



House of Representatives

File No. 864

General Assembly

January Session, 2001

(Reprint of File No. 248)

Substitute House Bill No. 6617
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedules "A" and "B"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
June 2, 2001

AN ACT CONCERNING RENTAL MOTOR VEHICLES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (a) Upon expiration of a motor vehicle rental
2 contract between a lessee and a rental company, the rental company
3 has the right to take possession of the rental motor vehicle pursuant to
4 this section if: (1) The term of the expired rental contract was for thirty
5 days or less; and (2) not less than seventy-two hours have elapsed from
6 the time the vehicle should have been returned in accordance with the
7 provisions of the rental contract and during which time the lessee and
8 rental company did not agree to extend the rental contract. "Lessee"
9 and "rental company" have the same meaning as in section 12-692 of
10 the general statutes and "rental motor vehicle" has the same meaning
11 as in section 14-15b of the general statutes.

12 (b) In taking possession of the rental motor vehicle pursuant to
13 subsection (a) of this section, the rental company may proceed (1)
14 pursuant to judicial process, or (2) without judicial process, if it
15 proceeds without breach of the peace.

16 Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 42-158b of the general statutes is
17 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

18 (d) The provisions of this section shall apply to lease agreements
19 entered into on or after July 1, [2001] 2002.

20 Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 42-158c of the general statutes is
21 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

22 (b) The provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall apply to
23 lease agreements entered into on or after July 1, [2001] 2002.

24 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001, except that section 1
25 shall take effect October 1, 2001.

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Affected Agencies: Judicial Department

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill could affect the workload of the court system but is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact.

House "A" and "B" made various changes to the bill that did not result in a fiscal impact.

OLR Amended Bill Analysis

sHB 6617 (as amended by House "A" and House "B")*

AN ACT CONCERNING RENTAL MOTOR VEHICLES.**SUMMARY:**

This bill allows a rental company to recover a rental motor vehicle from a lessee if (1) at least 72 hours have elapsed since the vehicle was due to be returned to the rental company, (2) the vehicle was rented for 30 days or less, and (3) the rental company and lessee did not agree to extend the rental contract. The rental company can go to court to recover the vehicle or can seek to repossess it without legal action, if doing so will not result in a breach of the peace.

The bill also postpones, from July 1, 2001 to July 1, 2002, the date that laws concerning the calculation of lease rates and their disclosure to consumers apply to motor vehicle lease agreements.

*House Amendment "A" makes a technical change.

*House Amendment "B" postpones implementation of the lease rate and changes the bill's effective date.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2001, except that the provisions concerning recovery of a rental motor vehicle take effect October 1, 2001

LEASE RATE CALCULATIONS AND DISCLOSURE

Under current law, starting July 1, 2001, motor vehicle lessors must (1) calculate the lease rate using a specified formula and (2) disclose in the lease agreement the lease amount financed, the lease finance charge, and the lease rate. The bill postpones implementation of those laws until July 1, 2002.

BACKGROUND***Legislative History***

On April 19, the House referred the bill (File 248) to the Judiciary Committee, which reported it favorably on April 25 without change.

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 16 Nay 0

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 38 Nay 0