

# HOUSE BILL 247

R1

4lr1178

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By: **Delegate Hogan**

Introduced and read first time: January 17, 2014

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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## A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

### **Vehicle Laws – Road Rage Reduction Act of 2014**

FOR the purpose of providing that on a roadway that has two or more lanes for traffic moving in the same direction, a vehicle being overtaken in the far left lane shall give way to the right in favor of the overtaking vehicle under certain circumstances; providing certain exceptions; requiring the State Highway Administration to erect certain signs along certain roadways; requiring that the signs be spaced at a certain interval; and generally relating to the overtaking and passing of vehicles and signage along roadways.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Transportation

Section 21–303

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2012 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

### **Article – Transportation**

21–303.

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

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

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(c) The driver of a vehicle overtaking another vehicle that is going in the same direction, until safely clear of the overtaken vehicle, may not drive any part of his vehicle directly in front of the overtaken vehicle.

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

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

**(II) THE PROVISIONS OF SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH DO NOT APPLY TO:**

**1. A VEHICLE IN THE FAR LEFT LANE PREPARING FOR A LEFT TURN; OR**

**2. A VEHICLE IN A HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLE LANE IF:**

**A. THE HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLE LANE IS A SINGLE LANE MOVING IN ONE DIRECTION; AND**

**B. THE HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLE RESTRICTIONS ARE IN EFFECT.**

**(3) (I) THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION SHALL ERECT SIGNS ALONG EACH ROADWAY IN THE STATE THAT HAS TWO OR MORE LANES FOR TRAFFIC MOVING IN THE SAME DIRECTION TO INSTRUCT THE DRIVER OF A VEHICLE BEING OVERTAKEN, WHEN SAFE AND PRACTICABLE, TO GIVE WAY TO THE RIGHT IN FAVOR OF AN OVERTAKING VEHICLE.**

**(II) THE SIGNS REQUIRED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL BE SPACED ALONG THE ROADWAY EVERY 5 MILES OR AS NEAR AS PRACTICABLE TO THAT INTERVAL.**

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

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2014.

