

By: **Senator Ruben**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 1998

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Mandatory Seat Belt Use**

3 FOR the purpose of expanding the application of certain mandatory seat belt
4 requirements by prohibiting a person who is at least 16 years old from being a
5 passenger in any seat of a motor vehicle unless the person is restrained by a seat
6 belt; and generally relating to mandatory seat belt use.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Transportation
9 Section 22-412.3(a) and (c)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

14 **Article - Transportation**

15 22-412.3.

16 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

17 (2) (i) "Motor vehicle" means a vehicle that is:

18 1. Registered or capable of being registered in this State as a
19 Class A (passenger), Class E (truck), Class F (tractor), Class M (multipurpose), or
20 Class P (passenger bus) vehicle; and

21 2. Required to be equipped with seat belts under federal
22 motor vehicle safety standards contained in the Code of Federal Regulations.

23 (ii) "Motor vehicle" does not include a Class L (historic) vehicle.

24 (3) ["Outboard front seat" means a front seat position that is adjacent to
25 a door of a motor vehicle.

1 (4)] (i) "Seat belt" means a restraining device described under § 22-412
2 of this subtitle.

3 (ii) "Seat belt" includes a combination seat belt-shoulder harness.

4 (c) (1) The provisions of this subsection apply to a person who is at least 16
5 years old.

6 (2) Unless a person is restrained by a seat belt, the person may not be a
7 passenger in [an outboard front seat of] a motor vehicle.

8 (3) A person who violates the provisions of this subsection shall be
9 subject to the penalties under Title 27 of this article.

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