



House Bill 68

Date: February 5, 2026

Committee: Environment & Transportation

Position: Favorable

Founded in 1968, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce (the Chamber) is the leading voice for business in Maryland. We are a statewide coalition of more than 7,000 members and federated partners, and we work to develop and promote strong public policy that ensures sustained economic growth for Maryland businesses, employees, and families.

House Bill 68 (HB 68) directs the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration to develop and make available an Old Line Plate with a numeric-only registration number for qualifying vehicles, establish a public auction program for registration number rights, and authorize the transfer of those rights under specified conditions. Revenues from fees and auctions would be credited to the Transportation Trust Fund.

HB 68 provides a market-based means to generate additional revenue that can be directed to the Transportation Trust Fund – supporting infrastructure investment through a voluntary, user-driven program.

Similar specialty plate programs in other states demonstrate strong public demand and meaningful revenue potential. In Arizona, specialty license plates generate more than \$10 million annually, with several individual plates each producing over \$1 million per year. Massachusetts' specialty plate program raises more than \$5 million annually and has generated nearly \$100 million since its inception. More recently, states such as Indiana and Minnesota have seen rapid uptake of newly introduced specialty plates, with Indiana's "Blackout" plate generating millions of dollars in its first year and Minnesota issuing more than 250,000 plates in the first year of the program and generating millions in revenue. These examples demonstrate that distinctive plate offerings can serve as sustainable, long-term revenue drivers that engage residents and promote state identity.

Maryland faces ongoing and growing transportation funding needs. Ensuring a reliable and diversified revenue stream is critical to maintaining and improving roads, bridges, and transit system that support commerce, workforce mobility, and economic competitiveness across the state. HB 68 offers an innovative tool to help supplement transportation funding while providing an additional, practical funding mechanism for the Transportation Trust Fund.

For these reasons, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests a **favorable report on HB 68**.