

HOUSE BILL 1226

R5

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By: **Delegates Cain, Henson, Bagnall, Bartlett, C. Branch, Feldmark, Guyton, Howard, Mosby, Palakovich Carr, Rogers, Rose, Smith, and Wilkins**
Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2020
Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – School Bus Safety – Occupant Capacity**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the number of pupils on a school bus from exceeding the
4 seating capacity of the school bus; and generally relating to school bus safety.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments
6 Article – Transportation
7 Section 21–1118(a) and (b)
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

10 BY repealing
11 Article – Transportation
12 Section 21–1118(c)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

15 BY adding to
16 Article – Transportation
17 Section 21–1118(c)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

22 **Article – Transportation**

23 21–1118.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (a) The driver of a school bus:

2 (1) Is responsible for its operation; and

3 (2) May not drive it into any roadway without first stopping and
4 determining that there is no danger from any other vehicle.

5 (b) The person responsible for any pupils on a school bus is:

6 (1) The teacher on the bus; or

7 (2) If a teacher is not present, the driver.

8 [(c) A person responsible for pupils on a school bus may not permit the number of
9 standing pupils to exceed one pupil for each part of the aisle that is bounded on both sides
10 by forward facing seats.]

11 **(C) THE NUMBER OF PUPILS ON A SCHOOL BUS MAY NOT EXCEED THE**
12 **SEATING CAPACITY OF THE SCHOOL BUS.**

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
14 1, 2020.