

HOUSE BILL 750

R4, R5

4lr1700
CF SB 10

By: **Delegates Ziegler, Allen, Guzzone, and Wu**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2024

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Damaged, Obscured, or Modified Registration Plates**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to offer during the
4 registration renewal process to replace certain vehicle registration plates that are
5 more than a certain age; altering the prohibition against obscuring or modifying a
6 vehicle registration plate by prohibiting such activity in a manner that may prevent
7 identification; altering the penalty and points assessment for obscuring or modifying
8 a vehicle registration plate; and generally relating to damaged, obscured, or modified
9 vehicle registration plates.

10 BY renumbering

11 Article – Transportation
12 Section 16–402(a)(17) through (43)
13 to be Section 16–402(a)(18) through (44), respectively
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

16 BY adding to

17 Article – Transportation
18 Section 13–418 and 16–402(a)(17)
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

21 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

22 Article – Transportation
23 Section 21–1112.1
24 Annotated Code of Maryland
25 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That Section(s) 16–402(a)(17) through (43) of Article – Transportation of the Annotated
Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 16–402(a)(18) through (44), respectively.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read
as follows:

Article – Transportation

13–418.

**(A) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO ANY SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATE
ISSUED UNDER SUBTITLE 6 OF THIS TITLE.**

(B) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL:

**(1) DURING THE REGISTRATION RENEWAL PROCESS, OFFER TO
REPLACE ANY VEHICLE REGISTRATION PLATES THAT ARE MORE THAN 15 YEARS
OLD;**

**(2) MAIL OR DELIVER THE NEW REGISTRATION PLATES TO THE
OWNER; AND**

(3) ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.

16–402.

(a) After the conviction of an individual for a violation of Title 2, Subtitle 5, §
2–209, § 3–211, or § 10–110 of the Criminal Law Article, or of the vehicle laws or regulations
of this State or of any local authority, points shall be assessed against the individual as of
the date of violation and as follows:

(17) A VIOLATION OF § 21–1112.1 OF THIS ARTICLE..... 3 POINTS

21–1112.1.

(a) A person may not obscure or modify any vehicle registration plate [with intent
to avoid identification] **IN A MANNER THAT MAY PREVENT IDENTIFICATION.**

(b) [A violation of this section is a moving violation for the purpose of the
assessment of points under § 16–402 of this article] **A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS
SECTION SHALL BE:**

**(1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN ITEM (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, ISSUED A
WARNING NOTICE; AND**

1 **(2) FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE COMMITTED AT LEAST**
2 **60 DAYS AFTER ISSUANCE OF A WARNING NOTICE, ASSESSED POINTS UNDER §**
3 **16-402 OF THIS ARTICLE.**

4 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
5 October 1, 2024.