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**To:** Members of The House Judiciary Committee and Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

**From:** Doyle Niemann, Chair, Legislative Committee, Criminal Law and Practice Section

**Date:** January 19, 2021

**Subject:** **HB277 and SB20 – Vehicle Laws – Canceled, Revoked, and Suspended Driver’s Licenses - Penalties**

**Position:** **Support**

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The Legislative Committee of the Criminal Law & Practice Section of the Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA) **Supports HB277 and SB20 – Vehicle Laws – Canceled, Revoked, and Suspended Driver’s Licenses – Penalties.**

This bill corrects what we believe was an oversight in earlier changes made by the General Assembly in the laws relating to driving with a canceled, revoked and suspended driver’s license.

The bill provides that the display of a license that has been canceled, revoked or suspended is punishable by a fine and not by a period of incarceration. The fine-only provision does not apply if the license problem is related to a conviction under impaired driving laws, the result of the willful failure to take a breath test or due to the accumulation of driving points.

This brings the sections of the code applying to the display of a bad license into the same posture that is the case with actually driving with a bad license. It is a useful change.

For the reasons stated, we **Support HB277 and SB20 – Vehicle Laws – Canceled, Revoked, and Suspended Driver’s Licenses – Penalties.**

If you have questions about the position of the Criminal Law and Practice Section’s Legislative Committee, please feel free to address them to me at 240-606-1298 or at [doyleniemann@verizon.net](mailto:doyleniemann@verizon.net).

Should you have other questions, please contact The MSBA’s Legislative Office at (410)-269-6464 / (410)-685-7878 ext: 3066 or at [Richard@MSBA.org](mailto:Richard@MSBA.org).