AN ACT concerning Parking Fines and Penalties

For the purpose of increasing and adding fines and penalties for violating certain parking laws, including laws regarding standing or parking at bus stops, unregistered vehicles and trailers, expired registration stickers; reserved parking spaces, meter spaces, damaging parking meters, and public parking facilities; and authorizing immobilization and/or impoundments without prior notice to owners of vehicles with five or more unpaid traffic and/or parking violations.

BY repealing and reenacting with amendments:

SUBTITLE 26. VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC.
Sections 26-127, 26-127.01, 26-129, 26-132, 26-133, 26-145, 26-163.02 and 26-166.
The Prince George's County Code
(2019 Edition; 2021 Supplement)

BY adding:

SUBTITLE 26. VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC.
Sec. 26-127.05.
The Prince George's County Code
(2019 Edition; 2021 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County,
Maryland, that Sections 26-127, 26-127.01, 26-129, 26-132, 26-133, 26-145, 26-163.02 and 26-166 of the Prince George's County Code be and the same are hereby repealed and reenacted with the following amendments:

**SUBTITLE 26. VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC.**

**DIVISION 8. - PARKING REGULATIONS.**

Sec. 26-127. Standing or parking restricted at bus stops.
(a) The Director is hereby authorized to approve or disapprove the location of bus stops or rescind or modify any prior approval heretofore given.
(b) No person shall stop, stand, or park a vehicle other than a bus within thirty (30) feet of a bus stop, except that a driver of a passenger vehicle may temporarily stop therein for the purpose of, and while actually engaged in, loading or unloading passengers when such stopping does not interfere with any bus waiting to enter or about to enter such zone. Any person issued a citation for a violation of this Subsection shall be subject to a fine of [Twenty Dollars ($20.00)] Fifty Dollars ($50.00) for each violation.

Sec. 26-127.01. Parking of unregistered motor vehicles or unregistered trailers; expired registration stickers.
(a) A vehicle for which two registration plates are required, one plate shall be attached on the front and the other on the rear of the vehicle
(b) No person shall park any unregistered motor vehicle or unregistered trailer upon the highways, roads, streets, or other public property in the County at any time.
(c) No person shall park any motor vehicle or trailer displaying expired registration stickers upon the highways, roads, streets, or other public property in the County at any time.
(d) Any person issued a citation for violation of this Section shall be subject to a fine of [Sixty Dollars ($60.00)] One Hundred Dollars ($100.00) for each violation.

Sec. 26-129. Unauthorized use of reserved parking spaces; impounding; penalty.
(a) No person shall park, store, or leave any vehicle of any kind, whether attended or not, and no owner of any vehicle of any kind shall allow, permit, or suffer any vehicle to be parked, stored, or left, whether attended or not, upon any property owned or leased by the County and used for parking purposes, including access and egress roadways, without the consent of the
County Executive.

(b) Any vehicle found parked in a reserved parking space designated as provided in Section 26-128, whose owner or driver is not authorized to park in the space, may be impounded by the Police Department, or the Revenue Authority, or County work force. The impoundment of the vehicle shall be done pursuant to Division 18 of this Subtitle.

(c) Any person issued a citation for violation of this Section shall be subject to a fine of [Twenty-five Dollars ($25.00)] Thirty-five Dollars ($35.00) for each violation.

Sec. 26-132. - Use of parking meters; impounding; penalty.

(a) No person shall park, store, or leave any vehicle of any kind, whether attended or not, and no owner of any vehicle shall allow, permit, or suffer the vehicle to be parked, stored, or left, whether attended or not, upon any property upon which have been erected parking meters by the Director, except in strict conformance with the designated use, time, and other conditions appearing on or about any parking meters erected thereon.

(b) Any vehicle found parked, stored, or left in violation of the conditions found on or about any parking meter may be impounded by the Police Department or the Revenue Authority, or any County work force. The impoundment of the vehicle shall be done pursuant to Division 18 of Subtitle 26 of this Code.

(c) Any person issued a citation for a violation of this Section shall be subject to a fine of not more than [Twenty-Five Dollars ($25.00)] Thirty-Five Dollars ($35.00) for each offense.

Sec. 26-133. - Damaging parking meters or signs.

(a) No person shall willfully damage, destroy, or tamper with any parking meter, sign, or writing erected pursuant to this Division.

(b) Any person violating this Section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be subject to a fine not exceeding [Twenty-five Dollars ($25.00)] One Hundred Dollars ($100) for each offense.

DIVISION 11. - PUBLIC PARKING AREAS.

Sec. 26-145. - Parking regulations — public parking facilities.
(a) Except temporarily for the purpose of, and while actually engaged in, loading or unloading passengers or for emergency repairs when the vehicle cannot be driven, no person shall park any vehicle on a public parking facility:

(6) For a period longer than twenty-four hours;

(b) Penalty. Any person issued a citation for a violation of this Section shall be subject to a fine of Twenty Dollars ($20.00) Thirty-Five Dollars ($35.00) for each violation.

(c) Penalty. Notwithstanding subsection (b), any person issued a citation for a violation of parking for a period longer than twenty-four hours pursuant to subsection (a)(6) of this Section shall be subject to a fine of Fifty Dollars ($50.00).

DIVISION 15. - PENALTIES.

Sec. 26-163.02. - Outstanding traffic and parking violation notices; impoundment.

(a) Any unattended motor vehicle found parked at any time upon any public street in Prince George's County, or any parking facility owned or operated by the Revenue Authority or Prince George's County, against which there are two or more outstanding or otherwise unsettled traffic and/or parking violation notices, or against which there have been issued two or more warrants, or against which there is any traffic and/or parking fine that is not paid within ninety (90) days of the date of the notice of violation, may, by, or under the direction of the County Police Department either by towing or otherwise, be removed or conveyed to and impounded in any place designated by the Chief of Police or the Revenue Authority, or immobilized in such manner as to prevent its operation, except that no such vehicle shall be immobilized by any means other than by the use of a device or other mechanism which will cause no damage to such vehicle unless it is moved while such device or mechanism is in place.

DIVISION 18. - IMPOUNDMENT.

Sec. 26-166. - Impoundment without prior notice.

(a) A vehicle subject to impoundment under any provision of Federal, State, or local law may be impounded without giving prior notice to its owner under the following circumstances:
(7.1) When the vehicle is found parked in a reserved parking space in violation of Section 26-129; [or] 
(8) When the vehicle is parked on private property in violation of Section 26-142.01 of this Code[.]; or 
(9) When the vehicle has five or more outstanding or otherwise unsettled traffic and/or parking violation notices levied against it or for which there have been issued five or more warrants.

SECTION 2. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that Section 26-127.05 of the Prince George's County Code be and is hereby added:

SUBTITLE 26. VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC.
DIVISION 8. - PARKING REGULATIONS.

Sec. 26-127.05. Reserved parking for charging electric vehicles.
(a) No person shall stand or park a vehicle in any stall or parking space on public or private property which is designated for charging an electric vehicle with the proper signs posted in conformance with the most recent edition of the State of Maryland Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways, unless said vehicle is connected for electric charging purposes.
(b) Any person issued a citation for a violation of this Section shall be subject to a fine of One Hundred Dollars ($100.00) for each violation.
(c) The provisions of Section 26-163.01 shall not be subject to the penalty imposed under this Section.

SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that the provisions of this Act are hereby declared to be severable; and, in the event that any section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the remaining words, phrases, clauses, sentences, subparagraphs, paragraphs, subsections, or sections of this Act, since the same would have been enacted without the incorporation in this Act of any such invalid or unconstitutional word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, subparagraph, subsection,
SECTION 4. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect forty-five (45) calendar days after it becomes law.

Adopted this 13th day of September, 2022.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: ___________________________________________________________________
   Calvin S. Hawkins, II
   Council Chair

ATTEST:

__________________________________________________________________________
Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: _______________    BY: ___________________________________________________________________
   Angela D. Alsobrooks
   County Executive

KEY:
Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.
Asterisks *** indicate intervening existing Code provisions that remain unchanged.

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