

2020 VICTORIES

SIX STATES PASS DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENSION REFORMS



MARYLAND PASSES SB 234

- Stops suspending driver's license for unpaid traffic violations.
- A payment plan can be established if the amount of their fines are \$150 or more. (Previously, that amount was \$300).
- Eliminates monthly minimum payments.
- Allows an individual to comply with a notice to appear on a traffic citation by entering into a payment plan.

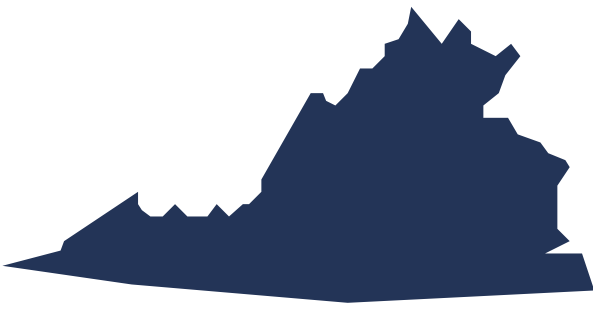
WEST VIRGINIA PASSES HB 4958

- Stops suspension of driver's licenses for nonpayment of court fines and costs.
- Requires clerks to set up payment plans for individuals who are unable to pay.
- Requires the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals to develop a uniform payment plan form and financial affidavit for payment plan requests.



VIRGINIA PASSES SB 1

- Stops driver's license suspensions for unpaid fines and fees.
- Requires the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles to reinstate licenses suspended solely due to the nonpayment of fines and costs prior to July 1, 2019, and waive all reinstatement fees.
- Permits fines, restitution, and other monetary sanctions to be deferred or paid in installments.



OREGON PASSES HB 4210

- Stops driver's license suspensions for unpaid traffic tickets.
- This is not retroactive. The provisions of this bill are effective beginning October 1, 2020.



HAWAII PASSES SB 2630

- Eliminates provisions restricting a person's ability to obtain or renew a driver's license, registration, or title due to the nonpayment of traffic fines and fees.

NEW YORK PASSES SB 5348*

- Stops driver's license suspensions for failure to pay traffic tickets and failure to appear in traffic court.
- Automatically reinstates eligible licenses without reinstatement or suspension termination fees.
- Requires courts to offer monthly payment plans, at no cost, not exceeding 2% of the person's monthly net income, or \$10 per month, whichever is larger.
- Requires that anyone assessed a fine or fee must be notified of their right to a reasonable payment plan at the time the ticket is issued, at the time of sentencing, and in any communication concerning collection of fines and fees.



***New York's bill passed the state legislature and is awaiting the Governor's signature process.**