

HOUSE BILL 954

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R5  
HB 691/03 - JUD

2004 Regular Session  
4r0722

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By: **Delegates Bronrott, Barkley, Barve, Bobo, Boteler, Burns, V. Clagett, Cluster, Cryor, DeBoy, Dumais, Feldman, Franchot, Frush, Gaines, Goldwater, Gutierrez, Healey, Heller, Hixson, Holmes, Hurson, Jennings, Jones, Kaiser, King, Lee, Love, Madaleno, Malone, Mandel, McComas, McMillan, Menes, Moe, Montgomery, Murray, Parker, Petzold, Ross, Shank, Simmons, Sophocleus, Stern, and Taylor**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2004  
Assigned to: Judiciary

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Committee Report: Favorable  
House action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 16, 2004

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CHAPTER 388

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Violation of Pedestrian Right-of-Way - Penalties**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the penalties for certain violations of vehicle laws that  
4 establish a pedestrian right-of-way in a marked crosswalk; and generally  
5 relating to violations of vehicle laws relating to pedestrians.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
7 Article - Transportation  
8 Section 21-502 and 27-101(a) and (b)  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article - Transportation  
13 Section 27-101(c)(21) and (22)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

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

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**Article - Transportation**

2 21-502.

3 (a) (1) This subsection does not apply where:

4 (i) A pedestrian tunnel or overhead pedestrian crossing is  
5 provided, as described in § 21-503(b) of this subtitle; or

6 (ii) A traffic control signal is in operation.

7 (2) The driver of a vehicle shall come to a stop when a pedestrian  
8 crossing the roadway in a crosswalk is:

9 (i) On the half of the roadway on which the vehicle is traveling; or

10 (ii) Approaching from an adjacent lane on the other half of the  
11 roadway.12 (b) A pedestrian may not suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and  
13 walk or run into the path of a vehicle which is so close that it is impossible for the  
14 driver to yield.15 (c) If, at a marked crosswalk or at an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection,  
16 a vehicle is stopped to let a pedestrian cross the roadway, the driver of any other  
17 vehicle approaching from the rear may not overtake and pass the stopped vehicle.

18 27-101.

19 (a) It is a misdemeanor for any person to violate any of the provisions of the  
20 Maryland Vehicle Law unless the violation:21 (1) Is declared to be a felony by the Maryland Vehicle Law or by any  
22 other law of this State; or23 (2) Is punishable by a civil penalty under the applicable provision of the  
24 Maryland Vehicle Law.25 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, any person convicted of a  
26 misdemeanor for the violation of any of the provisions of the Maryland Vehicle Law is  
27 subject to a fine of not more than \$500.28 (c) Any person who is convicted of a violation of any of the provisions of the  
29 following sections of this article is subject to a fine of not more than \$500 or  
30 imprisonment for not more than 2 months or both:31 (21) As to a pedestrian in a marked crosswalk, § 21-502(a) ("Pedestrians'  
32 right-of-way in crosswalks: In general"), IF THE VIOLATION CONTRIBUTES TO AN  
33 ACCIDENT;

1                   (22)     As to another vehicle stopped at a marked crosswalk, § 21-502(c)  
2 ("Passing of vehicle stopped for pedestrian prohibited"), IF THE VIOLATION  
3 CONTRIBUTES TO AN ACCIDENT;

4     SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
5 October 1, 2004.