

# SENATE BILL 643

R7  
SB 780/11 – JPR

2lr2668

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By: **Senators Ramirez, Colburn, Kelley, Montgomery, and Muse**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2012

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 14, 2012

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – ~~Abandoned~~ Stolen Vehicles – Notice**

3 FOR the purpose of ~~altering the definition of abandoned vehicle to include a certain~~  
4 ~~stolen vehicle; altering the time and manner for a certain notice to be given to a~~  
5 ~~certain person by a police department; and generally relating to notice~~  
6 ~~regarding abandoned vehicles~~ requiring a police department that takes into  
7 custody a vehicle that has been reported stolen to provide, within a certain  
8 period of time, a certain notice to the last known registered owner of the vehicle;  
9 and generally relating to reporting requirements and stolen vehicles.

10 ~~BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,~~  
11 ~~Article – Transportation~~  
12 ~~Section 25–201(a)~~  
13 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~  
14 ~~(2009 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)~~

15 ~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~  
16 ~~Article – Transportation~~  
17 ~~Section 25–201(b) and 25–204(a)~~  
18 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~  
19 ~~(2009 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)~~

20 BY adding to  
21 Article – Transportation  
22 Section 14–105.2

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 Annotated Code of Maryland  
2 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

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

5 **Article – Transportation**

6 ~~25-201.~~

7 (a) ~~In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.~~

8 (b) ~~“Abandoned vehicle” means any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer:~~

9 (1) ~~That is inoperable and left unattended on public property for more~~  
10 ~~than 48 hours;~~

11 (2) ~~That has remained illegally on public property for more than 48~~  
12 ~~hours;~~

13 (3) ~~That has remained on private property for more than 48 hours~~  
14 ~~without the consent of the owner or person in control of the property;~~

15 (4) ~~That has remained in a garage for more than 10 days after the~~  
16 ~~garage keeper has given the owner of the vehicle notice by certified mail, return~~  
17 ~~receipt requested, bearing a postmark from the United States Postal Service, to~~  
18 ~~remove the vehicle;~~

19 (5) ~~That has remained in a garage for more than 10 days after the~~  
20 ~~period when, by contract, the vehicle was to remain in the garage;~~

21 (6) ~~That was left for more than 10 days in a garage by:~~

22 (i) ~~Someone other than its registered owner; or~~

23 (ii) ~~A person authorized to have possession of the vehicle under~~  
24 ~~a contract of use, service, storage, or repair;~~

25 (7) ~~That has remained on public property for more than 48 hours and:~~

26 (i) ~~Is not displaying currently valid registration plates; or~~

27 (ii) ~~Is displaying registration plates of another vehicle;~~

28 (8) ~~That has been left unattended on any portion of a “controlled~~  
29 ~~access highway” as defined in § 8-101(f) of this article for more than 24 hours;~~

1           ~~(9) That has been left unattended on any portion of a primary or~~  
 2 ~~secondary highway or controlled access highway, as defined in § 8-101 of this article,~~  
 3 ~~and is in violation of any of the provisions of § 22-408 of this article; [or]~~

4           ~~(10) THAT HAS BEEN REPORTED STOLEN AND HAS BEEN TAKEN~~  
 5 ~~INTO CUSTODY BY A POLICE DEPARTMENT; OR~~

6           ~~[(10)] (11) That is not reclaimed as provided under § 27-111 of this~~  
 7 ~~article.~~

8 ~~25-204.~~

9           ~~(a) As soon as reasonably possible and within [7] 3 days at most after it~~  
 10 ~~takes an abandoned vehicle into custody, a police department shall send a notice [.] BY~~  
 11 ~~REGULAR MAIL AND by certified mail, return receipt requested, bearing a postmark~~  
 12 ~~from the United States Postal Service, AND SHALL PROVIDE NOTICE BY~~  
 13 ~~TELEPHONE TO THE OWNER IF A PHONE NUMBER FOR THE OWNER OF THE~~  
 14 ~~VEHICLE IS AVAILABLE, to:~~

15           ~~(1) The last known registered owner of the vehicle; and~~

16           ~~(2) Each secured party, as shown on the records of the Administration.~~

17 14-105.2.

18           WITHIN 3 DAYS AFTER TAKING A VEHICLE THAT HAS BEEN REPORTED  
 19 STOLEN INTO CUSTODY, A POLICE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

20           (1) SEND NOTICE TO THE LAST KNOWN OWNER OF THE VEHICLE  
 21 BY CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED; AND

22           (2) PROVIDE NOTICE BY TELEPHONE TO THE LAST KNOWN  
 23 REGISTERED OWNER OF THE VEHICLE IF A TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR THE  
 24 OWNER IS AVAILABLE.

25           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
 26 October 1, 2012.