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By: Senator Jimeno Introduced and read first time: January 31, 1997 Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Vehicle Laws - Rules of the Road

3 FOR the purpose of repealing certain provisions of the Maryland Vehicle Law relating to

- 4 marked crosswalks; conforming certain provisions of the Maryland Vehicle Law to
- 5 the Uniform Vehicle Code; clarifying certain language relating to traffic and
- 6 pedestrian control signals, limitations on overtaking vehicles to the left, required
- 7 position and method of turning, and overtaking school vehicles; requiring the State
- 8 Highway Administration to place and maintain certain traffic control devices that
- 9 conform to certain specifications for persons confined to a wheelchair; prohibiting
- 10 the sale or offer for sale by the public of certain traffic control devices in certain
- 11 situations; prohibiting the installation of certain traffic control devices by the public
- 12 in certain situations; making stylistic changes; declaring that the catchlines
- 13 contained in this Act are not law; and generally relating to vehicle rules of the road.
- 14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 15 Article Transportation
- 16 Section 21-202, 21-203, 21-601, 21-706, 21-1005(j), and 25-104
- 17 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 18 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

19 BY repealing

- 20 Article Transportation
- 21 Section 21-101(h-1), 21-305, and 21-309(g), (h), and (i)
- 22 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 23 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

24 BY adding to

- 25 Article Transportation
- 26 Section 21-305, 21-306, 25-104.1, and 25-106.1
- 27 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 28 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)
- 29 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
- 30 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

1 Article - Transportation

2 21-101.

3 [(h-1) (1) "Marked crosswalk" means any part of a roadway that is distinctly 4 indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines and markings as provided in paragraphs (2) and 5 (3) of this subsection.

6 (2) Except as provided in paragraph (3), the markings indicating a marked 7 crosswalk at a traffic light, shall consist of two parallel solid white lines marking both 8 edges of the crosswalk. These lines shall be at least six inches wide and at least six feet 9 apart. However, in an area where the speed limit is more than 35 miles an hour, or where 10 a crosswalk is located at other than an intersection, or where the existence of a crosswalk 11 is unexpected, or where a crosswalk is located in a school zone, these lines may be 12 increased to a width of 24 inches, and the space between them shall be hatched with 13 diagonal white lines that are 12 to 24 inches wide and 12 to 24 inches apart.

(3) The markings indicating a marked crosswalk at an intersection without a
traffic light shall consist of two parallel solid white lines marking both edges of the
crosswalk. These lines shall be:

17	(i) 12 to 24 inches wide, and the space between them shall be hatched
18	with diagonal or longitudinal white lines that are 12 to 24 inches wide and 12 to 24 inches
19	apart in an area where:

20	1. The speed limit is more than 35 miles an hour;
21	2. A crosswalk is located at other than an intersection;
22	3. The existence of a crosswalk is unexpected; or
23	4. A crosswalk is located in a school zone; and
24	(ii) At least 6 inches wide and at least 6 feet apart in all other areas.]

25 21-202. TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL LEGEND.

(a) [(1) Except for special pedestrian signals that carry a word legend, where]
WHENEVER traffic is controlled by traffic control signals [that show] EXHIBITING
different colored lights or colored lighted arrows, [whether] successively one at a time
or in combination, only the colors green, red, and yellow [may] SHALL be used[.],

- 30 EXCEPT FOR SPECIAL PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS CARRYING A LEGEND, AND SAID
- [(2) These] lights SHALL INDICATE AND apply to drivers OF VEHICLES and
 pedestrians as [provided in this section.] FOLLOWS:
- 33 (1) GREEN INDICATION:

[(b)] (I) Vehicular traffic facing a circular green signal may proceed straight
through or[, unless a sign at the place prohibits the turn,] turn right or left UNLESS A
SIGN AT SUCH PLACE PROHIBITS EITHER SUCH TURN. BUT

37 [(c) Vehicular] VEHICULAR traffic [described under subsection (b) of this
 38 section], including [any vehicle] VEHICLES turning right or left, shall yield the

1 right-of-way to [any] other [vehicle] VEHICLES and [any pedestrian] TO

2 PEDESTRIANS lawfully within the intersection or an adjacent crosswalk [when the] AT

3 THE TIME SUCH signal is [shown] EXHIBITED.

4 [(d)] (II) Vehicular traffic facing a green arrow signal, [whether] shown alone or
5 with another indication, MAY cautiously [may] enter the intersection[, but] only to
6 make the movement indicated by [the] SUCH arrow or [to make another] SUCH OTHER
7 movement AS IS permitted by other indications shown at the same time.

8 [(e)] SUCH [Vehicular] VEHICULAR traffic [described under subsection (d) of 9 this section] shall yield the right-of-way to [any pedestrian] PEDESTRIANS lawfully 10 within an adjacent crosswalk and to [any] other traffic lawfully using the intersection.

[(f)] (III) Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian control signal as provided in §
21-203 of this subtitle, [a pedestrian] PEDESTRIANS facing any green signal, [unless]
EXCEPT WHEN the SOLE green signal is [only] a turn arrow, may [cross] PROCEED
ACROSS the roadway[,] within any marked or unmarked crosswalk[, in the direction of
the green signal].

16 (2) STEADY YELLOW INDICATION:

[(g) (1)] (I) Vehicular traffic facing a steady CIRCULAR yellow OR YELLOW
ARROW signal is THEREBY warned that the related green movement is [ending] BEING
TERMINATED or that a red INDICATION [signal, which will prohibit vehicular traffic
from entering the intersection, will be shown] WILL BE EXHIBITED immediately [after

21 the yellow signal] THEREAFTER.

[(2)] (II) [Unless] PEDESTRIANS FACING A STEADY CIRCULAR YELLOW
OR YELLOW ARROW SIGNAL, UNLESS otherwise directed by a pedestrian control signal
as provided in § 21-203 of this subtitle, [a pedestrian facing a steady yellow signal is
warned] ARE THEREBY ADVISED that there is [not enough] INSUFFICIENT time to
cross the roadway before a red [signal] INDICATION is shown[,] and [a] NO pedestrian
[may not] SHALL then start to cross the roadway.
(3) STEADY RED INDICATION:
[(h)] (I) Vehicular traffic facing a steady CIRCULAR red signal alone[:

- 30 (1) Shall] SHALL stop at [the near side of the intersection:
- 31 (i) At] a clearly marked stop line[;
- (ii) If there is no clearly marked stop line] BUT IF NONE, before
 entering [any] THE crosswalk[;] ON THE NEAR SIDE OF THE INTERSECTION, or
- 34 [(iii) If there is no crosswalk,] IF NONE, THEN before entering the 35 intersection[;] and

36 [(2) Except as provided in subsections (i), (j), and (k) of this section,] shall
37 remain [stopped] STANDING until [a signal] AN INDICATION to proceed is shown
38 EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (III) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

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(II) VEHICULAR TRAFFIC FACING A STEADY RED ARROW SIGNAL SHALL
 NOT ENTER THE INTERSECTION TO MAKE THE MOVEMENT INDICATED BY THE
 ARROW AND, UNLESS ENTERING THE INTERSECTION TO MAKE A MOVEMENT
 PERMITTED BY ANOTHER SIGNAL, SHALL STOP AT A CLEARLY MARKED STOP LINE,
 BUT IF NONE, BEFORE ENTERING THE CROSSWALK ON THE NEAR SIDE OF THE
 INTERSECTION, OR IF NONE, THEN BEFORE ENTERING THE INTERSECTION AND
 SHALL REMAIN STANDING UNTIL AN INDICATION PERMITTING THE MOVEMENT
 INDICATED BY SUCH RED ARROW IS SHOWN EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN
 SUBPARAGRAPH (III) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

10 [(i)] (III) [Unless] EXCEPT WHEN a sign IS IN PLACE prohibiting a turn [is in 11 place], vehicular traffic facing [a] ANY steady red signal[, after stopping as required by 12 subsection (h) of this section, cautiously] may CAUTIOUSLY enter the intersection [and 13 make:

14 (1) A right turn; or

(2) A left turn from a one-way street onto a one-way street] TO TURN
RIGHT, OR TO TURN LEFT FROM A ONE-WAY STREET INTO A ONE-WAY STREET,
AFTER STOPPING AS REQUIRED BY SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OR (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.
AFTER STOPPING THE DRIVER SHALL YIELD THE RIGHT-OF-WAY TO ANY VEHICLE
IN THE INTERSECTION OR APPROACHING ON ANOTHER ROADWAY SO CLOSELY AS
TO CONSTITUTE AN IMMEDIATE HAZARD DURING THE TIME SUCH DRIVER IS
MOVING ACROSS OR WITHIN THE INTERSECTION OR JUNCTION OF ROADWAYS.
SUCH DRIVER SHALL YIELD THE RIGHT-OF-WAY TO PEDESTRIANS WITHIN THE
INTERSECTION OR AN ADJACENT CROSSWALK.

24 [(j) If a sign permitting any other turn is in place, vehicular traffic facing a steady 25 red signal, after stopping as required by subsection (h) of this section, cautiously may 26 enter the intersection and make the turn indicated by the sign.

(k) In each instance, vehicular traffic described in subsections (i) and (j) of this
section shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian lawfully within an adjacent
crosswalk and to any vehicle in the intersection or approaching on another roadway so
closely as to constitute an immediate hazard.

(1)] (IV) Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian control signal as provided in §
21-203 of this subtitle, pedestrians facing a steady CIRCULAR red OR RED ARROW signal
alone may not enter the roadway.

34 [(m) Except for those provisions of this section that by their very nature cannot 35 apply, this section applies to a traffic control signal placed at a location other than an 36 intersection. Each]

(B) IN THE EVENT AN OFFICIAL TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL IS ERECTED AND
MAINTAINED AT A PLACE OTHER THAN AN INTERSECTION, THE PROVISIONS OF
THIS SECTION SHALL BE APPLICABLE EXCEPT AS TO THOSE PROVISIONS WHICH BY
THEIR NATURE CAN HAVE NO APPLICATION. ANY stop required [by the signal] shall
be made at a sign or marking on the pavement indicating where the stop shall be made
[or], [if there is no] BUT IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY SUCH sign or marking[,] THE
STOP SHALL BE MADE at the signal.

1 21-203. Pedestrian control signals.

2 [(a) Where] WHENEVER special pedestrian control signals [showing]
3 EXHIBITING the [words] "walk", "don't walk", or "wait", OR SYMBOLS OF "WALKING
4 PERSON" OR "UPRAISED PALM" are in place, [the] SUCH signals [have the indications
5 provided in this section.] SHALL INDICATE AS FOLLOWS:

[(b) A pedestrian facing a "walk" signal may cross the roadway in the direction of
the signal and shall be given the right-of-way by the driver of any vehicle. At an
intersection where an exclusive all-pedestrian interval is provided, a pedestrian may cross
the roadway in any direction within the intersection.] (1) ANY PEDESTRIAN FACING A
FLASHING OR STEADY WALK OR WALKING PERSON SIGNAL MAY PROCEED ACROSS
THE ROADWAY IN THE DIRECTION OF THE SIGNAL AND EVERY DRIVER OF A
VEHICLE SHALL YIELD THE RIGHT-OF-WAY TO SUCH PEDESTRIAN.

13 [(c) A pedestrian may not start to cross the roadway in the direction of a "don't14 walk" signal.

15 (d) A pedestrian may not start to cross the roadway in the direction of a "wait16 signal".

(e) If a pedestrian has partly completed his crossing on a "walk" signal, the
pedestrian shall proceed without delay to a sidewalk or safety island while the "don't
walk" or "wait" signal is showing.]

(2) NO PEDESTRIAN SHALL START TO CROSS THE ROADWAY IN THE
DIRECTION OF A FLASHING OR STEADY DONT WALK, WAIT, OR UPRAISED PALM
SIGNAL, BUT ANY PEDESTRIAN WHO HAS PARTIALLY COMPLETED CROSSING ON
THE WALK SIGNAL SHALL PROCEED TO A SIDEWALK OR SAFETY ISLAND WHILE THE
DONT WALK, WAIT, OR UPRAISED PALM SIGNAL IS SHOWING.

25 [21-305.

26 (a) (1) The driver of a vehicle may not drive to the left of the center of the 27 roadway in overtaking and passing another vehicle going in the same direction unless:

- 28 (i) Authorized by this subtitle; and
- (ii) The left side of the roadway is clearly visible and is free of
 approaching traffic for a sufficient distance ahead to permit the overtaking and passing to
 be completed without interfering with the operation of any other vehicle approaching
 from the opposite direction or any other vehicle overtaken.
- (2) The overtaking vehicle shall return to an authorized lane of travel as
 soon as practicable and, if the passing movement uses a lane authorized for vehicles
 approaching from the opposite direction, before coming within 200 feet of any
- 36 approaching vehicle.

37 (b) (1) This subsection does not apply on a one-way roadway.

38 (2) The driver of a vehicle may not drive on the left side of any roadway if:

1 (i) The vehicle is approaching the crest of a grade or is on a curve in 2 the highway where the driver's view is obstructed for such a distance as to be dangerous 3 should another vehicle approach from the opposite direction;

4 (ii) The vehicle is crossing or approaching within 100 feet of any 5 intersection or railroad grade crossing; or

6 (iii) The driver's view is obstructed while approaching within 100 feet 7 of any bridge, viaduct, or tunnel.]

8 21-305. LIMITATIONS ON OVERTAKING TO THE LEFT.

9 NO VEHICLE SHALL BE DRIVEN TO THE LEFT SIDE OF THE CENTER OF A
10 ROADWAY IN OVERTAKING AND PASSING ANOTHER VEHICLE PROCEEDING IN THE
11 SAME DIRECTION UNLESS SUCH LEFT SIDE IS CLEARLY VISIBLE AND IS FREE OF
12 ONCOMING TRAFFIC FOR A SUFFICIENT DISTANCE AHEAD TO PERMIT SUCH
13 OVERTAKING AND PASSING TO BE COMPLETELY MADE WITHOUT INTERFERING
14 WITH THE OPERATION OF ANY VEHICLE APPROACHING FROM THE OPPOSITE
15 DIRECTION OR ANY VEHICLE BEING OVERTAKEN. IN EVERY EVENT THE
16 OVERTAKING VEHICLE MUST RETURN TO AN AUTHORIZED LANE OF TRAVEL AS
17 SOON AS PRACTICABLE AND IN THE EVENT THE PASSING MOVEMENT INVOLVES THE
18 USE OF A LANE AUTHORIZED FOR VEHICLES APPROACHING FROM THE OPPOSITE
19 DIRECTION, BEFORE COMING WITHIN 200 FEET OF ANY APPROACHING VEHICLE.

20 21-306. FURTHER LIMITATIONS ON DRIVING TO THE LEFT OF CENTER OF ROADWAY.

(A) NO VEHICLE SHALL BE DRIVEN ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE ROADWAYUNDER THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

(1) WHEN APPROACHING OR UPON THE CREST OF A GRADE OR A
CURVE IN THE HIGHWAY WHERE THE VIEW OF THE DRIVER IS OBSTRUCTED WITHIN
SUCH DISTANCE AS TO CREATE A HAZARD IN THE EVENT ANOTHER VEHICLE
MIGHT APPROACH FROM THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION;

27 (2) WHEN APPROACHING WITHIN 100 FEET OF OR TRAVERSING ANY
28 INTERSECTION OR RAILROAD GRADE CROSSING UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED
29 BY OFFICIAL TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES; OR

30 (3) WHEN THE VIEW IS OBSTRUCTED UPON APPROACHING WITHIN 10031 FEET OF ANY BRIDGE, VIADUCT, OR TUNNEL.

(B) THE FOREGOING LIMITATIONS SHALL NOT APPLY UPON A ONE-WAY
ROADWAY, NOR UNDER THE CONDITIONS DESCRIBED IN § 21-301(A)(2) OF THIS
SUBTITLE, NOR TO THE DRIVER OF A VEHICLE TURNING LEFT INTO OR FROM AN
ALLEY, PRIVATE ROAD, OR DRIVEWAY.

36 21-309.

[(g) On a roadway along which a two-way left turn lane has been provided through
the required pavement markings and signs, vehicles may not enter that lane except for the
purpose of making a left turn, and may enter only if the lane is clear of an opposing
movement.]

1 [(h) A vehicle shall be driven within a lane described under subsection (g) of this 2 section the shortest distance practicable prior to making a left turn.]

3 [(i) On roadways along which a two-way left turn lane has been placed, left turns 4 shall be made only from within such lane.]

5 21-601. Required position and method of turning at intersections or crossovers.

6 [(a) If the driver of a vehicle intends to turn right at any intersection, he shall
7 approach the intersection and make the right turn] THE DRIVER OF A VEHICLE
8 INTENDING TO TURN SHALL DO SO AS FOLLOWS:

9 (1) BOTH THE APPROACH FOR A RIGHT TURN AND A RIGHT TURN10 SHALL BE MADE as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway.

[(b) If the] (2) THE driver of a vehicle [intends] INTENDING to turn left [at any
intersection or crossover, he] shall approach the [intersection or crossover] TURN in
the extreme left-hand lane lawfully available to traffic moving in the [same] direction OF
TRAVEL OF SUCH VEHICLE.

[(c) If the driver of a vehicle intends to turn left at any intersection or crossover,
the driver shall, after entering the intersection or crossover, make the left turn]
WHENEVER PRACTICABLE THE LEFT TURN SHALL BE MADE TO THE LEFT OF THE
CENTER OF THE INTERSECTION AND so as to leave the intersection OR OTHER
LOCATION in a lane lawfully available to traffic moving in the same direction AS SUCH
VEHICLE on the roadway being entered.

[(d) (1)] (3) The State Highway Administration [or any local authority] AND
LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE JURISDICTIONS may [place a] CAUSE
OFFICIAL traffic control [device at or near any intersection in its jurisdiction and, with it,
direct that vehicles turning at the intersection travel a course different from one
specified] DEVICES TO BE PLACED AND THEREBY REQUIRE AND DIRECT THAT A
DIFFERENT COURSE FROM THAT SPECIFIED in this section BE TRAVELED BY
TURNING VEHICLES AND WHEN SUCH DEVICES ARE SO PLACED NO DRIVER SHALL
TURN A VEHICLE OTHER THAN AS DIRECTED AND REQUIRED BY SUCH DEVICE.
[(2) At an intersection where a traffic control device is placed under this
subsection, the driver of a vehicle may not turn otherwise than as directed by the device.]
(4) WHERE A SPECIAL LANE FOR MAKING LEFT TURNS BY DRIVERS
PROCEEDING IN OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS HAS BEEN INDICATED BY TRAFFIC

34 (I) A LEFT TURN SHALL NOT BE MADE FROM ANY OTHER LANE;35 AND

33 CONTROL DEVICES:

36 (II) A VEHICLE SHALL NOT BE DRIVEN IN THE LANE EXCEPT WHEN
37 PREPARING FOR OR MAKING A LEFT TURN FROM OR INTO THE ROADWAY OR WHEN
38 PREPARING FOR OR MAKING A U-TURN WHEN OTHERWISE PERMITTED BY LAW.

1 21-706. Overtaking and passing school vehicle.

2 (a) If a school vehicle is stopping or has stopped on a roadway and is operating 3 the alternately flashing RED warning lights specified in § 22-228 of this article, the driver 4 of any other vehicle meeting or overtaking the school vehicle shall stop at least 20 feet 5 from the rear of the school vehicle, if approaching the school vehicle from its rear, or at 6 least 20 feet from the front of the school vehicle, if approaching the school vehicle from 7 its front.

8 (b) If a school vehicle is stopping or has stopped on a roadway and is operating 9 the alternately flashing RED warning lights specified in § 22-228 of this article, the driver 10 of any other vehicle meeting or overtaking the school vehicle may not proceed until the 11 school vehicle resumes motion or the alternately flashing RED warning lights are 12 deactivated.

13 (c) This section does not apply to the driver of a vehicle on a divided highway, if14 the school vehicle is on a different roadway.

15 21-1005. Reservation of parking space for person confined to wheelchair.

(j) Except in Baltimore City and Baltimore County, within 30 days after it
receives the notification required by subsection (i) of this section, the State Highway
Administration shall[:

(1) Place] PLACE and maintain at the proper place [at least one sturdy
 upright set of 2 signs or a combination sign,] TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES THAT
 CONFORM TO THE MANUAL AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR A UNIFORM SYSTEM OF
 TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES ADOPTED BY THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
 FOR USE ON THE HIGHWAYS IN THIS STATE which shall [be:] DESIGNATE

24

[(i) The sign required by § 21-1006(e) of this subtitle; and

(ii) A sign designating] the space as a personal residential parking
space [with the permit number] OF THE PERMITTEE [and any other information the
State Highway Administration may require. The standards, type, and design of this sign
shall be established by the State Highway Administration conforming with the provisions
of § 8-605(d) of this article and shall utilize the regulations adopted by the State Highway
Administration under that section; and

(2) In accordance with subsection (c) of this section, paint a red line on the
curb, edge, or side of the roadway, long enough to reserve a space for one Class A
(passenger) vehicle].

34 25-104. State Highway Administration to adopt sign manual.

[(a)] The State Highway Administration shall adopt a manual and specifications for
 a uniform system of traffic control devices, consistent with the provisions of the Maryland

37 Vehicle Law, for use on highways in this State. This uniform system shall correlate with

38 and, as far as possible, conform to the system set forth in the most recent edition of the

39 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways.

[(b) The manual and specifications adopted by the Administration under
 subsection (a) shall conform to the specifications of Section 21-101 in regard to crosswalk
 markings at intersections without traffic lights.]

4 25-104.1. SALE OF NONCONFORMING TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES.

A PERSON SHALL NOT SELL OR OFFER FOR SALE ANY SIGN, SIGNAL, MARKING,
OR OTHER DEVICE INTENDED TO REGULATE, WARN, OR GUIDE TRAFFIC UNLESS IT
CONFORMS WITH THE STATE MANUAL AND SPECIFICATIONS ADOPTED UNDER §
25-104 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

9 25-106.1. INSTALLATION OF TRAFFIC SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND MARKINGS ON PRIVATE 10 PROPERTY.

NO PERSON SHALL INSTALL OR MAINTAIN IN ANY AREA OF PRIVATE
 PROPERTY USED BY THE PUBLIC ANY SIGN, SIGNAL, MARKING, OR OTHER DEVICE
 INTENDED TO REGULATE, WARN, OR GUIDE TRAFFIC UNLESS IT CONFORMS WITH
 THE STATE MANUAL AND SPECIFICATIONS ADOPTED UNDER § 25-104 OF THIS
 SUBTITLE.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the catchlines contained in 17 this Act are not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as part of this Act.

18 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect19 October 1, 1997.