

SENATE BILL 761

R4

5lr2574

By: **Senator McCray (By Request – Baltimore City Administration)**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2025

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Motor Vehicles – Installment Payment Plans – Automated Enforcement**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing civil penalties issued under an automated traffic
4 enforcement program to be included in an installment payment plan agreement with
5 the clerk of the court; and generally relating to the inclusion of civil penalties issued
6 under automated traffic enforcement programs in an installment payment plan
7 agreement.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings
10 Section 7–504.1
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

16 7–504.1.

17 (a) This section applies to a defendant who is required to pay a fine **OR CIVIL**
18 **PENALTY** for one or more traffic offenses, including one or more citations for a violation of
19 a parking ordinance or regulation adopted under Title 26, Subtitle 3 of the Transportation
20 Article.

21 (b) (1) The District Court or a circuit court may authorize the clerk of the court
22 to approve an individual installment plan agreement in accordance with this section for the
23 payment of:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (i) One or more citations for a payable violation issued under §
2 26–201 of the Transportation Article; [or]

3 (ii) One or more fines imposed at a hearing or trial by the court; **OR**

4 **(III) ONE OR MORE CIVIL CITATIONS ISSUED UNDER AN**
5 **AUTOMATED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM.**

6 (2) A defendant who agrees to enter into an installment plan agreement for
7 the payment of one or more citations **OR CIVIL CITATIONS** under paragraph [(1)(i)] **(1)** of
8 this subsection consents to conviction **OR CIVIL LIABILITY, AS APPROPRIATE**, at the time
9 of the agreement.

10 (c) (1) A defendant who is sentenced to pay one or more fines **OR CIVIL**
11 **PENALTIES** that total at least \$150 and certifies that the defendant is unable to pay the
12 fine [or], fines, **CIVIL PENALTY, OR CIVIL PENALTIES** may apply to the clerk of the court
13 to make installment payments in accordance with this section.

14 (2) An installment plan agreement under this section shall:

15 (i) Require that the defendant make installment payments on the
16 total amount of the fine [or], fines, **CIVIL PENALTY, OR CIVIL PENALTIES** covered by the
17 agreement; and

18 (ii) Specify the offenses and citations to which the agreement
19 applies.

20 (3) As a condition of an installment plan agreement, a defendant who
21 enters into the agreement shall inform the clerk of the court of any change of address during
22 the term of the agreement.

23 (4) (i) If a defendant fails to pay a fine **OR CIVIL PENALTY** in
24 accordance with an installment plan agreement under this section, the clerk of the court
25 may:

26 1. Refer the amount of the unpaid outstanding fine **OR CIVIL**
27 **PENALTY** to the Central Collection Unit of the Department of Budget and Management; or

28 2. Process the unpaid outstanding fine **OR CIVIL PENALTY**
29 as it would other outstanding fines **OR CIVIL PENALTIES** owed the court.

30 (ii) The clerk of the court shall provide notice to the defendant of the
31 disposition of the unpaid outstanding fine **OR CIVIL PENALTY** under subparagraph (i) of
32 this paragraph in the same manner required for other outstanding fines **OR CIVIL**
33 **PENALTIES** processed in the same manner.

1 (d) The requirements of subsection (c) of this section shall be posted in the clerk's
2 office and on the website of the court.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 2025.