



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL

June 6, 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Howard County Council Vice Chair Opel Jones Files Legislation to Increase Commercial Parking Fines in Residential Areas

Ellicott City, MD – Located between Interstate 70 (I-70) and Interstate 95 (I-95), Howard County has become a corridor for unwanted commercial motor vehicle parking in residential areas.

Prioritizing public safety, Vice Chair Jones has filed Council Bill 52- 2025 and Council Resolution 116-2025. Council Bill 52 revises penalty class to implement Council Resolution 116, which increases the citation schedule of fines and penalties for commercial motor vehicles parked in residential areas.

The current code limits commercial motor vehicle parking fines to a Class D violation not to exceed \$100. Council Bill 52 will modify Section 21.232 of the County Code to implement Class A, Class B, and Class D offenses for commercial motor vehicles parked in residential areas.

"Keeping our neighborhoods safe and livable is a shared responsibility," said Vice Chair Jones. "Council Bill 52 and Council Resolution 116 amends our County Code while strengthening enforcement. This is a tiered approach. It's about balance— deterring current practices while underscoring public safety!"

The County's code defines commercial motor vehicles registered with the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) as the following classifications: Class C, Class E, Class F, Class G, Class H, and Class P.

According to the Howard County Police Department (HCPD), residents routinely express concerns about the safety issues created by commercial vehicles in residential areas. It is critical for the welfare of drivers and residents in these communities that roadways are passible and provide appropriate visibility. The most frequent complaints and concerns sent to the HCPD are about traffic and roadway safety.

The current fine for commercial motor vehicles parked in residential areas is \$33. Howard County commercial motor vehicle parking fines are the lowest statewide.

The proposed resolution will introduce a tiered schedule in accordance with Section 21.232 of the County Code, which prohibits commercial motor vehicles from parking in residential areas for more than six continuous hours.

The proposed tiered schedule begins at \$250 for the first violation, \$500 for the second, and \$750 for the third and any subsequent violations.

These proposed changes address longstanding residential challenges where large commercial motor vehicles obstruct visibility, limit access, and create potential safety hazards for families and children.

Contingent on the enactment of the proposed legislation, HCPD will conduct an outreach and awareness campaign before and during the implementation of Council Resolution 116 to inform residents and commercial motor vehicle operators of the tiered schedule increase.

“I am very supportive of the proposed legislation. Our business owners along Twin Knolls Road were negatively impacted by a long line of trucks and semi-trailers parking overnight, over the weekend and some even longer. The trucks not only reduced visibility on the road but also made our street look like a commercial truck parking lot,” said Daniel Medinger, who served as president of the Clusters at Twin Knolls Business Association. “The parking was bad but often the truckers would use the green space for cook outs and left trash and debris in the green space. One trucker told me that it was cheaper to get an occasional ticket than to pay a fee for truck parking space!”

Residents and commercial motor vehicle operators are encouraged to testify on behalf of Council Bill 52 and Council Resolution 116 to preserve the safety of their communities.

Council Bill 52 and Council Resolution 116 will be introduced at the Legislative Session on Monday, June 2nd at 7 PM. Public testimony may be provided virtually or in person at the Legislative Public Hearing on Monday, June 16th at 7 PM.

The County Council will vote on Council Bill 52 and Council Resolution 116 on Monday, July 7th at 7 PM in the George Howard Building’s Benjamin Banneker Room.

Howard County residents may sign up to testify by visiting <https://apps.howardcountymd.gov/otestimony/>. If you would like to submit written testimony, please email councilmail@howardcountymd.gov.

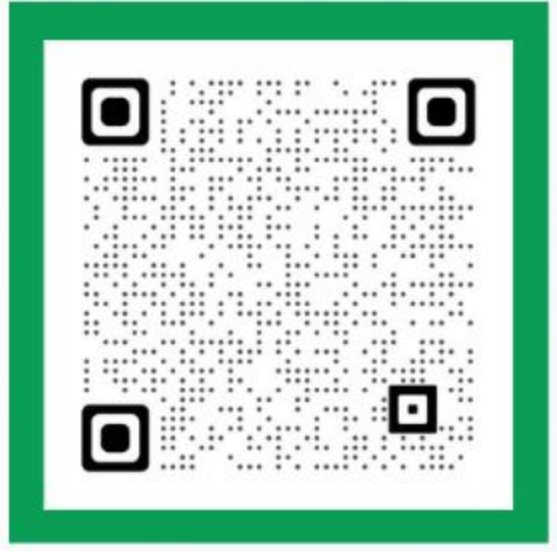
To read Council Bill 52 and Council Resolution 116, please visit:

[Council Bill 52](#)
[Council Resolution 116](#)



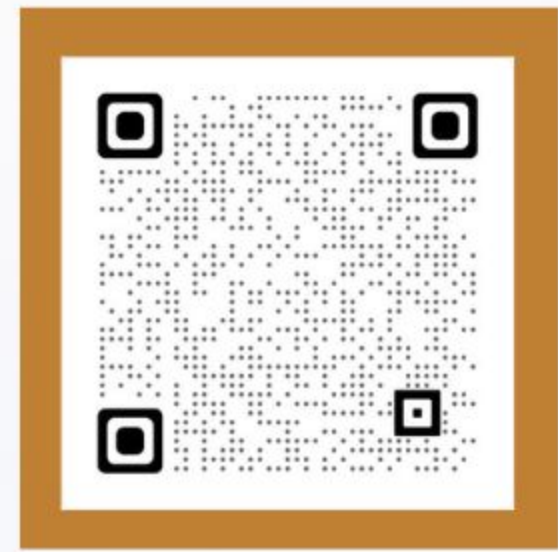
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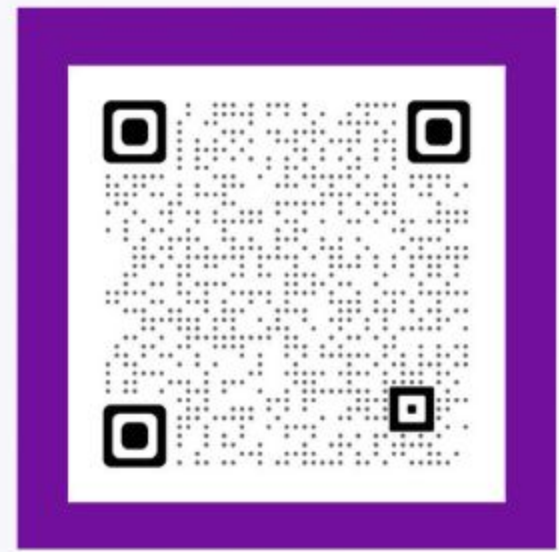
Read About It

Howard County Council
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 Legislation to Increase
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 Residential Areas



Support It

Share your support,
 complete the form, and click
 to submit



Let's Talk About It

We want to hear from
 you! Register to testify
 on Council Bill 52 and
 Council Resolution 116



Request for Help Regarding Commercial Vehicles Parked in Your Community

Contact the Howard County
 Police Department's non
 emergency number
 (410) 313-2200

Council Bill 52- 2025 and Council Resolution 116-2025



Council Bill 52- 2025

Traffic Control and Transportation – Commercial Vehicle Parking in Residential Areas – Penalties

Council Bill 52 will modify Section 21.232 of the County Code to change the penalty class to allow for increased fines for commercial motor vehicles parked in residential areas

First violation shall be a Class B offense and subsequent violations shall be Class A offense

The current code limits commercial motor vehicle parking fines to a Class D violation not to exceed \$100

Council Resolution 116-2025

Schedule of Fines – Commercial Motor Vehicle Parking in Residential Areas

The proposed resolution will establish a tiered schedule based on Section 21.232 of the County Code, which bans commercial motor vehicles from parking in residential areas for over six continuous hours

FIRST VIOLATION
\$250

SECOND VIOLATION
\$500

THIRD VIOLATION
\$750
and any subsequent violations

Council Bill 52- 2025 and Council Resolution 116-2025





VEHICLE CLASSIFICATIONS

Section 21.101(g) of the Howard County Code defines a “Commercial motor vehicle” as a motor vehicle registered with the motor vehicle administration under one of the following classes:



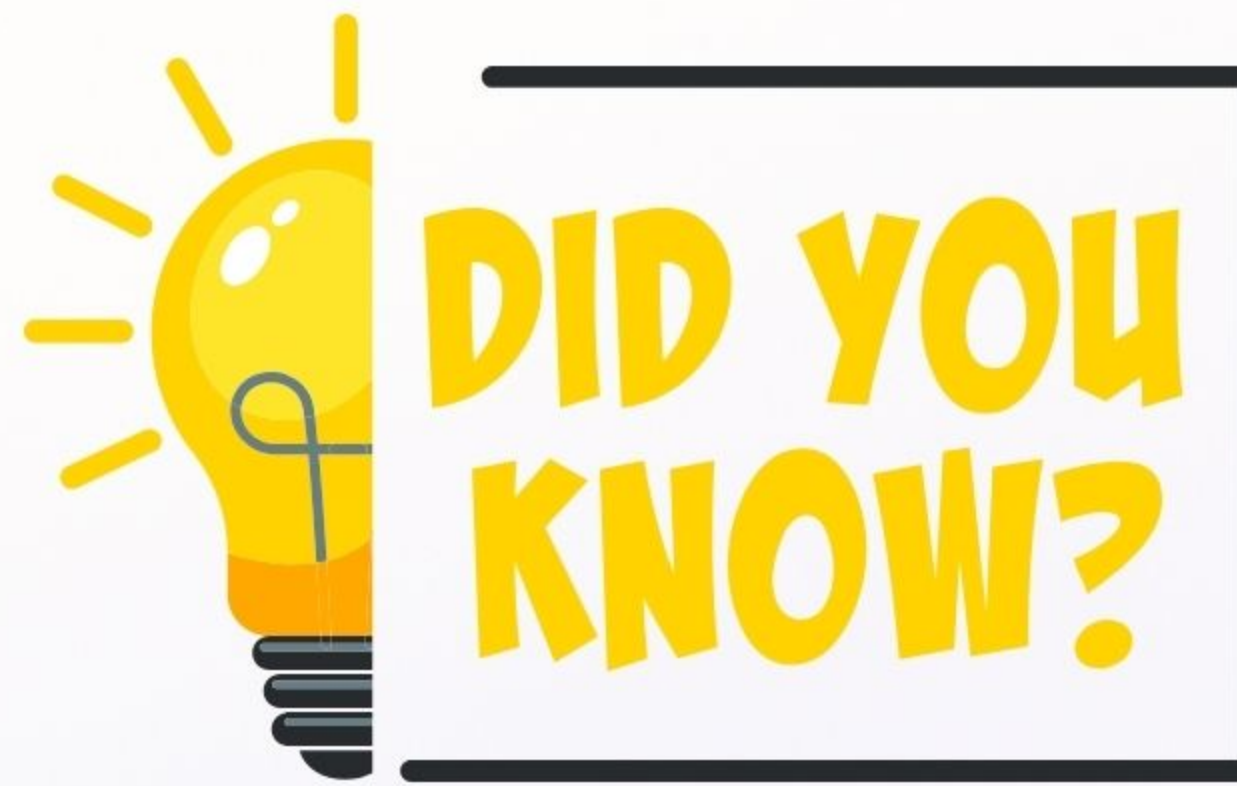
<p>Class C</p> <p>Funeral and Ambulance vehicles</p>	<p>Class E</p> <p>Truck vehicles</p>	<p>Class F</p> <p>Tractor vehicles</p>	<p>Class G</p> <p>Trailer vehicles</p>	<p>Class H</p> <p>School vehicles</p>	<p>Class P</p> <p>Passenger Bus vehicles</p>
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Or any motor vehicle used in furtherance of any commercial purpose for the carrying of material, which includes but is not limited to freight, merchandise, supplies, equipment, or debris.

Council Bill 52- 2025 and Council Resolution 116-2025





Currently, the County's commercial motor vehicle parking fine and penalty is \$33, the lowest statewide



The proposed changes addresses longstanding residential challenges where large commercial motor vehicles obstruct visibility, limit access, and create potential safety hazards for families and children



You can help to preserve the safety of your community by testifying at the Council's Legislative Public Hearing on June 16th at 7 PM



Council Bill 52- 2025 and Council Resolution 116-2025

