



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Favorable: HB 110 – Child Support – Suspension of Driver’s Licenses

Hearing on 2/20/2025 at 1:00pm

Honorable Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett and treasured Fellow Members of the Judiciary Committee, thank you for your commitment to a child support system that works for the children it is intended to support.

The goal of HB 110 – Child Support – Suspension of Driver’s Licenses is to ensure that our driver’s license suspension tool is only used when appropriate and necessary to serve the best interest of the child. Specifically, in compliance with [Federal Code 42 U.S.C.A. § 666 \(a16\)](#), driver’s license suspension is appropriate when the obligor has the funds to pay the arrearage but is making a free and conscious choice to withhold payment or is voluntarily impoverished.

This bill was introduced in 2024 to address the significant number of licenses suspended in error that led to the loss of jobs, income, car insurance, missed work, and negative impact of a child’s welfare. (See below)

In Summary, HB110 improves program effectiveness in the following:

Due Process: HB110 will improve our system by ensuring due process- the right to notification, including electronic notification, and the right to a hearing before their protected right to drive is impaired. Maryland’s Courts have indicated that this bill is consistent with the role and the court and can be implemented within the existing resources.

Due process increases collections by making sure the obligor is aware of the possible consequence and is given the opportunity to pay before their license is suspended. While HB110 requires court approval for suspension, it does not require court approval for reinstatement.

Raises Delinquency Threshold: HB110 extends the arrears period from 60 to 120 days to give Maryland time to utilize other more effective collection tools in our toolbox, such as wage garnishment and income interception.

Reduce Incarceration: HB110 intends to reduce the strain on the courts, and our community of individuals incarcerated for driving on a suspended license. Adding due process will verify obligors are notified of their obligation, provided the opportunity to pay their obligation, and informed by the courts before their license is suspended due to failure to pay support.

Federal Funding: Federal law requires states to have a license suspension program, and no state has lost funding for making changes to their program. HB110 improves our driver’s license suspension program.

In conclusion, I respectfully request a favorable report for HB 110 – Child Support – Driver’s Licenses to reduce erroneous driver’s license suspension and keep the best interests of Maryland’s children at heart. Thank you for your time and consideration in improving our Child Support Enforcement Administration and supporting our youth.

Data from Kevin Knight, MDOT Deputy Director, Office of Legislative Service & Policy Development

There were approximately 7,000 erroneous suspensions in CY2022 that were resolved electronically with another 937 requiring manual processing, however.

The requested county information for CY2023 is available below (as noted in our call last week, the methods for counting may result in slightly different totals than the statewide numbers previously provided):

**Child Support Unique Customer Counts by County
Calendar Year 2023**

County	Distinct Count
ALLEGANY	248
ANNE ARUNDEL	1407
BALTIMORE	2589
BALTIMORE CITY	4393
CALVERT	201
CAROLINE	138
CARROLL	303
CECIL	292
CHARLES	588
DORCHESTER	224
FREDERICK	516
GARRETT	87
HARFORD	550
HOWARD	331
KENT	67
MONTGOMERY	1087
No County/NULL	178
PRINCE GEORGE'S	3154
QUEEN ANNE'S	98
SOMERSET	138
ST. MARY'S	422
TALBOT	92
WASHINGTON	841
WICOMICO	450
WORCESTER	145

Note: Count of Customers are distinct to County.