCOUNT HOLDER AN~~

~~OPTION TO BE BILLED FOR THE BACKLOG TOLL CHARGES IN MONTHLY  
INSTALLMENT AMOUNTS OF 10% PER MONTH ON THE TOTAL BACKLOG TOLL  
CHARGES OWED BY THE ACCOUNT HOLDER.~~

~~(3)~~ (2) THE AUTHORITY SHALL:

(I) ALLOW PERSONS TO APPLY FOR THE INSTALLMENT PLAN AGREEMENT AND INSTALLMENT BILLING OPTIONS OFFERED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION ON THE AUTHORITY'S WEBSITE; AND

(II) ACCEPT AS SUFFICIENT AN ATTESTATION FROM AN APPLICANT THAT THE APPLICANT QUALIFIES FOR AN INSTALLMENT PLAN AGREEMENT OR INSTALLMENT BILLING OPTION OFFERED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION WHEN APPROVING ELIGIBILITY FOR THE OPTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before January 1, 2023, the Maryland Transportation Authority shall notify any individual who paid a civil penalty during the toll deferral period and is eligible for reimbursement of the amount paid.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) On or before December 1, ~~2023~~ 2022, the Maryland Transportation Authority shall report to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, on:

(1) the number of individuals who paid a civil penalty during the toll deferral period; and

(2) what notification of reimbursement eligibility was provided to individuals who paid a civil penalty before the establishment of the civil penalty waiver grace period.

(b) On or before July 1, 2022, and the first day of each subsequent month, the Maryland Transportation Authority shall report to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article:

(1) the number of customer service agents employed at each Maryland Transportation Authority call center during the prior month; and

(2) the number of customer service agents hired to work at each Maryland Transportation Authority call center during the prior month.

SECTION ~~2~~ 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2022. Section 3 of this Act shall remain effective for a period of 6 months and, at the end of December 31, 2022, Section 3 of this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.