
By: **Cecil County Senators**
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Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: March 19, 2005

CHAPTER_____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Cecil County - Solicitation of Money or Donations from Occupants of**
3 **Vehicles - Prohibitions and Exceptions**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting, in Cecil County, a person from standing, or causing,
5 encouraging, allowing, or petitioning another to stand, in a roadway, median
6 divider, or intersection to solicit money or donations from the occupant of a
7 vehicle, subject to a certain exception; authorizing the County Commissioners of
8 Cecil County or the governing body of a municipal corporation in Cecil County to
9 enact a certain permit program to allow individuals who are at least a certain
10 age and representatives of certain organizations who are at least a certain age to
11 solicit money or donations from the occupant of a vehicle by standing in a
12 roadway, median divider, or intersection; requiring an applicant for a certain
13 permit to submit proof of adequate liability insurance and a certain safety plan;
14 providing that a permit issued under this Act only be effective for a certain time
15 period; providing that an individual or a certain organization may only obtain a
16 certain number of a certain permit per calendar year; defining certain terms;
17 and generally relating to the solicitation of money from occupants of vehicles in
18 Cecil County.

19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
20 Article - Transportation
21 Section 21-507
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

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

1

Article - Transportation

2 21-507.

3 (a) Except for the occupant of a disabled vehicle who seeks the aid of another
4 vehicle, a person may not stand in a roadway to solicit a ride, employment, or
5 business from the occupant of any vehicle.

6 (b) A person may not stand on or near a highway to solicit any other person to
7 watch or guard any vehicle while it is parked or about to be parked on a highway.

8 (c) In Charles County, Frederick County, Harford County, and Washington
9 County, a person may not stand in a roadway, median divider, or intersection to solicit
10 money or donations of any kind from the occupant of a vehicle.

11 (d) (1) In Prince George's County:

12 (i) A child under the age of 15 years may not stand in a roadway,
13 median divider, or intersection to solicit money or donations of any kind from the
14 occupant of a vehicle; and

15 (ii) An adult may not cause, encourage, allow, or petition a child
16 under the age of 15 years to stand in a roadway, median divider, or intersection to
17 solicit money or donations of any kind from the occupant of a vehicle.

18 (2) A child under the age of 15 years may not be found guilty or
19 adjudicated delinquent for a violation of paragraph (1)(i) of this subsection if an adult
20 caused, encouraged, allowed, or petitioned the child in violation of paragraph (1)(ii) of
21 this subsection.

22 (e) (1) This subsection applies to Anne Arundel County.

23 (2) In this subsection, "qualified organization" means a fire company or a
24 bona fide religious, fraternal, civic, war veterans', or charitable organization.

25 (3) The Anne Arundel County Council may, by ordinance, enact a
26 licensing program for individuals who are 18 years old or older and qualified
27 organizations that wish to solicit money or donations from the occupant of a vehicle
28 by standing in a roadway, median divider, or intersection.

29 (4) The restriction on the age of individuals who may be licensed under
30 the authority granted to the Anne Arundel County Council under paragraph (3) of
31 this subsection applies to individuals who participate in the solicitation of donations
32 as members or on behalf of the qualified organization.

33 (5) If the county council enacts an ordinance establishing a licensing
34 program authorized by paragraph (3) of this subsection, the ordinance:

1 (i) May impose on an applicant that is an individual or a qualified
2 organization a fee for the license, subject to item (ii) of this paragraph, in an amount
3 not to exceed the county's cost to administer the program;

4 (ii) May not impose a fee exceeding \$100 per year for each applicant
5 for a license or a renewal of a license;

6 (iii) Shall include provisions for the duration and renewal of the
7 license;

8 (iv) May require that an applicant or licensee provide notice to the
9 county as to the dates on which the solicitation will occur; and

10 (v) May provide for:

11 1. An exemption from the fee for an individual who is unable
12 to pay the fee; and

13 2. Procedures for an individual to comply with in order to
14 demonstrate the individual's inability to pay the fee.

15 (6) An ordinance that imposes a fee under paragraph (5) of this
16 subsection on an applicant that is a qualified organization organized on a national or
17 statewide basis and having more than one county or local chapter in the State shall
18 impose one fee to be paid by the national or statewide organization to cover all of the
19 county or local chapters in the State.

20 (7) (i) If the county council enacts an ordinance establishing a
21 licensing program authorized by paragraph (3) of this subsection, an individual or
22 organization that decides not to seek to become licensed under the program may not
23 stand in a roadway, median divider, or intersection in Anne Arundel County to solicit
24 money or donations of any kind from the occupant of a vehicle.

25 (ii) If the county council does not choose to enact an ordinance to
26 establish a licensing program as authorized by paragraph (3) of this subsection, the
27 provisions of this subsection may not be construed to prohibit an individual or
28 qualified organization from standing in a roadway, median divider, or intersection in
29 the county to solicit money or donations from the occupant of a vehicle.

30 (8) If the county council enacts an ordinance establishing a licensing
31 program authorized by paragraph (3) of this subsection, then on or before December 1
32 of the calendar year that occurs after the anniversary of the first 12 months of the
33 implementation of the licensing program, the Anne Arundel County Police
34 Department shall report in writing to the Anne Arundel County Delegation to the
35 General Assembly on the effectiveness of the county police department's enforcement
36 of the provisions of this subsection with respect to individuals and organizations to
37 solicit money or donations on roadways, median dividers, or intersections in the
38 county from the occupants of vehicles.

39 (F) (1) THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES ONLY TO CECIL COUNTY.

1 (2) IN THIS SUBSECTION, "QUALIFIED ORGANIZATION" MEANS A FIRE
2 COMPANY OR BONA FIDE RELIGIOUS, FRATERNAL, CIVIC, WAR VETERANS', OR
3 CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION.

4 (3) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (4) OF THIS SUBSECTION, IN
5 CECIL COUNTY A PERSON MAY NOT:

6 (I) STAND IN A ROADWAY, MEDIAN DIVIDER, OR INTERSECTION TO
7 SOLICIT MONEY OR DONATIONS OF ANY KIND FROM THE OCCUPANT OF A VEHICLE;
8 OR

9 (II) CAUSE, ENCOURAGE, ALLOW, OR PETITION ANOTHER TO STAND
10 IN A ROADWAY, MEDIAN DIVIDER, OR INTERSECTION TO SOLICIT MONEY OR
11 DONATIONS OF ANY KIND FROM THE OCCUPANT OF A VEHICLE.

12 (4) (I) THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CECIL COUNTY OR THE
13 GOVERNING BODY OF A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IN CECIL COUNTY MAY, BY
14 APPROPRIATE RESOLUTION OR ORDINANCE, ENACT A PERMIT PROGRAM TO ALLOW
15 INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE AT LEAST 18 YEARS OLD AND REPRESENTATIVES OF
16 QUALIFIED ORGANIZATIONS WHO ARE AT LEAST 18 YEARS OLD TO SOLICIT MONEY
17 OR DONATIONS FROM THE OCCUPANT OF A VEHICLE BY STANDING IN A ROADWAY,
18 MEDIAN DIVIDER, OR INTERSECTION.

19 (II) IF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OR THE GOVERNING BODY OF
20 A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IN THE COUNTY ENACT A RESOLUTION OR ORDINANCE
21 ESTABLISHING A PERMIT PROGRAM AUTHORIZED BY THIS PARAGRAPH, THE
22 RESOLUTION OR ORDINANCE SHALL:

23 1. REQUIRE AN APPLICANT FOR A PERMIT TO SUBMIT PROOF
24 THAT THE INDIVIDUAL OR QUALIFIED ORGANIZATION HAS ADEQUATE LIABILITY
25 INSURANCE;

26 2. REQUIRE AN APPLICANT FOR A PERMIT TO SUBMIT PROOF
27 THAT THE INDIVIDUAL OR QUALIFIED ORGANIZATION HAS A PLAN FOR SAFELY
28 SOLICITING MONEY OR DONATIONS FROM THE PROPOSED LOCATION;

29 3. PROVIDE THAT A PERMIT IS EFFECTIVE FOR A PERIOD OF
30 1 CALENDAR DAY; AND

31 4. ALLOW AN INDIVIDUAL OR A QUALIFIED ORGANIZATION
32 TO OBTAIN ONLY ONE PERMIT PER CALENDAR YEAR.

33 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
34 October 1, 2005.