

HOUSE BILL 67

R5

9lr1068

By: **Delegates Feldman and Bronrott**

Introduced and read first time: January 16, 2009

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Rules of the Road – Use of Signals When Changing Lanes**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from moving a vehicle right or left on a
4 roadway in order to change lanes unless the person gives an appropriate signal
5 in a certain manner; making certain stylistic changes; and generally relating to
6 the use of vehicle signals when changing lanes.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Transportation
9 Section 21–604
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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14 Section 21–605
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Transportation**

20 21–604.

21 (a) A person may not turn a vehicle at an intersection, unless the vehicle is
22 in the position required by § 21–601 of this subtitle.

23 (b) A person may not turn a vehicle to enter a private road or driveway or
24 otherwise turn a vehicle from a direct course or move it right or left on a roadway or

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 from a shoulder or bikeway onto a roadway, unless the movement can be made with
2 reasonable safety.

3 (c) A person may not, if any other vehicle might be affected by the
4 movement, turn a vehicle [until he] **OR MOVE IT RIGHT OR LEFT ON A ROADWAY IN**
5 **ORDER TO CHANGE LANES UNLESS THE PERSON** gives an appropriate signal in the
6 manner required by this subtitle.

7 (d) When required, a signal of intention to turn right or left **OR TO CHANGE**
8 **LANES** shall be given continuously during at least the last 100 feet traveled by the
9 vehicle before turning **OR CHANGING LANES**; except that a bicyclist may interrupt
10 the turning signal to maintain control of the bicycle.

11 (e) If there is an opportunity to signal, a person may not stop or suddenly
12 decrease the speed of a vehicle [until he] **UNLESS THE PERSON** gives an appropriate
13 signal in the manner required by this subtitle to the driver of any other vehicle
14 immediately to the rear.

15 (f) The signals provided for in § 21-605(b) and (c) of this subtitle:

16 (1) May be used to indicate an intention to turn, change lanes, or start
17 from a stopped, standing, or parked position; and

18 (2) May not be flashed as a courtesy or “do pass” signal to the driver of
19 any other vehicle approaching from the rear.

20 21-605.

21 (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, each required
22 stop or turn signal shall be given:

23 (1) By hand and arm in conformity with § 21-606 of this subtitle; or

24 (2) By signal lamps.

25 (b) Each motor vehicle in use on a highway shall be equipped with and the
26 required signal given by signal lamps, if the distance from the center of the top of the
27 steering post to the left outside limit of the body, cab, or load of the vehicle is more
28 than 24 inches.

29 (c) Each motor vehicle in use on a highway shall be equipped with and the
30 required signal given by signal lamps if, for any vehicle or combination of vehicles, the
31 distance from the center of the top of the steering post to the rear limit of the body or
32 load is more than 14 feet.

33 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
34 October 1, 2009.