

HOUSE BILL 485

R6

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By: **Delegate Malone**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2010

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Motor Vehicle Equipment – Spare Tire Requirement – Application**

3 FOR the purpose of expanding the requirement that a motor vehicle manufacturer
4 equip certain motor vehicles with a spare tire that conforms with State law to
5 apply to all new motor vehicles sold in the State; creating an exception to the
6 spare tire equipment standard for a motor vehicle equipped with a factory
7 installed tire repair and inflation system; and generally relating to motor
8 vehicle spare tire equipment standards in the State.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
10 Article – Transportation
11 Section 22–405
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article – Transportation
16 Section 22–405.3
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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

21 **Article – Transportation**

22 22–405.

23 (a) A person may not drive a motor vehicle on any highway unless the motor
24 vehicle is equipped with tires in safe operating condition, in accordance with
25 requirements approved by the Administrator.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) A person may not drive a trailer on any highway unless the trailer is
2 equipped with tires in safe operating condition, in accordance with requirements
3 approved by the Administrator.

4 (c) The Administrator shall adopt rules of safe operating conditions capable
5 of being employed by a police officer for visual inspection of tires maintained on
6 vehicles, including visual comparisons with simple measuring devices. The
7 requirements shall encompass effects on tread wear and depth of tread.

8 (d) If a police officer, at any time, has reasonable cause to believe that a
9 vehicle is unsafe or equipped with tires in violation of the provisions of this section,
10 the police officer may require the driver of the vehicle to stop and submit the vehicle
11 tire to an inspection. If the inspection discloses the vehicle to be in violation, the officer
12 may issue a summons for the violation.

13 22-405.3.

14 If a new [Class A passenger] **MOTOR** vehicle is sold in this State, the
15 manufacturer shall equip the **MOTOR** vehicle with a spare tire that conforms with the
16 requirements in § 22-405 of this subtitle, unless:

17 (1) The tire-wheel system of the **MOTOR** vehicle provides a run-flat
18 capability by which a partially inflated driving surface becomes available in the event
19 of a tire failure; [or]

20 (2) **THE MOTOR VEHICLE IS EQUIPPED WITH A**
21 **FACTORY-INSTALLED TIRE REPAIR AND INFLATION SYSTEM; OR**

22 (3) Technological improvements, consistent with applicable federal
23 motor vehicle safety standards, become available.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
25 October 1, 2010.