HOUSE BILL 1412

R58lr3298 By: Delegates Saab and S. Howard Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2018 Assigned to: Environment and Transportation Committee Report: Favorable with amendments House action: Adopted Read second time: March 13, 2018 CHAPTER AN ACT concerning Vehicle Laws - High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes - Hours of Operation on U.S. Route 50 FOR the purpose of restricting the days and hours during which a certain portion of the U.S. Route 50 high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane passenger requirement applies; authorizing the State Highway Administration to suspend the day and time restrictions under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the use of HOV lanes. BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Transportation Section 21-314 Annotated Code of Maryland (2012 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement) SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows: **Article – Transportation** 21 - 314.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.

<u>Underlining</u> indicates amendments to bill.

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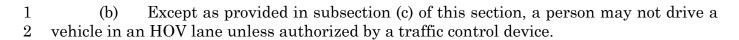
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Strike out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



- 3 (c) (1) The following vehicles may be driven in an HOV lane at all times 4 regardless of the number of passengers in or on the vehicle:
- 5 (i) A bus;
- 6 (ii) A motorcycle;
- 7 (iii) A plug–in electric drive vehicle displaying a valid permit issued 8 under § 25–108 of this article; and
- 9 (iv) A tow truck that is properly registered in accordance with § 10 13–920 of this article and is using any visual signal that meets the requirements of § 11 22–218 of this article while responding to a call for service if an appropriate law enforcement agency has authorized the tow truck operator to use HOV lanes.
- 13 (2) A qualified hybrid vehicle displaying a valid permit issued under § 25–108 of this article may be driven in the portion of U.S. Route 50 designated as an HOV lane, between Interstate 95/Interstate 495 and U.S. Route 301, at all times regardless of the number of passengers in or on the vehicle.
- 17 (3) (I) FOR THE PORTION OF U.S. ROUTE 50 DESIGNATED AS AN HOV LANE, BETWEEN INTERSTATE 95/INTERSTATE 495 AND U.S. ROUTE 301, THE REQUIREMENT THAT A VEHICLE HAVE MULTIPLE PASSENGERS IN THE VEHICLE APPLIES ONLY MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY BETWEEN 6 A.M. AND 9 A.M. AND 21 BETWEEN 4 P.M. AND 7 P.M.
- 22 <u>(II) THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION MAY SUSPEND THE</u> 23 <u>DAY AND TIME RESTRICTIONS ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH IF IT</u> 24 <u>DETERMINES THAT THE RESTRICTIONS DO NOT COMPLY WITH FEDERAL LAW.</u>
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2018.