

HOUSE BILL 52  
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2000 Regular Session  
0lr0225

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Delegates K. Kelly and Arnick**

Requested: June 29, 1999

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2000

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Overtaking and Passing Vehicles**

3 FOR the purpose of providing that on a roadway that has two or more lanes for traffic  
4 moving in the same direction a vehicle being overtaken in the far left lane shall  
5 give way to the right in favor of the overtaking vehicle under certain  
6 circumstances; providing a certain exception; and generally relating to the  
7 overtaking and passing of vehicles.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article - Transportation  
10 Section 21-303  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (1999 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article - Transportation**

16 21-303.

17 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, this section governs the  
18 overtaking and passing of vehicles going in the same direction.

19 (b) The driver of a vehicle overtaking another vehicle that is going in the same  
20 direction shall pass to the left of the overtaken vehicle at a safe distance.

21 (c) The driver of a vehicle overtaking another vehicle that is going in the same  
22 direction, until safely clear of the overtaken vehicle, may not drive any part of [his]  
23 THE DRIVER'S vehicle directly in front of the overtaken vehicle.

24 (d) (1) Except when overtaking and passing on the right is permitted, the  
25 driver of an overtaken vehicle, on audible signal, shall give way to the right in favor  
26 of the overtaking vehicle.

1           (2)    (I)       NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPH (1) OF  
2 THIS SUBSECTION, ON A ROADWAY THAT HAS TWO OR MORE LANES FOR TRAFFIC  
3 MOVING IN THE SAME DIRECTION, WHEN SAFE AND PRACTICABLE, THE DRIVER OF A  
4 VEHICLE BEING OVERTAKEN IN THE FAR LEFT LANE SHALL GIVE WAY TO THE RIGHT  
5 IN FAVOR OF AN OVERTAKING VEHICLE.

6                   (II)     THE PROVISIONS OF SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH  
7 DO NOT APPLY TO A VEHICLE IN THE FAR LEFT LANE PREPARING FOR A LEFT TURN.

8    (e)        Except when overtaking and passing on the right is permitted, the driver  
9 of an overtaken vehicle, until completely passed by the overtaking vehicle, may not  
10 increase the speed of his vehicle.

11    SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
12 October 1, 2000.