

SENATE BILL 10

R4, R5

(PRE-FILED)

4lr0695
CF 4lr1700

By: **Senator Kagan**

Requested: September 24, 2023

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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 vehicle registration plates that are more than
5 a certain age; altering the prohibition against obscuring or modifying a vehicle
6 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.



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

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

6 Article – Transportation

7 13-418.

8 (A) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO:

9 (1) PERSONALIZED REGISTRATION PLATES ISSUED UNDER § 13-613
10 OF THIS TITLE; OR

11 (2) SPECIAL CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMEMORATIVE REGISTRATION
12 PLATES ISSUED UNDER § 13-618 OF THIS TITLE.

13 (B) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL:

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

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

19 (3) ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.

20 16-402.

21 (a) After the conviction of an individual for a violation of Title 2, Subtitle 5, §
22 2-209, § 3-211, or § 10-110 of the Criminal Law Article, or of the vehicle laws or regulations
23 of this State or of any local authority, points shall be assessed against the individual as of
24 the date of violation and as follows:

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

26 21-1112.1.

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

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

4 (1) **FOR A FIRST OFFENSE, ISSUED A WARNING NOTICE; AND**

5 (2) **FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, ASSESSED POINTS**
6 **UNDER § 16–402 OF THIS ARTICLE.**

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