



**HEARING DATE:** March 26, 2026

**BILL NO/TITLE:** HB246: Video Tolls - Class G (Trailer) Vehicles - Liability

**COMMITTEE:** Senate Judicial Proceedings

## LETTER OF INFORMATION

Maryland Motor Truck Association fully supports the payment of all tolls owed and believes aggressive enforcement is warranted when a vehicle operator attempts to hide, obscure, or take other actions to avoid toll payments. The Association understands that the cost of toll avoidance is ultimately born by all other toll payers. However, the Association believes that the ultimate responsibility for a toll should lie with the vehicle operator, not a trailer owner who has no control over routes, making toll payments, vehicle operation, etc.

To avoid toll notices being issued based on a trailer plate, MMTA encourages companies that pull their own trailers to simply list the plate numbers on their E-ZPass accounts. However, this is difficult for certain industry segments, such as owner-operators at the Port of Baltimore, who do not pull their own trailers. We have seen other states – most notably Delaware – where the tolling agencies seem to have defaulted to using a rear trailer plate in lieu of a tractor plate as the primary means of identification, creating a nightmare of toll notices for the trucking industry.

Understanding this, MMTA and the Maryland Transportation Authority held extensive discussions about the challenges of commercial vehicle tolling. Since every state in the country requires a front mounted license plate on commercial tractors, the agency amended HB246 to explicitly state that issuance of a toll notice based on a trailer plate will only occur as a last resort if the tractor owner cannot be identified. Those amendments were included in the version of HB246 that passed the House of Delegates and is before the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee. This is consistent with MDTA's stated intention and satisfies the concerns of the Maryland Motor Truck Association.

**About Maryland Motor Truck Association:** Maryland Motor Truck Association is a non-profit trade association that has represented the trucking industry since 1935. In service to its 1,000 members, MMTA is committed to support, advocate and educate for a safe, efficient and profitable trucking industry in Maryland.

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