



Auto Consumer Alliance
13900 Laurel Lakes Avenue, Suite 100
Laurel, MD 20707

**Testimony to the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
SB 285 – Vehicle Registration – Fee Due to Outstanding Warrant – Repeal
Position: Favorable**

Feb. 6, 2024

The Honorable Will Smith
Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East, Miller Senate Building
Annapolis, MD 21401
cc: Members, Judicial Proceedings Committee

Dear Chairman Smith and Committee Members,

I'm a consumer advocate and Executive Director of Consumer Auto, a non-profit group that works to foster safety, transparency, and fair treatment for Maryland drivers and car buyers.

We support **SB 285** because it will provide some Marylanders with relief from dated, extra registration fees that add to the high (and rising) costs of car ownership and transportation that no doubt create additional barriers for some Marylanders working to rebuild their lives after having problems with the law in the past.

Indeed, the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) itself has noted that the registration restoration fees this bill would eliminate often fall on those already struggling financially and (in part for that reason) often in any event go unpaid. And that technological changes in processing such legal issues mean the fees are no longer necessary to recover additional costs.

We applaud the agency's effort to eliminate these unnecessary fees that can make it more expensive and more difficult for some Marylanders to rebuild their lives.

We support SB 285 and ask that you give it a FAVORABLE report.

Sincerely,

Franz Schneiderman
Consumer Auto