

SENATE BILL 33

R5

4lr0116

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request – Departmental – Transportation)**

Requested: November 15, 2013

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2014

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Vehicle Laws – Rules of the Road – Use of High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes

FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from driving a vehicle in a high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane except under certain circumstances; authorizing certain vehicles to be driven in HOV lanes at all times; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the use of HOV lanes.

BY adding to

Article – Transportation

Section 21–314

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

21–314.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “HOV LANE” MEANS A HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLE LANE, THE USE OF WHICH IS RESTRICTED BY A TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE DURING SPECIFIED TIMES TO VEHICLES CARRYING AT LEAST A SPECIFIED NUMBER OF OCCUPANTS.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(B) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, A PERSON MAY NOT DRIVE A VEHICLE IN AN HOV LANE UNLESS AUTHORIZED BY A TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE.

(C) THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES MAY BE DRIVEN IN AN HOV LANE AT ALL TIMES REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS IN OR ON THE VEHICLE:

(1) A BUS;

(2) A MOTORCYCLE; AND

(3) A PLUG-IN ELECTRIC DRIVE VEHICLE DISPLAYING A VALID PERMIT ISSUED UNDER § 25-108 OF THIS ARTICLE.

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