

SB 731 Senator Ron Watson FAV (V2).pdf

Uploaded by: Ron Watson

Position: FAV

RON WATSON, PH.D
Legislative District 23
Prince George's County

Judicial Proceedings Committee



James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Room 121
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
301-858-3631 · 410-841-3631
800-492-7122 Ext. 3631
Fax 301-858-3174 · 410-841-3174
Ron.Watson@senate.state.md.us

The Senate of Maryland

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 24, 2022

Chair Barve, Vice-Chair Stein, and members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present this legislation before you today.

SB 731 provides for the electronic notification of secured parties/lien holders with vehicle information that is required in statute when a vehicle is towed from a parking lot. The towing company would only be able to contact the secured party electronically if that form of notification is agreed to by the tower and the secured party in writing or by electronic communication.

Most transactions these days can be handled electronically, including purchasing a home, securing a loan, and submitting applications. Authorizing electronic notification in these matters makes sense. Under current law, when a vehicle is towed from a parking lot, the towing company is required to notify the owner, any secured party, and the insurer of record by first-class certified mail, return receipt requested, within 7 days. Providing for electronic notification of secured parties will save towing companies money and will allow for the resolution of matters more quickly should a vehicle owner not contact a tower to reclaim the vehicle. This legislation has been discussed with the Maryland Bankers Association and they approve of the language in the bill and have no concerns.

This bill has no opposition in the Senate. The house cross-filed version of this bill, HB 870, received a unanimous favorable report from the Environment and Transportation Committee and the bill unanimously passed through the House as well (138-0).

For these reasons, I respectfully request the committee to give SB 731 a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ron L. Watson".

Senator Ron Watson

Legislative District 23

SB 731-TRPM-Towing-Secured Parties-Electronic Lien

Uploaded by: Andrea Mansfield

Position: FWA



Towing & Recovery Professionals of Maryland

P.O Box 905 * Huntingtown, Maryland 20639

410-414-5406 * 1-800-244-0102 * Fax 410-414-5408

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Kumar Barve, Chair and Members of the Economic Matters Committee

FROM: Jeffrey O. Hurley, Sr, President, Towing & Recovery Professionals of Maryland
Ted Dent, 1st Vice President, Towing & Recovery Professionals of Maryland

DATE: March 24, 2022

RE: **SB 731 Vehicle Towing or Removal – Secured Parties – Electronic Notification**

POSITION: **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS**

The Towing Recovery Professionals of Maryland (TRPM) SUPPORT SB 731 WITH AMENDMENTS. This bill would provide for the electronic notification of secured parties/lien holders with vehicle information that is required in statute when a vehicle is towed from a parking lot.

The House crossfile, HB 870, was amended to further clarify that the towing company would only need to notify the secured party electronically if that form of notification is agreed to by the tower and the secured party in writing or by electronic communication. TRPM respectfully requests the Committee amend SB 731 in the same manner.

Under current law, when a vehicle is towed from a parking lot, the towing company is required to notify the owner, any secured party, and the insurer of record by certified mail, return receipt requested, and first-class mail within 7 days. This process is followed to provide proper notification to all parties to reclaim the vehicle. Should the owner/secured party/insurance company not claim the vehicle, the owner/secured party/insurance company is then agreeing to relinquish any rights to the vehicle which would allow the towing company to seek a CS-78 from a law enforcement agency to transfer the vehicle to a licensed automotive & dismantler recycler. SB 731 streamlines this notification process just for the secured party/lien holders to resolve these matters more quickly.

Most transactions these days can be managed electronically, from the purchasing of a home, securing a loan, and submitting applications. Providing for electronic notification of secured parties saves money on behalf of the tower and will resolve matters more quickly should a vehicle owner not contact a tower to reclaim the vehicle.

For these reasons, TRPM SUPPORTS SB 731 WITH AMENDMENTS and urges a FAVORABLE Committee report.

SB731_FWA_Mansfield

Uploaded by: Andrea Mansfield

Position: FWA



Towing & Recovery Professionals of Maryland

P.O Box 905 * Huntingtown, Maryland 20639

410-414-5406 * 1-800-244-0102 * Fax 410-414-5408

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Kumar Barve, Chair and Members of the Economic Matters Committee

FROM: Jeffrey O. Hurley, Sr, President, Towing & Recovery Professionals of Maryland
Ted Dent, 1st Vice President, Towing & Recovery Professionals of Maryland

DATE: March 24, 2022

RE: **SB 731 Vehicle Towing or Removal – Secured Parties – Electronic Notification**

POSITION: **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS**

The Towing Recovery Professionals of Maryland (TRPM) SUPPORT SB 731 WITH AMENDMENTS. This bill would provide for the electronic notification of secured parties/lien holders with vehicle information that is required in statute when a vehicle is towed from a parking lot.

The House crossfile, HB 870, was amended to further clarify that the towing company would only need to notify the secured party electronically if that form of notification is agreed to by the tower and the secured party in writing or by electronic communication. TRPM respectfully requests the Committee amend SB 731 in the same manner.

Under current law, when a vehicle is towed from a parking lot, the towing company is required to notify the owner, any secured party, and the insurer of record by certified mail, return receipt requested, and first-class mail within 7 days. This process is followed to provide proper notification to all parties to reclaim the vehicle. Should the owner/secured party/insurance company not claim the vehicle, the owner/secured party/insurance company is then agreeing to relinquish any rights to the vehicle which would allow the towing company to seek a CS-78 from a law enforcement agency to transfer the vehicle to a licensed automotive & dismantler recycler. SB 731 streamlines this notification process just for the secured party/lien holders to resolve these matters more quickly.

Most transactions these days can be managed electronically, from the purchasing of a home, securing a loan, and submitting applications. Providing for electronic notification of secured parties saves money on behalf of the tower and will resolve matters more quickly should a vehicle owner not contact a tower to reclaim the vehicle.

For these reasons, TRPM SUPPORTS SB 731 WITH AMENDMENTS and urges a FAVORABLE Committee report.