

HOUSE BILL 212

R4
HB 219/25 – ENT

(PRE-FILED)

6lr0774
CF SB 111

By: **Delegate Addison**

Requested: September 4, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Out-of-State Vehicles – Improper Registration**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a certain process for bringing vehicles owned by State
4 residents that are improperly registered in another state into compliance with the
5 Maryland Vehicle Law; and generally relating to improperly registered out-of-state
6 vehicles.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
8 Article – Transportation
9 Section 13–402(a) and (c)(7) and 26–301(b)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

12 BY adding to
13 Article – Transportation
14 Section 26–301(b–1)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Transportation**

20 13–402.

21 (a) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section or elsewhere in the
22 Maryland Vehicle Law, each motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer driven on
23 a highway shall be registered under this subtitle.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(2) If a motor vehicle required to be registered under this subtitle is not registered, a person may not park the unregistered motor vehicle on any:

(i) Public alley, street, or highway; or

(ii) Private property used by the public in general, including parking lots of shopping centers, condominiums, apartments, or town house developments.

(3) The provisions of paragraph (2) of this subsection do not apply to a motor vehicle that is exempt from registration under this section or § 13-402.1 of this subtitle.

(c) Registration under this subtitle is not required for:

(7) A vehicle owned by a new resident of this State during the first 60 days of residency provided the vehicle displays valid registration issued by the jurisdiction of the resident's former domicile;

26-301.

(b) Subject to subsection (c) of this section, any State agency authorized by law and any political subdivision of this State may adopt ordinances or regulations that:

(1) Regulate the parking of vehicles;

(2) Provide for the impounding of vehicles parked in violation of the ordinances or regulations;

(3) Regulate the towing of vehicles from publicly owned and privately owned parking lots; and

(4) Provide for the issuance of a citation by an officer for a violation of an ordinance or regulation that is adopted under this section.

(B-1) (1) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER PENALTY PROVIDED FOR IN THE MARYLAND VEHICLE LAW, IF THE ADMINISTRATION HAS PROBABLE CAUSE TO BELIEVE THAT A VEHICLE OWNER IS A RESIDENT OF THE STATE AND HAS FAILED TO PROPERLY REGISTER THE VEHICLE WITH THE ADMINISTRATION AND DISPLAY VALID REGISTRATION PLATES ISSUED BY THE ADMINISTRATION ON THE VEHICLE, THE VEHICLE OWNER IS SUBJECT TO A WARNING REQUIRING THE VEHICLE OWNER, WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER ISSUANCE OF THE WARNING, TO:

(I) PROPERLY REGISTER THE VEHICLE WITH THE ADMINISTRATION AND DISPLAY VALID REGISTRATION PLATES ISSUED BY THE ADMINISTRATION; OR

1 **(II) PROVIDE PROOF ACCEPTABLE TO THE ADMINISTRATION**
2 **THAT THE VEHICLE IS NOT REQUIRED TO BE REGISTERED IN THE STATE.**

3 **(2) (I) IF THE VEHICLE OWNER PROVIDES PROOF ACCEPTABLE TO**
4 **THE ADMINISTRATION THAT THE VEHICLE IS NOT REQUIRED TO BE REGISTERED IN**
5 **THE STATE, IF APPLICABLE AS DETERMINED BY THE ADMINISTRATION, THE**
6 **VEHICLE OWNER SHALL OBTAIN AND DISPLAY ON THE VEHICLE A NONRESIDENT**
7 **PERMIT ISSUED BY THE ADMINISTRATION.**

8 **(II) IF THE VEHICLE OWNER FAILS, WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER**
9 **ISSUANCE OF A WARNING UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, TO PROPERLY REGISTER THE**
10 **VEHICLE AND DISPLAY VALID REGISTRATION PLATES ON THE VEHICLE OR PROVIDE**
11 **PROOF ACCEPTABLE TO THE ADMINISTRATION THAT REGISTRATION IN THE STATE**
12 **IS NOT REQUIRED, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL BEGIN TO ASSESS A CIVIL FINE**
13 **AGAINST THE VEHICLE OF \$7 PER DAY FOR UP TO 60 DAYS OR UNTIL THE VEHICLE**
14 **IS PROPERLY REGISTERED AND DISPLAYING VALID REGISTRATION PLATES OR THE**
15 **ADMINISTRATION DETERMINES THAT THE VEHICLE IS NOT SUBJECT TO**
16 **REGISTRATION IN THE STATE, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST.**

17 **(3) (I) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL NOTIFY THE APPROPRIATE**
18 **LOCAL JURISDICTION IF A VEHICLE OWNER FAILS, WITHIN 120 DAYS AFTER**
19 **ISSUANCE OF A WARNING UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, TO PROPERLY REGISTER THE**
20 **VEHICLE AND DISPLAY VALID REGISTRATION PLATES ON THE VEHICLE OR SATISFY**
21 **THE ADMINISTRATION THAT THE VEHICLE IS NOT SUBJECT TO REGISTRATION IN**
22 **THE STATE.**

23 **(II) THE APPROPRIATE COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY MAY**
24 **BRING A CIVIL ACTION IN REM AGAINST A VEHICLE FOR WHICH THE VEHICLE OWNER**
25 **FAILS UNDER THIS SUBSECTION TO PROPERLY REGISTER AND DISPLAY VALID**
26 **REGISTRATION PLATES OR TO SATISFY THE ADMINISTRATION THAT THE VEHICLE IS**
27 **NOT SUBJECT TO REGISTRATION IN THE STATE.**

28 **(III) IN A CIVIL ACTION IN REM BROUGHT UNDER THIS**
29 **SUBSECTION, THE APPROPRIATE COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY MAY SEEK**
30 **IMMOBILIZATION OF THE VEHICLE BY TOWING OR REMOVAL AND IMPOUNDMENT OR**
31 **BY BOOTING.**

32 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect**
33 **October 1, 2026.**