

SENATE BILL 275

R1

5lr2375

By: **Senators Norman, Bates, Cassilly, Eckardt, Edwards, Feldman, Hershey,
Jennings, Klausmeier, Ready, and Salling**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2015

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Transportation – Thomas J. Hatem Memorial Bridge – Discounted Variable Toll**
3 **Rate for Commuters**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Transportation Authority to establish a
5 discounted variable toll rate for certain commuters to cross the Thomas J. Hatem
6 Memorial Bridge; setting the discounted variable toll rate at a certain amount and
7 applying the toll during certain hours each day; requiring certain persons to register
8 with the Authority and present documentation and other information to qualify for
9 the discounted variable toll rate; authorizing the Authority to adopt certain
10 regulations; and generally relating to a discounted variable toll rate for commuters
11 to cross the Thomas J. Hatem Memorial Bridge.

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Transportation

14 Section 4–406

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2014 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 **4–406.**

21 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “BRIDGE” MEANS THE THOMAS J. HATEM MEMORIAL**
22 **BRIDGE THAT CROSSES THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BETWEEN HARFORD COUNTY**
23 **AND CECIL COUNTY.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(B) THE AUTHORITY SHALL ESTABLISH A DISCOUNTED VARIABLE TOLL**
2 **RATE FOR ELIGIBLE COMMUTERS THAT CROSS THE BRIDGE BETWEEN THE HOURS**
3 **OF 5:00 A.M. AND 7:00 P.M. DAILY.**

4 **(C) THE DISCOUNTED VARIABLE TOLL RATE IS 50 PERCENT OF THE TOLL**
5 **RATE THAT OTHERWISE WOULD BE CHARGED BY THE AUTHORITY TO CROSS THE**
6 **BRIDGE DURING THE PERIODS SPECIFIED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.**

7 **(D) (1) THE AUTHORITY SHALL MAKE THE DISCOUNTED VARIABLE TOLL**
8 **RATE TO CROSS THE BRIDGE AVAILABLE TO AN ELIGIBLE COMMUTER WHO DRIVES**
9 **ANY CLASS OF VEHICLE ELIGIBLE FOR REGISTRATION IN THIS STATE AND WHO**
10 **REGISTERS WITH THE AUTHORITY AS PROVIDED IN THIS SUBSECTION.**

11 **(2) A PERSON MAY REGISTER FOR A DISCOUNTED VARIABLE TOLL**
12 **RATE ONLY IF THE PERSON:**

13 **(I) SUBMITS AN APPLICATION AND REGISTERS WITH THE**
14 **AUTHORITY; AND**

15 **(II) PRESENTS DOCUMENTATION AND OTHER INFORMATION**
16 **REQUIRED BY THE AUTHORITY TO VALIDATE THE PERSON'S STATUS AS A BRIDGE**
17 **COMMUTER.**

18 **(E) THE AUTHORITY MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS**
19 **SECTION.**

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
21 October 1, 2015.