

SENATE BILL 545

R2
HB 483/21 – ENT

3lr2424

By: **Senators Muse and Jackson**
Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2023
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Committee Report: Favorable
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: March 5, 2023

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Towing or Removal of Vehicles – Reclamation Hours**

3 FOR the purpose of limiting the hours during which a certain person in possession of a
4 vehicle that has been towed or removed from a parking lot is required to provide an
5 opportunity for the vehicle owner or the owner's agent to retake possession of the
6 vehicle; altering a certain signage requirement imposed on the owner or operator of
7 a parking lot relating to hours during which a towed vehicle may be reclaimed; and
8 generally relating to retaking possession of towed vehicles.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Transportation
11 Section 21–10A–02(b)(4) and 21–10A–05(a)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Transportation**

17 21–10A–02.

18 (b) The owner or operator of a parking lot or the owner's or operator's agent may
19 not have a vehicle towed or otherwise removed from the parking lot unless the owner,

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 operator, or agent has placed in conspicuous locations, as described in subsection (c) of this
2 section, signs that:

3 (4) State that State law requires that the vehicle be available for
4 reclamation [24 hours per day] **AT A MINIMUM FROM 6 A.M. TO MIDNIGHT**, 7 days per
5 week;

6 21-10A-05.

7 (a) Subject to subsection (b) of this section, if a vehicle is towed or otherwise
8 removed from a parking lot, the person in possession of the vehicle:

9 (1) Shall immediately deliver the vehicle directly to the storage facility
10 stated on the signs posted in accordance with § 21-10A-02 of this subtitle;

11 (2) May not move the towed vehicle from that storage facility to another
12 storage facility for at least 72 hours; and

13 (3) Shall provide the owner of the vehicle or the owner's agent immediate
14 and continuous opportunity, [24 hours per day] **AT A MINIMUM FROM 6 A.M. TO**
15 **MIDNIGHT**, 7 days per week, from the time the vehicle was received at the storage facility,
16 to retake possession of the vehicle.

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

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.