

# Chapter 397

(House Bill 389)

AN ACT concerning

## ~~Maryland Transportation Authority – Transportation Facilities Projects –~~ ~~Cash Toll Lanes~~ All-Electronic Tolling – Study

FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Transportation Authority to ~~maintain at certain transportation facilities projects at least one cash toll lane and as many additional cash toll lanes as necessary to ensure that motorists are not unduly delayed in passing through the toll plaza; and generally relating to cash toll lanes at transportation facilities projects~~ complete a study and submit a report on the status of its initiative to implement all-electronic tolling; requiring the study to include certain matters; requiring the Authority to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to certain persons on or before a certain date; prohibiting the Authority from implementing all-electronic tolling at a certain facility before a certain date; and generally relating to all-electronic tolling.

~~BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,~~  
~~Article – Transportation~~  
~~Section 4-101(h)~~  
~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~  
~~(2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)~~

~~BY adding to~~  
~~Article – Transportation~~  
~~Section 4-406~~  
~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~  
~~(2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)~~

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That ~~the Laws of Maryland read as follows:~~

### ~~Article – Transportation~~

~~4-101.~~

~~(h) “Transportation facilities project” includes:~~

- ~~(1) The Susquehanna River Bridge, the Harry W. Nice Memorial Potomac River Bridge, the William Preston Lane, Jr. Memorial Chesapeake Bay Bridge and parallel Chesapeake Bay Bridge, the Baltimore Harbor Tunnel, the Fort McHenry Tunnel, the Francis Scott Key Bridge, and the John F. Kennedy Memorial~~

~~Highway, together with their appurtenant causeways, approaches, interchanges, entrance plazas, toll stations, and service facilities;~~

~~(2) A vehicle parking facility located in a priority funding area as defined in § 5-7B-02 of the State Finance and Procurement Article;~~

~~(3) Any other project for transportation facilities that the Authority authorizes to be acquired or constructed; and~~

~~(4) Any additions, improvements, or enlargements to any of these projects, whenever authorized.~~

#### ~~4-406.~~

~~AT EACH TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES PROJECT, EXCLUDING THE INTERCOUNTY CONNECTOR, INTERSTATE 95 EXPRESS TOLL LANES, OR A VEHICLE PARKING FACILITY, THE AUTHORITY SHALL MAINTAIN:~~

~~(1) AT LEAST ONE LANE WHERE MOTORISTS MAY PAY THE TOLL IN CASH; AND~~

~~(2) AS MANY ADDITIONAL LANES WHERE MOTORISTS MAY PAY THE TOLL IN CASH AS ARE NECESSARY TO ENSURE THAT MOTORISTS PAYING THE TOLL IN CASH ARE NOT UNDULY DELAYED IN PASSING THROUGH THE TOLL PLAZA.~~

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) “All-electronic tolling” means electronic toll collection at highway speeds through the use of a transponder and video tolling, with no cash transactions occurring on the roadway.

(3) “Authority” means the Maryland Transportation Authority.

(4) “Project” means the:

(i) Thomas J. Hatem Memorial Bridge;

(ii) Harry W. Nice Memorial Potomac River Bridge;

(iii) William Preston Lane, Jr. Memorial Chesapeake Bay Bridge and parallel Chesapeake Bay Bridge;

(iv) Baltimore Harbor Tunnel;

- (v) Fort McHenry Tunnel;
- (vi) Francis Scott Key Bridge; or
- (vii) Millard Tydings Memorial Bridge.

(b) (1) The Authority shall complete a study and submit a report on the status of its initiative to implement all–electronic tolling in accordance with this subsection.

(2) The study shall include:

(i) an analysis of all–electronic tolling in other states and a description of various all–electronic tolling programs;

(ii) an analysis of electronic toll collection interoperability;

(iii) an analysis of:

1. alternative payment methods that do not exceed the existing cash toll rate at each project;

2. a video toll rate based on an analysis of actual costs and potential savings to collect video tolls; and

3. a toll rate needed to address concerns with video toll collection associated with trucks;

(iv) an analysis of issues and factors related to all–electronic tolling that must be addressed before all–electronic tolling becomes effective at each project;

(v) an overview of revisions, if any, to the Authority’s initial all–electronic tolling proposal; and

(vi) proposed legislation, if required, relating to the implementation of all–electronic tolling.

(3) The Authority shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations on or before January 1, 2016, to:

(i) the County Executive and County Council of Cecil County;

(ii) the County Executive and County Council of Harford County;

(iii) the Mayor and Town Commission of the Town of Perryville;

(iv) the Mayor and City Council of the City of Havre de Grace;

and

(v) in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Finance Committee.

(c) The Authority's initial proposal for all-electronic tolling at the Thomas J. Hatem Memorial Bridge is withdrawn and the Authority may not implement all-electronic tolling at the Thomas J. Hatem Memorial Bridge before January 1, 2016.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2014.

**Approved by the Governor, May 5, 2014.**