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By: **Charles County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 1998  
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
House action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 3, 1998

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Charles County - County Roads - Restricted Access**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Board of County Commissioners of Charles County  
4 to select, using certain criteria, county roads under its jurisdiction that are not  
5 accessible for through traffic by certain trucks, tractors, or trailers; requiring  
6 the Commissioners to provide for the installation of certain traffic control  
7 devices under certain circumstances; making a violation of this Act a  
8 misdemeanor, subject to certain penalties; and generally relating to restricted  
9 access to county roads in Charles County.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article 25 - County Commissioners  
12 Section 25  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

17 **Article 25 - County Commissioners**

18 25.

19 (a) They shall have power to open, alter or close any public road or roads in  
20 their respective counties.

21 (b) The county commissioners of the several counties may promulgate and  
22 enforce rules and regulations as to the maximum size and weight of motor vehicles,

1 trucks, tractors and trailers that may be operated or used on their respective county  
2 roads. These rules and regulations shall have a reasonable relationship to the  
3 construction, use and character of the road or roads concerned, and shall be designed  
4 to assure the continued safety and good condition of any such road or roads. Any  
5 violation of any such rule and regulation is a misdemeanor, subject to a fine of not  
6 more than \$1,000 or to imprisonment for not more than 60 days. The provisions of  
7 this subsection apply only to Allegany, Baltimore, Calvert, Carroll, Cecil, Frederick,  
8 Garrett, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, St. Mary's and Washington  
9 Counties. A rule or regulation concerning maximum weight laws on county roads may  
10 not be greater than the maximum set by the public general laws of Maryland.

11 (C) (1) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS  
12 SUBSECTION, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY SHALL  
13 SELECT COUNTY ROADS, OR PORTIONS OF COUNTY ROADS, UNDER ITS JURISDICTION  
14 THAT ARE NOT ACCESSIBLE FOR THROUGH TRAFFIC BY TRUCKS, TRACTORS, OR  
15 TRAILERS THAT:

16 (A) ARE OVER 26,000 POUNDS; ~~AND~~

17 (B) ~~HAVE PLACES OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION THAT ARE~~  
18 ~~OUT OF THE STATE.~~

19 (2) THE SELECTION OF COUNTY ROADS, OR PORTIONS OF COUNTY  
20 ROADS, SHALL HAVE A REASONABLE RELATIONSHIP TO THE CONSTRUCTION, USE,  
21 AND CHARACTER OF THE ROADS, AND SHALL BE DESIGNED TO ASSURE THE  
22 CONTINUED SAFETY AND GOOD CONDITION OF THE ROADS.

23 (3) THE COMMISSIONERS SHALL PROVIDE FOR THE INSTALLATION OF  
24 TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES THAT GIVE NOTICE OF THE RESTRICTED ACCESS TO THE  
25 SELECTED ROADS ON OR AT THE ENTRANCES TO THE ROADS OR THE PORTIONS OF  
26 THE ROADS.

27 (4) ANY VIOLATION OF THIS SUBSECTION, OR ANY ORDINANCE OR  
28 REGULATION ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSIONERS UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, IS A  
29 MISDEMEANOR, SUBJECT TO A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$1,000 OR IMPRISONMENT  
30 FOR NOT MORE THAN 60 DAYS OR BOTH.

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
32 October 1, 1998.