

Chapter 441

(Senate Bill 705)

AN ACT concerning

Vehicle Laws – Certificate of Title – Surviving Spouse

FOR the purpose of prohibiting the Motor Vehicle Administration from charging a fee for the issuance of a new certificate of title to a surviving spouse under certain circumstances; and generally relating to fees for the issuance of a certificate of title to a surviving spouse.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Transportation

Section 13–114(d)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2020 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Transportation

Section 13–802

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2020 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

Article – Transportation

13–114.

(d) (1) If the interest of an owner in a vehicle for which a certificate of title has been issued passes to a legatee or distributee as a result of testamentary disposition or intestate devolution:

(i) An application for a new certificate of title need not be made until the expiration of the last annual registration in the name of the deceased owner; and

(ii) The certificate of title need not be submitted to the Administration until the application for a new certificate of title is made.

(2) If title is assigned properly by the personal representative of the deceased owner, a certificate of letters testamentary or of administration issued by a court of competent jurisdiction in this State is sufficient authority for the Administration to transfer the title of the vehicle of a deceased owner.

13–802.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section and § 13–805 of this subtitle, the fee for each certificate of title issued under this title is \$100.

(b) (1) The fee for each certificate of title issued for a rental vehicle is \$50.

(2) The fee for each certificate of title issued for an off–highway recreational vehicle is \$35.

(3) The fee for each certificate of title issued for a motor scooter or a moped is \$20.

(4) The fee for each certificate of title issued for a trailer with a gross vehicle weight of 3,000 pounds or less is \$50 if:

(i) The trailer is transferred to:

1. A spouse, child, grandchild, parent, sibling, grandparent, father–in–law, mother–in–law, son–in–law, or daughter–in–law of the transferor; or

2. A niece or nephew of the transferor if the transferor is at least 65 years of age at the time of the transfer; and

(ii) No money or other valuable consideration is involved in the transfer.

(5) On the death of a joint owner of a vehicle, the Administration may not charge a fee for a new certificate of title issued for the vehicle to another joint owner who is the surviving spouse.

(6) ON THE DEATH OF A SOLE OWNER OF A VEHICLE, THE ADMINISTRATION MAY NOT CHARGE A FEE FOR A NEW CERTIFICATE OF TITLE ISSUED FOR THE VEHICLE TO A SURVIVING SPOUSE IF OWNERSHIP OF THE VEHICLE IS TRANSFERRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 13–114 OF THIS TITLE.

(c) The Administration may not charge a fee for a certificate of title issued for a vehicle that is transferred to a trust or from a trust to one or more beneficiaries in accordance with § 14.5–1001 of the Estates and Trusts Article.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2023.

Approved by the Governor, May 8, 2023.