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**By: Senator Stone (By Request)**

Introduced and read first time: January 9, 1997

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Motor Vehicles - Extending Arms or Hands Outside a Door or Window**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person, with certain exceptions, from extending an arm,  
4 hand, or other body part outside the window or door of a motor vehicle that is being  
5 operated on any highway in the State; and generally relating to motor vehicles and  
6 rules of the road.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
8 Article - Transportation  
9 Section 21-604 and 21-605  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
13 Article - Transportation  
14 Section 21-606  
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 21-604.

21 (a) A person may not turn a vehicle at an intersection, unless the vehicle is in the  
22 position required by § 21-601 of this subtitle.

23 (b) A person may not turn a vehicle to enter a private road or driveway or  
24 otherwise turn a vehicle from a direct course or move it right or left on a roadway or from  
25 a shoulder or bikeway onto a roadway, unless the movement can be made with reasonable  
26 safety.

27 (c) A person may not, if any other vehicle might be affected by the movement,  
28 turn a vehicle until he gives an appropriate signal in the manner required by this subtitle.

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1 (d) When required, a signal of intention to turn right or left shall be given  
2 continuously during at least the last 100 feet traveled by the vehicle before turning; except  
3 that a bicyclist may interrupt the turning signal to maintain control of the bicycle.

4 (e) If there is an opportunity to signal, a person may not stop or suddenly  
5 decrease the speed of a vehicle until he gives an appropriate signal in the manner  
6 required by this subtitle to the driver of any other vehicle immediately to the rear.

7 (f) The signals provided for in § 21-605(b) and (c) of this subtitle:

8 (1) May be used to indicate an intention to turn, change lanes, or start from  
9 a stopped, standing, or parked position; and

10 (2) May not be flashed as a courtesy or "do pass" signal to the driver of any  
11 other vehicle approaching from the rear.

12 21-605.

13 (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, each required  
14 stop or turn signal shall be given:

15 (1) By hand and arm in conformity with § 21-606 of this subtitle; or

16 (2) By signal lamps.

17 (b) Each motor vehicle in use on a highway shall be equipped with and the  
18 required signal given by signal lamps, if the distance from the center of the top of the  
19 steering post to the left outside limit of the body, cab, or load of the vehicle is more than  
20 24 inches.

21 (c) Each motor vehicle in use on a highway shall be equipped with and the  
22 required signal given by signal lamps if, for any vehicle or combination of vehicles, the  
23 distance from the center of the top of the steering post to the rear limit of the body or  
24 load is more than 14 feet.

25 21-606.

26 (a) Except as otherwise provided, each required signal given by hand and arm  
27 shall be given from the left side of the vehicle in the manner specified in this section.

28 (b) A left turn signal is given by the hand and arm extended horizontally.

29 (c) A right turn signal is given by the hand and arm extended upward; except that  
30 a bicyclist may extend the right hand and arm horizontally to the right.

31 (d) A stop or decrease in speed signal is given by the hand and arm extended  
32 downward.

33 (E) UNLESS A PERSON IS GIVING A HAND OR ARM SIGNAL AS REQUIRED  
34 UNDER THIS SECTION, A PERSON MAY NOT EXTEND A HAND, ARM, OR OTHER BODY  
35 PART OUT THE WINDOW OR DOOR OF A MOTOR VEHICLE THAT IS BEING OPERATED  
36 ON A HIGHWAY.

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

