

HOUSE BILL 129

E4, R2

9lr0842

By: **Delegates Pena-Melnyk, Griffith, Howard, Ivey, Nathan-Pulliam, Ramirez, Reznik, Ross, F. Turner, Waldstreicher, and Walker**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2009

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Horse Riding – Helmet Requirement for Minors**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a minor from riding a horse on a highway,
4 horse-riding path, or certain other property unless the minor is wearing a
5 properly secured helmet that meets certain standards; establishing a fine
6 schedule for violations of the helmet requirement; requiring a police officer
7 enforcing this Act to provide certain educational materials to minors who violate
8 the helmet requirement; and generally relating to helmet use while horse
9 riding.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article – Transportation
12 Section 21–104
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Transportation**

18 21–104.

19 (a) Every person riding an animal or driving an animal-drawn vehicle on a
20 roadway has all the rights granted to and is subject to all the duties required of the
21 driver of a vehicle by this title, except for those provisions of this title that by their
22 very nature cannot apply.

23 (b) **(1) A PERSON UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS MAY NOT RIDE A**
24 **HORSE ON ANY HIGHWAY, HORSE-RIDING PATH, OR OTHER PROPERTY OPEN TO**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 THE PUBLIC OR USED BY THE PUBLIC FOR PEDESTRIAN OR VEHICULAR TRAFFIC
2 UNLESS THE PERSON IS WEARING A PROPERLY SECURED HELMET THAT MEETS
3 OR EXCEEDS THE STANDARDS OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS
4 INSTITUTE, THE SNELL MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, OR THE AMERICAN SOCIETY
5 OF TESTING AND MEASUREMENTS FOR PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR FOR USE IN
6 EQUESTRIAN RIDING.

7 (2) A PERSON WHO IS CONVICTED OF A VIOLATION OF
8 PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION IS SUBJECT TO:

9 (I) FOR A FIRST OFFENSE, A FINE OF \$50;

10 (II) FOR A SECOND OFFENSE, A FINE OF \$100; AND

11 (III) FOR A THIRD OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, A FINE OF
12 \$150.

13 (3) A POLICE OFFICER WHO CHARGES A PERSON WITH A
14 VIOLATION OF PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL ISSUE TO THE
15 PERSON EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS PROVIDING INFORMATION ABOUT THE
16 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION AND ABOUT PROPER HELMET USE WHILE
17 RIDING A HORSE.

18 (C) (1) Except in Charles, Worcester, and St. Mary's counties, or as
19 provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a person may not ride an animal or drive
20 an animal-drawn vehicle on:

21 (i) Any divided highway where the posted maximum speed
22 limit is more than 35 miles an hour; or

23 (ii) Any controlled access highway.

24 (2) In Anne Arundel County, a person may ride an animal on any part
25 of a highway described in paragraph (1) of this subsection, other than on its roadway
26 or shoulder.

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