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2000 Regular Session 0lr0833

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Montague, Morhaim, Nathan-Pulliam, Paige, Parrott, Petzold, Pitkin,
Rawlings, Riley, Rosso, Rudolph, Sher, Shriver, Stern, Turner, and
Zirkin

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2000

Assigned to: Judiciary

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 20, 2000

CHAPTER____

1 AN ACT concerning

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Homicide by Aggressive Driving

- 3 FOR the purpose of establishing the crime of homicide by aggressive driving for a
- 4 person who commits at least a certain number of motor vehicle violations in
- 5 connection with a single traffic incident that results in causes the death of
- 6 another person by driving a motor vehicle in wanton or willful disregard for the
- 7 <u>safety of persons or property or in a manner that indicates a wanton or willful</u>
- 8 <u>disregard for the safety of persons or property;</u> providing for certain penalties;
- 9 specifying certain violations to which the crime of homicide by aggressive
- 10 driving applies; providing for the assessment of points by the Motor Vehicle
- Administration for a conviction for the crime of homicide by aggressive driving;
- 12 defining a certain term; and generally relating to establishing the crime of
- 13 homicide by aggressive driving.
- 14 BY adding to
- 15 Article 27 Crimes and Punishments
- 16 Section 388D
- 17 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 18 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)
- 19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

(9)

(10)

(11)

(12)

29 PEDESTRIANS");

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HOUSE BILL 417 1 Article - Transportation 2 Section 16-402(a) 3 Annotated Code of Maryland (1999 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement) 4 5 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 6 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows: 7 **Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments** 8 388D. 9 (A)IN THIS SECTION, "SINGLE TRAFFIC INCIDENT" MEANS AN ACCIDENT 10 THAT OCCURS WITHIN THE SAME COURSE OF CONDUCT AND DURING THE 11 CONTINUOUS OPERATION OF A MOTOR VEHICLE WITHOUT INTERRUPTION. 12 (B) A PERSON IS GUILTY OF HOMICIDE BY AGGRESSIVE DRIVING IF, WHILE 13 DRIVING A MOTOR VEHICLE, THAT PERSON COMMITS TWO OR MORE OF THE 14 VIOLATIONS THAT ARE SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION THAT GIVE 15 RISE TO A SINGLE TRAFFIC INCIDENT THAT RESULTS IN THE DEATH OF ANOTHER 16 PERSON. (C) 17 THIS SECTION APPLIES TO VIOLATIONS OF THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS 18 OF THE TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE: 19 § 21-201 ("OBEDIENCE TO TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES"); (1)20 (2) § 21-202 ("TRAFFIC LIGHTS WITH STEADY INDICATION"); 21 (3)§ 21 301 ("DRIVING ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF ROADWAY"); 22 (4)§ 21 303 ("OVERTAKING AND PASSING VEHICLES"); § 21-308 ("ONE-WAY TRAFFIC AND ROTARY TRAFFIC ISLANDS"); 23 (5)§ 21 309 ("DRIVING ON LANED ROADWAYS"); 24 (6) 25 (7)§ 21-310 ("FOLLOWING TOO CLOSELY"); § 21-402 ("TURNING LEFT OR MAKING U-TURN"); 26 (8)

§ 21 502 ("PEDESTRIANS' RIGHT OF WAY IN CROSSWALKS");

§ 21 504 ("DRIVER'S DUTY TO EXERCISE DUE CARE TO AVOID

§ 21 706 ("OVERTAKING AND PASSING SCHOOL VEHICLE");

§ 21-602 ("U-TURN ON CURVE OR CREST OF GRADE");

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1	(13) § 21 707 ("STOP SIGNS AND YIELD SIGNS");
2	(14) § 21-801.1 ("MAXIMUM LIMITS") FOR VIOLATIONS THAT INVOLVE SPEEDING IN EXCESS OF THE POSTED SPEED LIMIT BY 10 MILES PER HOUR OR MORE;
4	(15) § 21-1102 ("LIMITATIONS ON BACKING");
5	(16) § 21-1121 ("CHILDREN IN REAR OF PICK UP TRUCKS"); AND
6 7	(17) § 21-1209 ("THROWING OBJECT AT BICYCLIST; OPENING DOOR OF MOTOR VEHICLE").
8 9	(A) A PERSON IS GUILTY OF HOMICIDE BY AGGRESSIVE DRIVING IF THE PERSON CAUSES THE DEATH OF ANOTHER PERSON BY DRIVING A MOTOR VEHICLE:
10 11	(1) IN WANTON OR WILLFUL DISREGARD FOR THE SAFETY OF PERSONS OR PROPERTY; OR
12 13	(2) IN A MANNER THAT INDICATES A WANTON OR WILFUL DISREGARD FOR THE SAFETY OF PERSONS OR PROPERTY.
	(D) (B) (1) IN ANY INDICTMENT, INFORMATION, OR OTHER CHARGING DOCUMENT UNDER THIS SECTION, IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO SET FORTH THE MANNER AND MEANS OF DEATH.
17 18	(2) IT SHALL BE SUFFICIENT TO USE A FORMULA SUBSTANTIALLY TO THE FOLLOWING EFFECT:
20 21	"THAT A-B ON THE DAY OF , TWO THOUSAND AND AT THE COUNTY (CITY) AFORESAID, UNLAWFULLY DID COMMIT THE OFFENSE OF HOMICIDE BY AGGRESSIVE DRIVING THAT RESULTED IN THE DEATH OF C-D, AGAINST THE PEACE, GOVERNMENT, AND DIGNITY OF THE STATE.".
24 25	(E) (C) IN A CASE IN A CIRCUIT COURT IN WHICH THE GENERAL FORM OF INDICTMENT OR INFORMATION IS USED TO CHARGE AN OFFENSE UNDER THIS SECTION, THE DEFENDANT, ON TIMELY DEMAND, IS ENTITLED TO A BILL OF PARTICULARS.
28	(F) (D) A PERSON WHO IS CONVICTED OF A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT IN THE PENITENTIARY NOT EXCEEDING 3 YEARS OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000 OR BOTH.
30	Article - Transportation
31	16-402.
34	(a) After the conviction of an individual for a violation of Article 27, § 388, § 388A [or], § 388B, OR § 388D of the Code, or of the vehicle laws or regulations of this State or of any local authority, points shall be assessed against the individual as of the date of violation and as follows:

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1 2	accident	(1) 	Any moving violation not listed below and not contributing to an
3		(2)	Following another vehicle too closely2 points
4 5	more	(3)	Speeding in excess of the posted speed limit by 10 miles an hour or
6		(4)	Driving with an improper class of license
7 8	red lights	(5)	Failing to stop for a school vehicle with activated alternately flashing2 points
9		(6)	Any violation of § 21-1111 of this article2 points
10 11		(7) f this artic	Passing an emergency or police vehicle under the provisions of § cle
12		(8)	A violation of § 21-511(a) of this article
13 14		(9) this articl	Failure to stop a vehicle for a steady red traffic signal in violation of le
15		(10)	Any moving violation contributing to an accident3 points
	§ 26-204, § 2		Driving after suspension of license under the provisions of § 17-106, or § 27-103 of this article, or under the traffic laws or regulations scribed in § 16-303(i) of this title
19 20		(12) ighway, o	Any violation, except violations committed on the John F. Kennedy of § 21-1411 of this article
21		(13)	Reckless driving
22 23		(14)	Speeding in excess of the posted speed limit by 30 miles an hour or
24		(15)	Driving while not licensed
25		(16)	Failure to report an accident
26		(17)	Driving on a learner's permit unaccompanied
27		(18)	Any violation of § 17-107 of this article5 points
28		(19)	Participating in a race or speed contest on a highway5 points
29		(20)	Any violation of § 16-304 or § 16-305 of this title5 points
30		(21)	Any violation of § 22-404.5 of this article5 points

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1 2	(22) miles an hour or more	Speeding in excess of a posted speed limit of 65 miles an hour by 20			
3 4	(23) of a drug, combination	Driving while under the influence of alcohol or while under influence n of drugs, or combination of drugs and alcohol			
5	(24)	Turning off lights of a vehicle to avoid identification8 points			
6 7		Failing to stop after accident resulting in damage to attended vehicle			
8 9		Failing to stop after accident resulting in damage to unattended			
10	(27)	Any violation of § 16-815 or § 16-816 of this title8 points			
11 12		Failing to stop after an accident resulting in bodily injury or			
15	license except for sus 26-206, or § 27-103 of	Driving after refusal, suspension, cancellation, or revocation of spensions of license under the provisions of § 17-106, § 26-204, § of this article, or under the traffic laws or regulations of another § 16-303(i) of this title			
17 18		Any violation of § 16-301, § 16-302, § 16-804, or § 16-808(1) through			
19 20	\-\ /	Homicide, life threatening injury under Article 27, § 388B of the mitted by means of a vehicle			
21 22	\ /	Driving while intoxicated, while intoxicated per se, or while under ally used controlled dangerous substance			
23	(33)	Any felony involving use of a vehicle			
24	(34)	Fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer12 points			
27	certifying to the truth Maryland Vehicle La	The making of a false affidavit or statement under oath, or falsely of any fact or information to the Administration under the aw or under any law relating to the ownership or operation of			
29 30	()	Any violation involving an unlawful taking or unauthorized use of a Article 27, § 342A or § 349, or § 14-102 of this article			
SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 32 October 1, 2000.					