

# HOUSE BILL 212

R4  
HB 219/25 – ENT

(PRE-FILED)

6lr0774  
CF SB 111

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By: ~~Delegate Addison~~ Delegates Addison, Allen, Behler, Boyce, Foley, Fraser-Hidalgo, Guyton, Holmes, Lewis, Odom, Stein, and Ziegler

Requested: September 4, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 26, 2026

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

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Out-of-State Motor Vehicles – ~~Improper Registration~~**  
3 **Enforcement**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Motor Vehicle Administration to take possession of  
5 certain motor vehicle registration cards and registration plates under certain  
6 circumstances; altering a certain policy of this State; authorizing the Motor Vehicle  
7 Administrator to enter into reciprocal agreements, arrangements, or declarations to  
8 provide for reciprocal enforcement of certain automated enforcement violations;  
9 prohibiting a title service agent from selling or offering for sale a certain motor  
10 vehicle registration; establishing a certain process for bringing motor vehicles owned  
11 by State residents that are improperly registered in another state into compliance  
12 with the Maryland Vehicle Law; and generally relating to ~~improperly registered~~  
13 enforcement with respect to out-of-state motor vehicles.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
15 Article – Transportation  
16 Section 12-110(a), 12-402, and 15-606  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

19 BY adding to  
20 Article – Transportation  
21 Section 12-411.1 and 26-301(b-1)

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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 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 2 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

3 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
 4 Article – Transportation  
 5 Section 13–402(a) and (c)(7) and 26–301(b)  
 6 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 7 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

8 ~~BY adding to~~  
 9 ~~Article – Transportation~~  
 10 ~~Section 26–301(b–1)~~  
 11 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~  
 12 ~~(2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)~~

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

15 **Article – Transportation**

16 12–110.

17 (a) **(1)** The Administration may take possession of any certificate of title,  
 18 registration card, permit, license, or registration plate:

19 **[(1)] (I)** That is fictitious;

20 **[(2)] (II)** That is issued by it and that:

21 **[(i)] 1.** Has expired;

22 **[(ii)] 2.** Has been canceled, suspended, or revoked; or

23 **[(iii)] 3.** Was issued unlawfully or erroneously; or

24 **[(3)] (III)** That has been issued by another jurisdiction but is being illegally  
 25 used or displayed.

26 **(2)** THE ADMINISTRATION MAY TAKE POSSESSION OF ANY  
 27 REGISTRATION CARD OR REGISTRATION PLATE THAT WAS ISSUED BY ANOTHER  
 28 JURISDICTION BUT IS BEING USED OR DISPLAYED ON A MOTOR VEHICLE BY A  
 29 PERSON WHO HAS BEEN A RESIDENT OF THE STATE FOR MORE THAN 60 DAYS.

30 12–402.

1 It is the policy of this State to promote and encourage the fullest possible use of its  
2 highway system by authorizing vehicle reciprocal or proportional registration agreements,  
3 arrangements, and declarations with other jurisdictions as to vehicles registered in this  
4 State and in those other jurisdictions, thus contributing to the SAFETY AND THE economic  
5 and social development and growth of this State.

6 **12-411.1.**

7 **(A) THE ADMINISTRATOR MAY MAKE AN AGREEMENT, AN ARRANGEMENT,**  
8 **OR A DECLARATION WITH THE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF ANY OTHER**  
9 **JURISDICTION TO PROVIDE FOR RECIPROCAL ENFORCEMENT OF VIOLATIONS**  
10 **RECORDED BY TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL MONITORING SYSTEMS AND SPEED**  
11 **MONITORING SYSTEMS BETWEEN THIS STATE AND THE OTHER JURISDICTION.**

12 **(B) AN AGREEMENT, AN ARRANGEMENT, OR A DECLARATION MADE UNDER**  
13 **THIS SECTION MAY AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATION TO REFUSE TO REGISTER OR**  
14 **REREGISTER A MOTOR VEHICLE.**

15 **13-402.**

16 (a) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section or elsewhere in the  
17 Maryland Vehicle Law, each motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer driven on  
18 a highway shall be registered under this subtitle.

19 (2) If a motor vehicle required to be registered under this subtitle is not  
20 registered, a person may not park the unregistered motor vehicle on any:

21 (i) Public alley, street, or highway; or

22 (ii) Private property used by the public in general, including parking  
23 lots of shopping centers, condominiums, apartments, or town house developments.

24 (3) The provisions of paragraph (2) of this subsection do not apply to a  
25 motor vehicle that is exempt from registration under this section or § 13-402.1 of this  
26 subtitle.

27 (c) Registration under this subtitle is not required for:

28 (7) A vehicle owned by a new resident of this State during the first 60 days  
29 of residency provided the vehicle displays valid registration issued by the jurisdiction of the  
30 resident's former domicile;

31 **15-606.**

32 **(a) A title service agent or an agent or employee of a title service agent may not**  
33 **make any material misrepresentation on any form of the Administration.**

1           **(b)**    A title service agent or an agent or employee of a title service agent may not  
2 misrepresent any material fact in obtaining a license.

3           **(c)**    A title service agent or an agent or employee of a title service agent may not  
4 willfully fail to notify the Administration of any change in the ownership, management,  
5 name, or location of the business conducted under the license.

6           **(d)**    A title service agent or an agent or employee of a title service agent may not  
7 fail to account for and remit to the Administration any fees received by him for any  
8 certificates of title, registrations, drivers' licenses, certified copies of records, or other  
9 related documents.

10          **(e)**    A title service agent or an agent or employee of a title service agent may not  
11 conduct any title service agency business with or through any person required to be licensed  
12 under this title if he knows that the person is not licensed.

13           **(F)**    **A TITLE SERVICE AGENT OR AN AGENT OR EMPLOYEE OF A TITLE**  
14 **SERVICE AGENT MAY NOT SELL OR OFFER FOR SALE A MOTOR VEHICLE**  
15 **REGISTRATION ISSUED BY ANOTHER JURISDICTION TO A RESIDENT OF THIS STATE.**

16           **[(f)] (G)**    A title service agent or an agent or employee of a title service agent may  
17 not willfully violate any provision of the Maryland Vehicle Law that relates to the business  
18 of a title service agent.

19           **[(g)] (H)**    A title service agent or an agent or employee of a title service agent may  
20 not willfully fail to comply with any rule, regulation, or lawful order adopted by the  
21 Administration under this title.

22 26-301.

23           **(b)**    Subject to subsection (c) of this section, any State agency authorized by law  
24 and any political subdivision of this State may adopt ordinances or regulations that:

25           (1)    Regulate the parking of vehicles;

26           (2)    Provide for the impounding of vehicles parked in violation of the  
27 ordinances or regulations;

28           (3)    Regulate the towing of vehicles from publicly owned and privately  
29 owned parking lots; and

30           (4)    Provide for the issuance of a citation by an officer for a violation of an  
31 ordinance or regulation that is adopted under this section.

1 (B-1) (1) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER PENALTY PROVIDED FOR IN THE  
2 MARYLAND VEHICLE LAW, IF THE ADMINISTRATION HAS PROBABLE CAUSE TO  
3 BELIEVE THAT A MOTOR VEHICLE OWNER IS A RESIDENT OF THE STATE AND HAS  
4 FAILED TO PROPERLY REGISTER THE MOTOR VEHICLE WITH THE ADMINISTRATION  
5 AND DISPLAY VALID REGISTRATION PLATES ISSUED BY THE ADMINISTRATION ON  
6 THE MOTOR VEHICLE, THE MOTOR VEHICLE OWNER IS SUBJECT TO A WARNING  
7 REQUIRING THE MOTOR VEHICLE OWNER, WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER ISSUANCE OF THE  
8 WARNING, TO:

9 (I) PROPERLY REGISTER THE MOTOR VEHICLE WITH THE  
10 ADMINISTRATION AND DISPLAY VALID REGISTRATION PLATES ISSUED BY THE  
11 ADMINISTRATION ON THE MOTOR VEHICLE; OR

12 (II) PROVIDE PROOF ACCEPTABLE TO THE ADMINISTRATION  
13 THAT THE MOTOR VEHICLE IS NOT REQUIRED TO BE REGISTERED IN THE STATE.

14 (2) (I) IF THE MOTOR VEHICLE OWNER PROVIDES PROOF  
15 ACCEPTABLE TO THE ADMINISTRATION THAT THE MOTOR VEHICLE IS NOT  
16 REQUIRED TO BE REGISTERED IN THE STATE, IF APPLICABLE AS DETERMINED BY  
17 THE ADMINISTRATION, THE MOTOR VEHICLE OWNER SHALL OBTAIN AND DISPLAY  
18 ON THE MOTOR VEHICLE A NONRESIDENT PERMIT ISSUED BY THE  
19 ADMINISTRATION.

20 (II) IF THE MOTOR VEHICLE OWNER FAILS, WITHIN 60 DAYS  
21 AFTER ISSUANCE OF A WARNING UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, TO PROPERLY REGISTER  
22 THE MOTOR VEHICLE AND DISPLAY VALID REGISTRATION PLATES ON THE MOTOR  
23 VEHICLE OR PROVIDE PROOF ACCEPTABLE TO THE ADMINISTRATION THAT  
24 REGISTRATION IN THE STATE IS NOT REQUIRED, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL  
25 BEGIN TO ASSESS A CIVIL FINE AGAINST THE MOTOR VEHICLE OF \$7 PER DAY FOR  
26 UP TO 60 DAYS OR UNTIL THE MOTOR VEHICLE IS PROPERLY REGISTERED AND  
27 DISPLAYING VALID REGISTRATION PLATES OR THE ADMINISTRATION DETERMINES  
28 THAT THE MOTOR VEHICLE IS NOT SUBJECT TO REGISTRATION IN THE STATE,  
29 WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST.

30 (3) (I) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL NOTIFY THE APPROPRIATE  
31 LOCAL JURISDICTION IF A MOTOR VEHICLE OWNER FAILS, WITHIN 120 DAYS AFTER  
32 ISSUANCE OF A WARNING UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, TO PROPERLY REGISTER THE  
33 MOTOR VEHICLE AND DISPLAY VALID REGISTRATION PLATES ON THE MOTOR  
34 VEHICLE OR SATISFY THE ADMINISTRATION THAT THE MOTOR VEHICLE IS NOT  
35 SUBJECT TO REGISTRATION IN THE STATE.

36 (II) THE APPROPRIATE COUNTY ~~STATE'S ATTORNEY~~ ATTORNEY  
37 MAY BRING A CIVIL ACTION IN REM AGAINST A MOTOR VEHICLE FOR WHICH THE  
38 MOTOR VEHICLE OWNER FAILS UNDER THIS SUBSECTION TO PROPERLY REGISTER

1 AND DISPLAY VALID REGISTRATION PLATES OR TO SATISFY THE ADMINISTRATION  
2 THAT THE MOTOR VEHICLE IS NOT SUBJECT TO REGISTRATION IN THE STATE.

3 (III) IN A CIVIL ACTION IN REM BROUGHT UNDER THIS  
4 SUBSECTION, THE APPROPRIATE COUNTY ~~STATE'S ATTORNEY~~ ATTORNEY MAY SEEK  
5 IMMOBILIZATION OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE BY TOWING OR REMOVAL AND  
6 IMPOUNDMENT OR BY BOOTING.

7 (4) (I) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL SUSPEND THE DRIVER'S  
8 LICENSE OR PRIVILEGE TO DRIVE IN THE STATE OF ANY MOTOR VEHICLE OWNER  
9 WHO FAILS, WITHIN 120 DAYS AFTER ISSUANCE OF A WARNING UNDER THIS  
10 SUBSECTION, TO PROPERLY REGISTER THE MOTOR VEHICLE AND DISPLAY VALID  
11 REGISTRATION PLATES ON THE MOTOR VEHICLE OR SATISFY THE ADMINISTRATION  
12 THAT THE MOTOR VEHICLE IS NOT SUBJECT TO REGISTRATION IN THE STATE.

13 (II) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL REINSTATE A MOTOR  
14 VEHICLE OWNER'S DRIVER'S LICENSE OR PRIVILEGE TO DRIVE IN THE STATE IF THE  
15 MOTOR VEHICLE OWNER PROPERLY REGISTERS THE MOTOR VEHICLE AND  
16 DISPLAYS VALID REGISTRATION PLATES ON THE MOTOR VEHICLE OR SATISFIES THE  
17 ADMINISTRATION THAT THE MOTOR VEHICLE IS NOT SUBJECT TO REGISTRATION IN  
18 THE STATE.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
20 October 1, 2026.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.