

HOUSE BILL 711

E4, R7, F5

8lr1279

By: **Delegates Barkley, Ali, Bates, Beidle, Bobo, V. Clagett, Gilchrist, Holmes, Hucker, Lafferty, Montgomery, Niemann, Stein, and Stull**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2008

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Motor Vehicles – School Bus Drivers – Prohibition on Use of a Wireless**
3 **Communication Device While Driving**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the driver of a school bus from using a wireless
5 communication device while operating the school bus under certain
6 circumstances; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the use of
7 wireless communication devices by school bus drivers under certain
8 circumstances.

9 BY adding to
10 Article – Transportation
11 Section 21–1118.1
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Transportation**

17 **21–1118.1.**

18 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE
19 MEANINGS INDICATED.

20 (2) “9–1–1 SYSTEM” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 1–301 OF
21 THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(3) "SCHOOL BUS" INCLUDES A TYPE I SCHOOL VEHICLE AND A**
2 **TYPE II SCHOOL VEHICLE AS DEFINED IN TITLE 11, SUBTITLE 1 OF THIS**
3 **ARTICLE.**

4 **(4) "WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICE" MEANS A HANDHELD**
5 **OR HANDS-FREE DEVICE USED TO ACCESS A WIRELESS TELEPHONE SERVICE.**

6 **(B) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO THE USE OF A WIRELESS**
7 **COMMUNICATION DEVICE TO CONTACT A 9-1-1 SYSTEM.**

8 **(C) THE DRIVER OF A SCHOOL BUS MAY NOT USE A WIRELESS**
9 **COMMUNICATION DEVICE WHILE OPERATING THE SCHOOL BUS REGARDLESS OF**
10 **WHETHER OR NOT THERE ARE PUPILS ON THE SCHOOL BUS.**

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 October 1, 2008.