

## CHAPTER 242

(Senate Bill 289)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 260 of Article 66½ of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1947 Supplement), title "Motor Vehicles", sub-title "Operation of Vehicles Upon Highways", providing that clerks of Trial Magistrates and of the Traffic Court may accept bail in motor vehicle law violations.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 260 of Article 66½ of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1947 Supplement), title "Motor Vehicles", sub-title "Operation of Vehicles Upon Highways", be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

260. (Person Arrested Entitled to Immediate Hearing Before the Nearest Available Justice or Trial Magistrate. Bond Requirements). In case any person shall be taken into custody because of a violation of any of the provisions of this Article, he shall forthwith be taken in the counties of this State before the nearest available Justice of the Peace or Trial Magistrate, or the Clerk to the Trial Magistrate, committing Magistrate or Police Justice of the county in which the offense is committed, or if in Baltimore City before the Justice of the Peace of the Traffic Court, or clerk of said court, and be entitled to an immediate hearing before said Justice of the Peace, Trial Magistrate, Committing Magistrate, Police Justice or Justice of the Peace of the Traffic Court; and if such hearing cannot then be had, he shall be released from custody on giving bond or undertaking executed by a fidelity or surety company authorized to give such bonds in this State; or by a person or persons acceptable as security or securities by said Magistrate, Justice of the Peace of the Traffic Court or Clerk of said Traffic Court, Trial Magistrate or Clerk to said Trial Magistrate, or Police Justice, such bond or undertaking to be in amount determined by the Magistrate or Clerk to the Magistrate not to exceed the maximum amount prescribed as the fine for such offense, and to be conditioned for his appearance at the time and place set for the hearing of the charges preferred against him or on giving his personal undertaking to appear as aforesaid secured by the deposit of a sum determined by the Magistrate or Clerk to the Magistrate not to exceed the maximum amount prescribed as the fine for such offense, and in case such bond or undertaking shall not be given