
By: Delegates Petzold, Mandel, and Heller

Requested: October 31, 1996

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 1997

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Funeral Processions - Use of Warning Lamps Required**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the driver of a motor vehicle in a funeral procession to use
4 flashing warning lamps under certain circumstances; making a stylistic change; and
5 generally relating to the use of flashing warning lamps by the driver of a motor
6 vehicle in a funeral procession.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Transportation
9 Section 21-207
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
13 Article - Transportation
14 Section 22-221(d) through (g)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

19 **Article - Transportation**

20 21-207.

21 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, a funeral procession facing a
22 red signal may continue through or make a turn at an intersection if the first vehicle in the
23 procession already entered the intersection before the signal changed from green to red.

24 (b) While a funeral procession is proceeding through a red signal as permitted by
25 this section, a vehicle that is not in the procession may not enter the intersection, even if
26 it is facing a green signal, unless it can do so without crossing the path of the procession.
27 When the red signal changes to green while the funeral procession is still within the
28 intersection, [any] A vehicle facing a green signal may proceed, but the funeral
29 procession has the right-of-way.

2

1 (c) The driver of a vehicle in a funeral procession does not have any privilege
2 granted in this section unless:

3 (1) [the] THE headlights of the vehicle are turned on; AND

4 (2) SUBJECT TO § 22-221(G) OF THIS ARTICLE, THE WARNING LAMPS OF
5 THE VEHICLE ARE FLASHING.

6 22-221.

7 (d) Any vehicle may be equipped with lamps used for the purpose of warning the
8 drivers of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the
9 exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking, or passing, and, when so equipped,
10 may display the warning in addition to any other warning signals required by the
11 Maryland Vehicle Law.

12 (e) The lamps used to display this warning to the front shall be mounted at the
13 same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable and shall display simultaneously
14 flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. The lamps
15 used to display this warning to the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely
16 spaced laterally as practicable and shall display simultaneously flashing amber or red
17 lights, or any shade of color between amber and red.

18 (f) These warning lights shall be visible from a distance of not less than 1,500 feet
19 under normal atmospheric conditions at night.

20 (g) Every motor vehicle that is registered in this State and that was manufactured
21 or assembled after June 30, 1967, and designated as a 1968 or subsequent year model
22 shall be equipped either with these lamps or with some other device approved by the
23 Administrator, by means of which the driver may cause both front and both rear turn
24 signals to flash simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
26 October 1, 1997.