

HOUSE BILL 982

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R5

2004 Regular Session
4r1317
CF 4r2854

By: **Delegates Ross, Bronrott, Cardin, Conroy, Frush, Healey, Hixson,
Kaiser, Leopold, Love, Menes, Moe, and Oaks**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2004

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Bicycles and Motor Scooters - Exceptions to Requirement to**
3 **Stay Right**

4 FOR the purpose of creating certain additional exceptions to the requirement that a
5 person operating a bicycle or motor scooter stay as near to the right of the
6 roadway as is safe and practical; establishing that the requirement to stay to the
7 right only applies to a bicycle or motor scooter that is traveling at a speed less
8 than the normal speed of traffic; and generally relating to the requirement to
9 stay as near to the right of the roadway as is safe and practical while operating
10 a bicycle or motor scooter.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article - Transportation
13 Section 21-1205
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

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

18 **Article - Transportation**

19 21-1205.

20 (a) Each person operating a bicycle or a motor scooter AT A SPEED LESS THAN
21 THE NORMAL SPEED OF TRAFFIC on a roadway shall ride as near to the right side of
22 the roadway as practicable and safe, except when [making]:

23 (1) MAKING or attempting to make a left turn[, when operating];

24 (2) OPERATING on a one-way street[, or when passing];

25 (3) PASSING a stopped or slower moving vehicle;

26 (4) AVOIDING PEDESTRIANS OR ROAD HAZARDS;

1 (5) APPROACHING A LOCATION WHERE A RIGHT TURN IS AUTHORIZED;
2 OR

3 (6) OPERATING IN A LANE THAT IS TOO NARROW FOR A BICYCLE OR
4 MOTOR SCOOTER AND A VEHICLE TO TRAVEL SAFELY SIDE BY SIDE WITHIN THE
5 LANE.

6 (b) Each person operating a bicycle or a motor scooter on a roadway may ride
7 two abreast only if the flow of traffic is unimpeded.

8 (c) Each person operating a bicycle or a motor scooter on a roadway shall
9 exercise due care when passing a vehicle.

10 (d) Each person operating a bicycle or a motor scooter on a roadway may walk
11 the bicycle or motor scooter on the right side of a highway if there is no sidewalk.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 October 1, 2004.