

HOUSE BILL 612

R1, L2

4lr0801

By: **Montgomery County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2024

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Montgomery County – Highways – Maximum Speed Limits**

3 **MC 10–24**

4 FOR the purpose of repealing the requirement that a local authority in Montgomery County
5 perform an engineering and traffic investigation before decreasing the maximum
6 speed limit on a highway; and generally relating to maximum speed limits in
7 Montgomery County.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

9 Article – Transportation

10 Section 21–803(a)(1), (c), and (d)

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

14 Article – Transportation

15 Section 21–803(a)(4)

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

19 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article – Transportation**

21 21–803.

22 (a) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (3) through (5) of this subsection, if,
23 on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation, a local authority determines that
24 any maximum speed limit specified in this subtitle is greater or less than reasonable or

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 safe under existing conditions on any part of a highway in its jurisdiction, it may establish
2 a reasonable and safe maximum speed limit for that part of the highway, which may:

3 (i) Decrease the limit at an intersection;

4 (ii) Increase the limit in an urban district to not more than 50 miles
5 per hour;

6 (iii) Decrease the limit in an urban district; or

7 (iv) Decrease the limit outside an urban district to not less than 25
8 miles per hour.

9 (4) (i) This paragraph applies only to:

10 1. Montgomery County; and

11 2. Municipalities located in Montgomery County.

12 (ii) A local authority may decrease the maximum speed limit to not
13 less than 15 miles per hour on a highway [only after performing an engineering and traffic
14 investigation].

15 (iii) A local authority may not implement a new speed monitoring
16 system to enforce speed limits on any portion of a highway for which the speed limit has
17 been decreased under this paragraph.

18 (c) An altered maximum speed limit established under this section is effective
19 when posted on appropriate signs giving notice of the limit.

20 (d) Except in Baltimore City, any alteration by a local authority of a maximum
21 speed limit on a part or extension of a State highway is not effective until it is approved by
22 the State Highway Administration.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 October 1, 2024.