

# **DRM Written SB 707 [HB436] Repeal Medical Exemptio**

Uploaded by: Gabriel Rubinstein

Position: FAV



**Empowering People to Lead Systemic Change**

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**Judicial Proceedings Committee  
Senate Bill 707  
Vehicle Laws - Medical Exemption for Enhanced Tinted Windows -  
Repeal of Time Limitation  
March 5, 2025  
Position: Support**

Disability Rights Maryland (DRM) is the designated Protection and Advocacy agency in Maryland, mandated to advance the civil rights of people with disabilities. DRM submits this testimony in support of Senate Bill 707. SB 707 seeks to remove the two-year time limitation on medical exemptions for enhanced window tinting on vehicles. This bill is an important move toward reducing unnecessary barriers for individuals with medical conditions that require sun protection.

Currently, Maryland law requires individuals with a medical exemption for window tinting to renew their certification every two years, regardless of whether their condition is permanent. This is overly burdensome on individuals with chronic or lifelong medical conditions, forcing them to repeatedly seek physician documentation and navigate bureaucratic processes for an accommodation that is essential to their health and well-being. For individuals with medical conditions that require protection from ultraviolet exposure, tinted windows are a medical necessity. The existing two-year renewal requirement fails to account for the fact that many of these conditions are permanent and do not require ongoing reassessment.

Senate Bill 707 will ensure that individuals with disabilities can maintain necessary window tinting for the duration needed, reducing unnecessary administrative barriers and supporting their daily accessibility needs. This bill will help ensure that Marylanders with chronic medical conditions can access the modifications they need without restrictions.

For these reasons, DRM requests a favorable report on Senate Bill 707.  
Thank you for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact  
me at [GabrielR@DisabilityRightsMD.org](mailto:GabrielR@DisabilityRightsMD.org) or (443) 692-2483.

Respectfully submitted,

Gabriel H. Rubinstein  
Managing Attorney  
Disability Rights Maryland

# **SB 707- Senator Zucker- Senate.pdf**

Uploaded by: Senator Craig Zucker

Position: FWA

**CRAIG J. ZUCKER**  
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Budget and Taxation Committee  
Chair, Capital Budget Subcommittee

Chair, Senate Democratic Caucus

**THE SENATE OF MARYLAND**  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**Testimony of Senator Craig J. Zucker**  
**Senate Bill 707- Vehicle Laws - Medical Exemption for Enhanced Tinted Windows -**  
**Repeal of Time Limitation**  
**March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**1:00pm**  
**Position: Favorable With Amendment**

Good afternoon, Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and distinguished members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee. It is my pleasure to testify today in **support of Senate Bill 707- Vehicle Laws - Medical Exemption for Enhanced Tinted Windows - Repeal of Time Limitation.**

Current Maryland law allows physicians to issue medical exemptions for enhanced window tinting. However, even individuals with permanent medical conditions must renew these exemptions every two years. SB 707 seeks to eliminate this unnecessary burden by ensuring those with chronic, lifelong conditions are not required to repeatedly validate what their doctors have already determined to be a permanent medical necessity.

We have worked with Maryland State Police to develop an amendment (attached), which I fully support and encourage the committee to adopt: "If a licensed physician determines that the owner's medical condition is permanent, the written certification shall be valid indefinitely." This amendment maintains the two-year renewal requirement for temporary conditions while removing unnecessary hurdles for those with permanent medical needs.

For context, nine states currently permit medical exemptions for enhanced window tinting. Among these states, Maryland imposes the most stringent renewal requirements. Only Illinois and North Carolina also require renewals for individuals with permanent conditions, and both offer more reasonable timeframes than Maryland – Illinois requires renewal every four years, while North Carolina extends this period to five years.

This legislation represents a balanced approach that maintains necessary oversight while eliminating undue hardship for Marylanders with permanent medical conditions. I respectfully request a **favorable report as amended on Senate Bill 707.**

**SB707 Amendment- Senator Zucker.pdf**

Uploaded by: Senator Craig Zucker

Position: FWA



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AMENDMENTS  
PREPARED  
BY THE  
DEPT. OF LEGISLATIVE  
SERVICES

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BY: Senator Zucker

(To be offered in the Judicial Proceedings Committee)

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 707

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, strike “**Repeal of**”; and in line 5, strike “on certain vehicles” and substitute “for vehicle owners with certain permanent medical conditions”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 17, strike “A” and substitute “**1. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSUBPARAGRAPH 2 OF THIS SUBPARAGRAPH, A**”; in line 19, strike the brackets; and after line 19, insert:

**“2. IF THE LICENSED PHYSICIAN DETERMINES THAT THE OWNER’S MEDICAL CONDITION IS PERMANENT, A WRITTEN CERTIFICATION UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL BE VALID INDEFINITELY.”**