

2-703.

(A) PRIOR TO OR IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SUBTITLE, THE DEPARTMENT MAY CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE PROGRAM WILL ACHIEVE, IN THE AGGREGATE, GREATER EMISSION REDUCTIONS THAN WOULD BE ACHIEVED UNDER THE CORRESPONDING FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE EMISSIONS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM. IF THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THE PROGRAM DOES NOT ACHIEVE GREATER REDUCTIONS, THEN THE DEPARTMENT MAY POSTPONE OR SUSPEND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF § 2-702 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

~~(B) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF § 2-702 OF THIS SUBTITLE BEGINNING WITH THE MODEL YEAR 1998.~~

~~(C) THE DEPARTMENT MAY IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF § 2-702 OF THIS SUBTITLE PRIOR TO MODEL YEAR 1998 IF THE FOLLOWING JURISDICTIONS ADOPT ENABLING LEGISLATION OR REGULATIONS FOR A LOW EMISSIONS VEHICLE PROGRAM SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT TO THE PROGRAM:~~

~~(1) DELAWARE;~~

~~(2) VIRGINIA, FOR THE AREA WITHIN THE NORTHEAST OZONE TRANSPORT REGION; AND~~

~~(3) PENNSYLVANIA.~~

(B) (1) IN THIS SUBSECTION "STATES" INCLUDES THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

(2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF § 2-702 OF THIS SUBTITLE IF:

(I) FOUR OF THE FOLLOWING FIVE STATES ENACT LEGISLATION OR ADOPT REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING LEGALLY IN EFFECT IN THAT STATE AND THAT ESTABLISH A LOW EMISSIONS VEHICLE PROGRAM TO BE IMPLEMENTED NO LATER THAN MODEL YEAR 2000:

1. DELAWARE;

2. THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA;

3. NEW JERSEY;

4. VIRGINIA; OR

5. PENNSYLVANIA;

(II) THE COMBINED NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLES DURING THE PRECEDING CALENDAR YEAR IN THE STATES IN THE NORTHEAST OZONE TRANSPORT REGION, EXCLUDING MARYLAND, THAT HAVE ENACTED LEGISLATION OR ADOPTED REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING A LOW