

By: Delegates Conroy and Dypski

Requested: November 7, 1995

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 1996

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Individuals with Disabilities - Parking**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from stopping, standing, or parking on a loading
4 zone designed for the use of individuals with disabilities; requiring parking lots
5 constructed or altered after a certain date to conform to requirements of the
6 Maryland Accessibility Code; repealing certain nonconforming provisions relating
7 to minimum parking spaces, size, and sign requirements; making stylistic changes;
8 and generally relating to parking for individuals with disabilities.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - Transportation
11 Section 21-1003(ee), 21-1006, and 21-1007
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - Transportation**

17 21-1003.

18 (ee) A person may not stop, stand, or park a vehicle in front of OR ON a passenger
19 loading zone designed or marked for the use of individuals with disabilities.

20 21-1006.

21 (a) [In this section, "parking lot" means any parking lot reserved for the use of
22 persons entering a retail store or shopping center that has more than 20,000 square feet
23 of usable floor area, except a parking lot built in compliance with the Maryland Building
24 Code for the handicapped.

25 (b) Except as otherwise mandated by federal law, each parking lot shall designate
26 parking spaces for the use of individuals with disabilities as follows:

27		Required Minimum Number
28	Total Parking	of Accessible Spaces for
29	Spaces in Lot	Individuals with Disabilities

1	Less than 9	0
2	10 - 25	1
3	26 - 100	2
4	101 - 300	4
5	301 - 500	6
6	501 - 800	8
7	801 - 1,000	10
8	More than 1,000	Ten spaces plus two spaces
9		for each additional thousand,
10		with a maximum limit of 20
11		spaces.]

12 EACH PARKING LOT THAT IS CONSTRUCTED OR ALTERED AFTER OCTOBER 1,
 13 1996 SHALL CONFORM WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE MARYLAND
 14 ACCESSIBILITY CODE ADOPTED UNDER ARTICLE 83B, § 6-102 OF THE CODE.

15 [(c) Each space reserved for individuals with disabilities under subsection (b)
 16 shall:

17 (1) Be at least 12 feet wide;

18 (2) Be located to provide individuals with disabilities with easy accessibility
 19 to the store or shopping center.

20 (d) Each space reserved for a person with a disability shall be signified by a sign
 21 that complies with the Maryland Building Code for the handicapped.

22 (e)] (B) A person may not park a motor vehicle in a space designated for the use
 23 of individuals with disabilities unless the vehicle bears a special registration plate, a
 24 removable windshield placard, or a temporary removable windshield placard issued by the
 25 Administration under § 13-616, § 13-616.1, or § 13-616.2 of this article or similarly by
 26 another state, the District of Columbia, or another country.

27 21-1007.

28 (a) The owner or lessor of a supermarket, business establishment, or shopping
 29 area or center that has entrances surrounded by obstacles designed to prevent shopping
 30 carts from being removed from the premises, shall provide an unobstructed entrance
 31 during business hours for [physically handicapped persons] INDIVIDUALS WITH
 32 DISABILITIES, as provided for in subsection (b) OF THIS SECTION.

33 (b) Such an entrance shall be at least 36 inches wide and constructed to allow
 34 reasonable access for entry and egress for [physically handicapped persons confined to
 35 wheelchairs] INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.

36 (c) Failure to provide such an entrance, or failure to keep it unlocked and
 37 accessible during business hours to [physically handicapped persons confined to a
 38 wheelchair] INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES, is a violation of this article.

39 (d) Nothing contained in this section shall be construed as negating the provisions
 40 of the Maryland [Building] ACCESSIBILITY Code for the handicapped and aged
 41 [promulgated] ADOPTED under Article 83B, § 6-102 of the Code.

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1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 October 1, 1996.