



Legislation Text

File #: 14-0350, **Version:** 0

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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INTRODUCTORY*

CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL

Introduced by: Councilmember Curran

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ORDINANCE concerning
Public Towing - Maximum Fees

FOR the purpose of setting the maximum fee that can be charged per tow by an accident towtruck operator; setting a maximum daily storage fee for vehicles that have been towed under certain circumstances; setting the maximum fee that a vehicle's owner can be charged if the vehicle is moved under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the towing and storage of vehicles.

BY repealing and reordaining, with amendments

Article 31 - Transit and Traffic
Section(s) 22-9 and 31-42(d)
Baltimore City Code
(Edition 2000)

BY adding

Article 31 - Transit and Traffic
Section(s) 31-11
Baltimore City Code
(Edition 2000)

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

Baltimore City Code

Article 31. Transit and Traffic

Subtitle 22. Towing Services - Accident Towing

§ 229. Schedule of charges.

(a) Schedule to be filed.

(1) When applying for a license, the applicant shall file with the Police Commissioner a schedule that clearly sets forth that person's proposed charges for towing and for services incident to towing.

(2) These charges may be measured by mileage, time, and type of service.

(B) MAXIMUM CHARGES.

(1) TOWING.

NO MATTER HOW CALCULATED, THE TOWING CHARGES MAY NOT EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF \$140 PER TOW.

(2) STORAGE.

THE SCHEDULE MUST SET A MAXIMUM STORAGE FEE OF NO MORE THAN \$50 PER DAY.

[(b)] (C) No change without amended schedule.

A licensee may not change the charges without filing with the Police Commissioner an amended schedule that shows the proposed changes.

[(c)] (D) Rejection of schedule.

(1) The Police Commissioner may reject any proposed charges if, in the Commissioner's opinion, the charges are excessive for the service to be performed.

(2) In that case, the Commissioner shall return the proposed schedule or amended schedule to the applicant or licensee, as the case may be, with suitable notice of the reasons for rejecting it.

Subtitle 31. Clear Streets and Impoundment

Part 2. General Conditions Warranting Impoundment

§ 3111. MAXIMUM CHARGES.

THE OWNER OF A VEHICLE REMOVED OR IMPOUNDED UNDER THIS PART 2 {"GENERAL CONDITIONS WARRANTING IMPOUNDMENT"} OF SUBTITLE 31 {"CLEAR STREETS AND IMPOUNDMENT"} MAY BE CHARGED A MAXIMUM OF \$140 FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE VEHICLE.

Part 4. Impoundment Procedures

§ 3142. Employment of tow trucks.

(d) Fees.

(1) The towing charges shall be set in advance, arrived at by agreement between the towers, the Commissioner, and the Director, with any disputes as to such charges to be settled by the Commissioner.

(2) In the event towing is performed by City forces or vehicles and no employment of towers becomes necessary, the same schedule of charges shall apply. Such towing charges will be added to the cost of storage as hereinafter specified, and made a lien upon such vehicle.

(3) NO MATTER HOW CALCULATED, THE TOWING CHARGES MAY NOT EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF \$140 PER TOW.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That the catchlines contained in this Ordinance are not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as a part of this or any prior Ordinance.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30th day after the date it is enacted.

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