

Toll Exemption Testimony - CW.pdf

Uploaded by: Christa Whittington

Position: FAV

Dear Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee,

Please support **HB 1200 - Vehicle Laws - Electronic and Video Tolls - Exemption for Registered Owners Undergoing Cancer Treatment.**

Cancer patients are diagnosed every day here in Maryland. As they seek the best treatment in Maryland hospitals, they often must repeatedly drive through tunnels and on bridges in their travels to treatments.

Many constituents travel from the Eastern Shore, or Southern Maryland, or the hills of Western Maryland. And many who live local to central Maryland travel to these hospitals weekly for treatments and care.

HB 1200 exempts the registered owner of a vehicle from being liable for payment of certain electronic or video tolls if the owner provides to the Maryland Transportation Authority or its duly authorized agent by the date stated on the notice of toll due certain information regarding the owner's cancer treatments.

If there is a better way to execute the exemption for each driver, please help make those changes. Similar programs are available in Virginia/Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel/Hampton Roads.

Again, families facing the hardship of cancer in Maryland do not need these added costs to their treatment.

Thank you for your consideration for all cancer patients travelling to treatments.

Christa W.

ACSCAN_FAV_HB1200.pdf

Uploaded by: Lance Kilpatrick

Position: FAV

Memorandum In Support of HB 1200

House Environment & Transportation Committee

February 26, 2026

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network is the nonprofit nonpartisan advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society. ACS CAN empowers cancer patients, survivors, their families and other experts on the disease, amplifying their voices and public policy matters that are relevant to the cancer community at all levels of government. We mobilize our powerful grassroots network of cancer advocacy volunteers to bring awareness to lawmakers like yourself on cancer issues that matter to your constituents.

This year it is estimated that 38,160 Marylanders will hear the chilling phrase “you have cancer.” In addition, it is sadly estimated that 11,280 Marylanders will fall victim to this deadly disease.

Maryland is blessed to have some of the best cancer centers in the world, including:

- University of Maryland Greenebaum Cancer Center
- Johns Hopkins Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center
- Maryland Proton Treatment Center

Not everyone lives close by to one of these centers, and Marylanders from the western mountains or the eastern shore have to travel hours to get treatment, having to take time off from work. It is this circumstance that led, in part, to the American Cancer Society building Hope Lodge in Baltimore. Cancer patients undergoing treatment far away from home can have a place to stay, eat, and have community.

But they still have to travel, and transportation obstacles are the number one barrier for cancer patients to receiving treatment. In 2024 the American Cancer Society’s “Road to Recovery” program provided almost 2,000 rides in the Maryland and DC areas. Transportation challenges can lead to missed appointments, and lack of transportation options has been shown to lead to higher morbidity rates and earlier deaths.

House Bill 1200 is a small but important step to acknowledge the physical, emotional, and financial plight of cancer patients. Tolls to and from appointments can add up to a financial burden. Having one less thing to worry about is one step closer toward recovery.

ACS CAN thanks the sponsor for bringing this bill forward and the committee for the opportunity to testify. We ask for a favorable report of House Bill 1200.

HB1200 – LOI – Vehicle Laws – Electronic and Video

Uploaded by: Patricia Westervelt

Position: INFO

February 26, 2026

The Honorable Marc Korman
Chair, House Environment and Transportation Committee
251 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Letter of Information – House Bill 1200 – Vehicle Laws – Electronic and Video Tolls – Exemption for Registered Owners Undergoing Cancer Treatment

Dear Chair Korman and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) and the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) take no position on House Bill 1200 and offer the following information for the Committee's consideration.

HB 1200 exempts the registered owner of a vehicle from being liable for payment of video tolls if the owner provides the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) or its duly authorized agent certain information regarding the owner's cancer treatment.

HB 1200 mandates an exemption based on the health status of an individual. Toll exemptions for health reasons are not permissible under MDTA's Trust Agreement. Although the MDTA cannot offer free passage on its toll roads as proposed in HB 1200, MDTA does offer a variety of *E-ZPass* discount plans optimized for commuters and other frequent toll facility users who have an *E-ZPass* Maryland account. In addition, the MDTA now offers an installment payment plan to help Maryland drivers resolve outstanding toll debt. This program provides financial relief by reducing civil penalties and allowing customers to pay off their debt over time.

Specific to the bill, the registered owner must meet several requirements before the exemption from toll liability applies. The registered owner must be the driver of the vehicle or be under active transportation, and the registered owner must provide MDTA or its duly authorized agent with certain medical documentation demonstrating that the registered owner is between scheduled cancer treatments as part of an ongoing course of treatment at the time of the video toll transaction. The back-end verification of the data to absolve the registered owner of the toll liability would require additional MDTA staff to manage the administrative activities. Further, the medical documentation provided may demonstrate that an individual was treated on a certain day but may not necessarily demonstrate a nexus between treatment and use of the toll facility. Finally, it is worth noting that MDTA or its duly authorized agent would be in receipt of sensitive healthcare information about the individual, leading to questions of storage and duty of care.

The Honorable Marc Korman
Page Two

The Maryland Department of Transportation and the Maryland Transportation Authority respectfully request that the Committee consider this information when deliberating House Bill 1200

Respectfully submitted,

Bradley Ryon
Manager, Government Affairs
Maryland Transportation Authority
410-387-5253

Matt Mickler
Director of Government Affairs
Maryland Department of Transportation
410-865-1090

hb1200 INFO.pdf

Uploaded by: Rudolph "Pumpkin Rudy" Daniecki

Position: INFO

INFO INFO INFO INFO INFO INFO INFO INFO

YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT MY COUSIN LESTER "CLOWN SHOES" DANIECKI TOLD ME THAT HE WILL NEVER PAY TOLLS AGAIN WHEN DRIVING TO BUY "MEDICAL" MARIJUANA

- 1) HE GOT CANCER FROM A CAR TELEPHONE IN 1994*
- 2) HE BUYS MARIJUANA EVERY DAY*
- 3) HE HAS NEVER PAID A TOLL (IN MARYLAND)*

INFO INFO INFO INFO INFO INFO INFO INFO