



DATE: March 2, 2020

TO: House Environment & Transportation Committee

FROM: Beth Hall, MVTA President  
Travis Martz, MVTA Lobbyist

RE: HB 1315 (Delegate Fraser-Hildago)

**POSITION: SUPPORT W/Amendment**

MVTA is the Association of independent tag and title businesses in Maryland with over 100 members. We strongly favor House Bill 1315 with Amendment.

This bill simply prevents small business owners from incurring additional expenses unnecessarily while dissolving their entity. Our members have assisted many business owners that have been forced to close due to the recent COVID-19 pandemic. Those owners display clear frustration when they are told they have to have the same vehicle they've been driving personally for years inspected before title can transfer from the business name to their personal name. This new law does not apply to a transfer where the primary driver is different. It only applies to the transfer when a majority owner of a company desires to re-title the vehicle as a process of the business dissolution.

Currently, inspection exceptions exist when a vehicle is transferred to an immediate family member and when a lessee purchases a leased vehicle at the expiration of lease term. This exception is no different than the leased vehicle exception because the vehicle remains with the same driver. The owner is just shown as the driver personally and not a business entity.

MVTA worked with the Attorney General's office for Consumer Protection to create a mutually agreeable amendment that limits the exception to a majority business owner upon dissolution of business.

The State Police and MVA are neutral on HB1315. We ask for your favorable report.

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1071-B Baltimore Blvd.  
Westminster, MD 21157  
(410) 517-3111  
www.mvta.org