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The Maryland House of Delegates
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Sponsor Testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 230

***Traffic Control Signal Monitoring Systems – Exclusion of Vehicle Rental
Companies – Repeal and Notification Requirement***

February 3, 2022

Under current law, a person who endangers others by speeding is exempt from receiving a speed camera citation if they happen to be driving a rental car. According to Montgomery County Police, about 9% of potential violations fall into this category. House Bill 230 would improve safety by ending the exemption.

Of the states that allow automated speed enforcement, Maryland is the outlier that exempts rental cars.

HB230 follows the model used in Washington State. Under the bill, if a vehicle registered to a rental car company triggers a speed camera violation, a notice is sent and the company has 45 days to respond back with the name and mailing address of the renter. The citation can then be sent directly to the renter.

The Washington State approach is a successful one. Companies like Enterprise, Alamo and National are able to comply and are sending the renter information back to the jurisdiction in response to the notice.

I am offering a sponsor amendment to help rental car companies and agencies by automating the processing of notices and eliminating unnecessary paperwork.

I ask for your favorable report.

EXEMPTION OF RENTAL VEHICLES FROM SPEED CAMERA ENFORCEMENT:

HOW DOES MARYLAND COMPARE?

State	Rentals Exempt?
Alabama	NOT EXEMPT
Arizona	NOT EXEMPT
Colorado	NOT EXEMPT
District of Columbia	NOT EXEMPT
Georgia	EXEMPT
Illinois	NOT EXEMPT
Iowa	NOT EXEMPT
Louisiana	NOT EXEMPT
Maryland	EXEMPT
New Mexico	NOT EXEMPT
New York	NOT EXEMPT
Ohio (grandfathered)	NOT EXEMPT
Oregon	NOT EXEMPT
Pennsylvania	NOT EXEMPT
Rhode Island	NOT EXEMPT
Tennessee	NOT EXEMPT
Washington	NOT EXEMPT

Analysis of “Rejected” Speed Camera Citations in Montgomery County

Year	Total Issued	Total Rental/ Lease	Percent of Total
2017	470,044	34,497	7%
2018	400,292	35,379	9%
2019 (thru Sept)	228,037	24,941	11%
TOTAL	1,098,373	94,817	9%

Value of rejected citations = \$1.4M in 2018

Source: Montgomery County Police Department